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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](#)



Daniel P. Horan

[View Author Profile](#)



David Dault

[View Author Profile](#)

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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.

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