## WHAT THEY DON'T TELL YOU

They don't tell you that organs such as the heart, the liver, the lungs, the kidneys etc, are removed from comatose patients on life-support and not from truly dead with no heart beat, no circulation e no breathing as everyone thinks.

The person is cut open with a scalpel whilst the heart is beating, blood is circulating, the body is pink and warm, the patient urinates, can move his limbs and torso. Pregnant women are able to continue their pregnancy. It isn't true that the organs are taken after the life-support system has been switched off and cardiac and respiratory functions have ceased for 20 minutes. The exact opposite is true.

The organs are taken from people who have lost consciousness and are declared by the authorities to be brain dead, and they are given paralyzing or anaesthetising drugs to prevent reactions to the pain of the surgery.

**Prof. Dr. Massimo Bondì, L.D. Pat. Chir. and Prop.Clin. Univ. La Sapienza, Rome,** general surgeon and pathologist has stated: *"Brain death is ascientific, amoral and asocial"* (Italian Health Committee hearing '92).

**Dr. David W. Evans, Fellow Commoner of Queens' College Cambridge,** cardiologist who resigned from Papworth Hospital due to his opposition to "brain death", has stated: "*There is a great difference between being really dead and being clinically declared brain dead.*" (Italian Health Committee hearing '92). **Dr. David Hill MA FFARCS Consultant Anaesthetist Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge:** "Brain death – a deception?" **Dr. Robert D. Truog, Dr. James C. Fackler, Harvard Medical** 

**School Boston**, have stated: "it isn't possible to ascertain the irreversible cessation of all brain functions" (Critical Care Medicine, n° 12, 1992, Rethinking Brain Death).

Prof. Peter Singer, President of the International Association of Bioethics: "brain death' is nothing more than a convenient illusion which was introduced and accepted because it made organ procurement possible" (Cuban Congress '96). Dr. Cicero Galli Coimbra, Head of Dep. Neruology e neurosurgery, Univ. Sau Paulo, Brasil: "Apnea test for 'brain death' causes irreversible damage to patients who could be saved (International Congress Roma 19/02/09).

# THE INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC DEBATE IS GROWING BUT IN ITALY CENSORSHIP CONTINUES

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Law N° 91 of 1 April '99 is in force, known as opt-out, which promotes transplant and their organization, funding and import-export.

This is in addition to the law No. 578/93 and the Decree 582/94 and the later Decree 11/04/08 which together define and impose "brain death" in 6 hours for everybody, both a-dults and new-born babies.

This law requires the Minister of Health to issue a Decree containing 10 directives to **catalogue citizens into donors and non-donors:** how and when the local health authority has to send a documented request to citizens to present themselves to declare yes or no to organ donation.

**Only after this notification**, will those who haven't replied automatically be considered as donors.

**BE CAREFUL! We have been waiting for this Decree for more than 15 years:** the defaulting Health Minister, on the contrary, issued a temporary Decree (8th April 2000) contrary to both the spirit and the letter of the law, opening the door to illegal and unlawful collection of declarations at local health authorities, hospitals, clinics, transplant associations, registry offices and websites, which are subsequently sent, with absolutely no outside access to check their accuracy, to Transplant National Center's database. This is extremely dangerous for non-donors: we have legally challenged all the local health authorities and the Minister and lodged a petition with the TAR Court.

#### PENDING THE DECREE PROVISIONAL RULES REMAIN IN FORCE

**1)** The right of a person to oppose organ/tissue cell removal with a **signed declaration** such as the 'LIFE-CARD' issued by our association.

2) The rights of relatives to present written opposition on behalf of those who have not previously expressed any preference. But opposition of relatives is overridden if the patient has a 'donor card' in his pocket (be careful of falsified cards!).
3) In the absence of a written opposition document explantation is illicitly carried out. It is illegal for doctors to ask relatives to sign donor consent for the patient. It is cruel and immoral to donate other people's organs. It is criminal to explant organs from a non-donor by carrying out an illegal autopsy.

### DON'T TRUST INSTITUTIONS WHICH SPREAD PROPAGANDA TO INCREASE TRANSPLANTS

## WHAT YOU CAN DO WITH OUR HELP

Demand the abolition of law 578/93 which imposes the declaration of 'brain death' in 6 hours in the presence of a beating heart and blood circulation: which is effectively state-sanctioned murder.

**Demand** correct information: doctors must admit that organs are taken from patients whose heart is still beating whilst tissues can be taken from patients 20 minutes after cardiac and respiratory arrest.

**Demand the immediate** introduction of the right of physicians to conscientiously object to the concept of brain death while the body is still alive.

**Demand the abolition of the 91/99 law,** called the opt-out law, which dishonestly expropriates citizens rights; and the abolition of illegal files on citizens.

**Demand that** only donors can be registered and only by personal declaration to the local health authority, as in Great Britain, bearing in mind any objections from the family.

**Demand** the abolition of a physician's power to switch off life support to non-donors thus preventing any other medical opinions or treatment.

**Demand** the exclusion of the propaganda of 'pro brain death-explant/transplant' associations from all schools, especially primary school.

**Demand** the disclosure of the suffering, serious pathologies and high death rate of those who have received transplants. Demand an end to the institutionalized business of human slaughter and the consequent legal and illegal trade in organs.

#### 4 new horrors

 Invasive and damaging tests, such as cerebral angiography, looking for signs of death rather than life; 2) explants of a non-beating heart in 1 to 5 minutes (see over);
 a proposed-law to keep brain-dead patients alive purely for surgical, chemical and radiological experiments; 4) "donations" by healthy subjects of kidneys, and parts of liver, lung, pancreas and intestines.

WE MUST PROMOTE A REFERENDUM TO ANNUL THE LAW ON FALSE BRAIN DEATH