

English 12B, 1
April 2008

Organ Donor

I. Introduction

- A. Attention Getter - Every day in the U.S., an average of 18 people die while awaiting organ transplants because of a critical shortage of donors ("Facts and Figures About Organ Donation"). One donor can save up to 50 lives and take 8 people off of the waiting list ("Facts and Figures About Organ Donation").
- B. Thesis – More people need to become aware of organ donor awareness and by people becoming more aware will cause more people to become organ donors and will save many more lives.

II. Body

A. Main point #1 – Statistics

1. An average of 18 people die a day.
 - a. This is because of the shortage of organ donors.
 - b. If more people are aware of organ donor awareness then more people will become organ donors.
2. One donor can save many lives.
 - a. One donor can save up to 50 lives.
 - b. One donor can take 8 people off of the waiting list.
 - c. One donor can help a burned victim heal more quickly with the donation of skin.
 - d. One donor can help repair injured joints or help save an arm or leg threatened by cancer by donating bone.

3. Random facts

- a. 4,573 kidney patients, 1,506 liver patients, 371 heart patients, and 234 lung patients died in 2008 while waiting while waiting for a life-saving organ.
- b. The survival rate of a kidney transplant recipient is %97.

B. Main point #2 - Removing organs.

1. Safe.

- a. Organ and tissue are removed the same way surgically as a live person.
- b. Only when a person is declared legally dead is when organ and tissue recovery begins.

2. Distributing organs.

- a. Organ transplant recipients are selected on the basis of medical urgency, compatibility size and blood chemistries, not race, sex or creed.
- b. Wealth has nothing to with distribution of organs which is ensured by a computerized matching system.
- c. Organs are kept cold to preserve the organ.
- d. During the donation surgery, just prior to removal, an ice cold preservative solution is flushed into each of the organs.

C. Main point #3 – Who can be a donor.

1. People who can be a donor.

- a. Anyone can be a donor regardless of age, race, or medical history.
- b. All major religions in the U.S. support organ donation and see it as a final act of love and generosity towards others.

2. Cost.

- a. **There is no cost to become and organ donor.**
- b. **An open casket is possible if you are an organ or tissue donor.**

III. Conclusion

- A. **Restate thesis - More people need to become aware of organ donor awareness and by people becoming more aware will cause more people to become organ donors and will save many more lives.**
- B. **Summarize Main Point #1**
- C. **Summarize Main Point #2**
- D. **Summarize Main Point #3**
- E. **Concluding Sentence – call to action.**