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One of the increasing number of questions asked about reproductive technologies by parishioners is, "Is in vitro fertilization morally acceptable or not?" Since in vitro (*Latin*: in glass referring to a petri dish) fertilization is a process involving issues within issues there is often confusion resulting from attempts to answer that question. In this article we will attempt to identify the separate issues and their moral standing so that the reader can evaluate the moral acceptability or unacceptability of *in vitro* fertilization.

The current process of attempting pregnancy through *in vitro* involves the making of as many as seven, eight or more embryos in the laboratory. Only two or three of those embryos mig

We may look back collectively at *in vitro* fertilization as the point at which procreation gave way to reproduction as described in Huxley's, *Brave New World* written seventy years ago. In the new reproductive paradigm, the next step would be cloning human beings, eliminating the need for spouse or partner.

