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| Topics: **Stillbirth** |
| Type: **Oral** |
| **"Legal framework of intrauterine death in Latin America. Improvement Proposal" A. Bianconi, J.D., Doctor of Law, Vice President Foundation Era en Abril.** |
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| **Introduction** The World Health Organization defines fetal death in 1950 and recommends its classification in early, middle or late. This recommendation has been used by health professionals and legislators from Latin America to establish a fundamental difference between abortion and premature labor, systematically ignoring a series of rights to those who fall into the first category, which are infants less than 20 weeks gestation according last menstrual period or less than 500 grams.   In Argentina and across Latin America, babies who die in the womb before reach those medical parameters are considered abortions and are NOT registered. Their bodies are treated as pathological waste and are incinerated along with other waste. They are not deliver to their parents even if they want to.   On the other hand, babies who that reach the medical parameters are given to the family so that they can perform spiritual rituals that have, but their death certificates do not allow the registration of the name chosen by the parents, only the NN initials.  **Material and Methods** This inhuman treatment that many babies who die in the womb and their parents receive has serious consequences for the proper development of the grieving process. The non-delivery of the dead body and the refusal to recognize the name chosen for that baby send to those parents the wrong message that their grief does not count. Besides this system also keeps out from statistics to those intrauterine deaths which are considered abortions, not registering the underlying causes. The latest study by the medical journal The Lancet, concluded that half of stillbirths are preventable, but to achieve this it is imperative to study the causes, which is not being done at this time.  **Results** In regard to our proposal, from the Foundation we promote a bill that seeks to provide an alternative to those who today do not have it, changing local legislation so those parents who wish to get the body of his son and register them with the name chosen can do it, without arbitrary distinctions related to weight or gestational age.  **Conclusions** The project presented is already in the National Congress for treatment and have three main areas: 1) Recognition of the name for babies who die in the womb, as an OPTION and at the request of the parents who want to; 2) The register of all stillbirths for statistical purposes for the implementation of health policies to prevent preventable deaths; 3) The delivery of the body to parents for posthumous purposes without arbitrary distinctions |
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