

WELCOME PARAHUMANS!

**ALEXANDRIA VA March 1
(AP)**

The long debate is over.

Write it down and keep it handy - the new officially-approved name for human clones is “parahumans”, according to Dr. John Frankenstein (“no relation”), director of the soon-to-be-renamed Happy Valley Clone Resource Center here.

“We have had problems for years in determining exactly what we should call our clones,” said Dr. Frankenstein, “and we think we’ve come up with a reasonable answer. Society knows and approves of paramedics and paralegals, and we hope that we can achieve the same level of acceptance for our parahumans.”

The hitherto-common term “disposable human” with its “blatantly negative connotations” was always a problem, said Dr. Frankenstein. A concerted publicity effort will be made by cloning organizations to introduce and encourage the use of the new name, which according to sources was suggested by a senior staffer in the office of Senator Tom Flortneiber (D - S.D.).

As in the past, the parahumans will be used primarily as a source of harvested organs, but sources advise that commercial uses are being investigated. “We’re not ruling anything out, as long as the money is right,” said Dr. Frankenstein. “Feeding these things isn’t cheap - they don’t seem to like fast food - and we’d be really happy to recover some of our costs.”

**WASHINGTON DC April 20
(REUTERS)**

Denial continues of recent rumors that parahuman units (formerly known as “clones”) have been leased on an experimental basis to certain National Football League teams.

According to sports sources, the presence of parahumans could go a long way to explaining the increase in average team scoring to 75.6 points during the past NFL season. “I wouldn’t mind a few of them on my offensive line,” commented the former coach of an NFL team sporting a 4-28 record over the past two seasons. “I understand they’re easy to bulk up, and if you fiddle with a few genes, you can make them fast. It might take while to explain ‘first down’ to them, but then again my wife still doesn’t understand it and we’ve been married thirty-one years.”

“Parahumans will continue to assist their masters in any ways possible, but we are not presently involved in professional sports,” said Parahumans International (formerly World Cloning Organization) spokesperson Dr. Elvis Blernstrubb. “However we have been approached by several teams, and it is not inconceivable that a deal will be struck once the money issues are worked out.”

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Disputes among sports authorities as to whether rental costs for para-human players are included in salary caps are “premature”, said Dr. Blernstrubb, although he did concede that several prominent sports agents are watching the situation closely.

**ATLANTA GA April 3
(New York Times)**

The recent labor movement efforts to organize parahuman workers in the building maintenance industry have been declared “a huge success” by Marty Gompers, recruitment officer for the AFL-CIO Parahuman Outreach Unit.

“We went into this not totally sure of what the result would be,” said Gompers, noting that union membership among humans has been in constant decline for many years. “We had heard from their handlers that parahumans tend to be docile and easily led, so we thought that a preliminary organizing effort would be worth trying. But quite frankly, we were not anticipating the level of interest that the parahumans have shown. It’s certainly a big shot in the arm for the labor movement.”

Gompers stated that QPH312544, affectionately known to its co-workers as “Old 44”, will be the first parahuman union representative to attend the national convention in the Fall. “We’ll listen to them and try to address their needs, like we do with our other members,” said Gompers. “We’ve heard reports of exploitation, and this harvesting situation has to be examined. We’re looking forward to hearing from Old 44 at the convention.”

**NEW YORK May 12
(New York Times)**

The question that has recently been on the minds of so many academics, lawyers, and politicians has been decided: according to a 5-4 decision of the Supreme Court, parahumans can vote.

“Nowhere in the Constitution does it say that intelligence and the presence of a human soul are qualifications for voters,” said ACLU attorney Mavis Throb, who filed an amicus curiae brief on behalf of the Parahuman Legal Rights Fund. “We are grateful to the enlightened and progressive members of the Court for agreeing that parahumans are being unjustly discriminated against.”

The much-debated question of age qualifications was the source of considerable discussion among the justices, Court insiders said. The argument that the determining factor should be the age of the parent cells, rather than the age of the parahuman itself, eventually prevailed, although the Court remained deeply divided.

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In a short but scathing dissent, Justice Antonin Scalia asked “Is this decision for real, or what?”

“We haven’t seen the end of this discussion,” commented a prominent Washington attorney and Court-watcher. “If the parahumans have the right to vote, what other laws and protections apply to them? Can we continue harvesting registered voters? What happens when one of them decides to run for office? It’s really going to get interesting.”

The Court also decided that the requirement that voters have names is satisfied by the possession of the standard nine-digit Parahuman Serial Number. The issue of parahuman social security numbers remains undecided but is expected to be taken up during the next Congressional term.

SAN FRANCISCO May 13
(Reuters)

Democratic National Committee spokesperson Voorhies Beasley today confirmed that registration of parahumans will be among the priorities of the DNC in years to come.

“Once the Supreme Court decided that parahumans can vote, we immediately implemented the plans that we had made over the past few years,” said Beasley. “Our representatives will be visiting all the PMFs (Parahuman Multiplication Facilities) to pass out party literature and assist in voter registra-tion. Our union friends have also offered to assist.”

An unnamed Republican National Committee spokesperson, contacted with regards to the DNC decision, had no comment beyond “Gee, what a great idea! Too bad we didn’t think of it! I’d love to discuss it, but I’m late for my golf game...”

LOS ANGELES Sept 16
(Bloomberg)

Immigration officials professed no knowledge of the reported erroneous admission of 37,228 undocumented parahumans into the United States.

The mistaken admissions were alleged by a Jacksonville (FL) television reporter, who claimed “sources high up in the INS” had confirmed the admissions and blamed them on a “computer glitch”.

“We know nothing about this, and if we did, the number would be closer to 36,000 than 37,228,” said an INS spokesperson. “And as to a computer glitch being responsible, that’s impossible. The INS hasn’t used computers since 2002. Since we could never figure out how to operate them, we’ve gone back to goose-quill pens, file cards, and huge quaint registry books with marbly stuff on the covers. Hey, they worked at Ellis Island, didn’t they?”

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Reminded that the last INS budget request included \$287 million for “technological upgrades,” the INS source commented “No comment.”

The FBI is reported to be opening an investigation.

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