

doctors are not simply products of a monolithic health care system. Yet, along with the commodification of almost everything in our society, medicine is becoming market-driven. The cost of rehabilitating someone like David McRae is monumental. Just how much is someone like David worth to society?

When Terri Schiavo dominated headlines a year ago, her story struck a deep chord with people all over the world. Why? Maybe she's a poignant reminder that each one of us is a simple accident away from her plight. And whether or not we meet with such a tragic fate, none of us can avoid aging.

In some cultures, older citizens are respected for their wisdom and given places of honor. Not so in the U.S. Our concept of usefulness has more to do with good looks and talent than what we offer altruistically. A series of ads soliciting egg donors recently ran in college newspapers across the nation. "A healthy, attractive Yale female who has proven her academic achievement with an SAT score of 1500 or above can earn a cool \$25,000, provided she is a non-smoker," reports Kat Huang of the Yale Daily News. Tiny Treasures, the agency responsible for the ads, requires official copies of SAT scores as a part of the application process.

A society preoccupied by performance has little use for the Terri Schiavos and David McRaes—neither could earn an SAT score of any kind. And yet, Terri inspired people across the globe to fight for the rights of others. David's story mobilized an entire community to volunteer their time year after year. While unique, these two are not isolated cases. Every day, people like David and Terri impact others profoundly by receiving love as much as they give it. This is what makes right-to-life issues so controversial. For it is love, not productivity, that makes us human. The right to life is about relationship: the right to love and be loved. In some ways, our society upholds this principle. But too often, our frantic pursuit of personal gain creates a system that rejects the weak. Until we realize that our lack of regard for the "unuseful" \*\*\*\*\*s our own fate, narcissism will prevail over love.

The truly extraordinary part of David's story is not so much his miraculous recovery as it is the 30 people who went to extreme measures to help him. Terri Schiavo was not so fortunate. Deeply moved by Terri's ordeal, Leone Nunley contacted the Schiavos personally, and the struggle brought the two families together in a special way. But Leone never told David about it. "He'd be devastated," she says.

P.S. THATS WHY I (BOBBY) LOVE THAT VERSE ISASAH 40; 31 😊

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FAITH SAYS TOMORROW IS A NEW DAY AND TODAY IS THE BEGINNING OF IT

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RE: FIGHTING FOR DAVID, A BEAUTIFUL... (in reply to [Robeak](#))

