

[Opinion](#)



A medical lab technologist operates an embryo vitrification during an intra cytoplasmic sperm injection process at a laboratory in Paris on Sept. 13, 2019. The Alabama Supreme Court recently ruled that frozen embryos qualify as children under state law. (OSV News/Reuters/Christian Hartmann)



Heidi Schlumpf

[View Author Profile](#)

hschlumpf@ncronline.org

Follow on Twitter at [@heidischlumpf](https://twitter.com/heidischlumpf)



Daniel P. Horan

[View Author Profile](#)



David Dault

[View Author Profile](#)

[**Join the Conversation**](#)

March 1, 2024

[Share on Bluesky](#)[Share on Facebook](#)[Share on Twitter](#)[Email to a friend](#)[Print](#)

NCR senior correspondent [Heidi Schlumpf](#) joins "The Francis Effect" podcast co-hosts Franciscan Fr. Daniel Horan ([NCR columnist](#)) and [David Dault](#), executive producer and host of "Things Not Seen: Conversations About Culture and Faith." Heidi, Father. Daniel and David look at recent [court rulings](#) that have resulted in confusing and sometimes disastrous consequences for parents undergoing in vitro fertilization treatments. Next they look at Texas attorney general Ken Paxton's recent accusations against [Annunciation House](#), a ministry serving migrants, and Heidi interviews [Kathleen Dorsey Bellow](#), director of the [Institute for Black Catholic Studies](#) in New Orleans.

How do I listen?

Click the "play" button at the top of the page to start the show. Make sure to keep the window open on your browser if you're doing other things, or the audio will stop.

From your mobile device:

You can listen and subscribe to "The Francis Effect" from any podcast app. If you're reading this from an iPhone or other Apple mobile device, tap [this link](#) to listen in Apple Podcasts. If you're on an Android, tap [this link](#) to listen in Google Podcasts.

If you prefer another podcast app, you can find "The Francis Effect" there. (Here's the [RSS feed](#).)

From a desktop or laptop:

You can visit [The Francis Effect website here](#) for more information on the show.

You can also find the podcast on Twitter: [@FrancisFXPod](#).

Advertisement

This story appears in the **The Francis Effect Podcast** feature series. [View the full series](#).