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[Home](#) > Untenable Position

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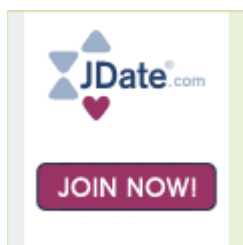
Tuesday, December 21, 2010

Rabbi Yuval Cherlow

While I think that the halacha accepts brain death as death, and there is a halachic demand to donate organs, I respect those who disagree with me ("RCA Backs Off Stand On Brain Death For Transplants," Dec. 3).

But I find it impossible and halachically untenable for the Rabbinical Council of America rabbis to conclude that one can reject brain death and organ donation yet benefit from them. If it's prohibited, then the RCA should announce that people should die and not try to save their life by taking someone else's.

Otherwise it is not halachic, not moral and not acceptable.



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