

with numerous measurements expressed in parts per million (ppm).

Surmising correctly that all the people who know what the words mean don't quite visualize the magnitude of a part per million, Jenkins makes it unmistakably clear to all: "The world's driest martini: one ppm of vermouth would be the equivalent of one ounce of vermouth in 7,800 gallons of gin."

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#### Reference

1. D. W. Jenkins, *Smithsonian* 3, 64 (1972).

#### Statement on

#### Termination of Pregnancy

The following statement was signed by 271 professional biologists who attended the annual symposium meeting of the Society for Developmental Biology. The symposium was held at Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut, from 7 to 10 June 1972.

As developmental biologists, one of our major social concerns is to identify and promote those conditions that favor normal development of the human embryo and fetus, and that culminate in the physical health and well-being of the child, mother and family. These conditions include a legal framework within which a woman, in consultation with her physician, can elect to terminate an undesirable pregnancy.

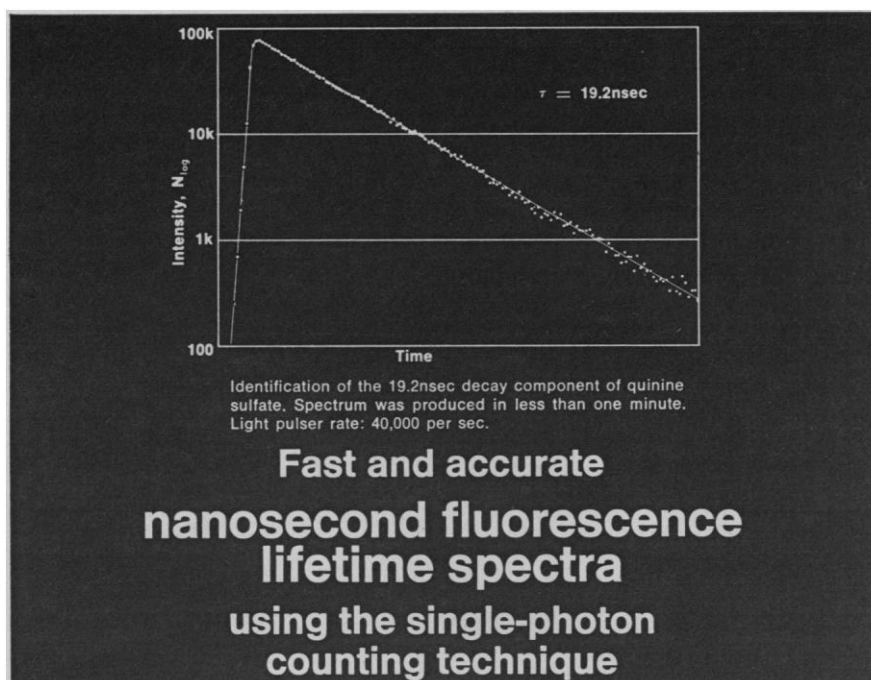
We the undersigned, attending the 31st Symposium Meeting of the Society for Developmental Biology, commend the stand taken by the Federal District Court of Connecticut in the recent case of "Women vs. Connecticut." In that case, Judge J. Edward Lumbard concluded "... that the state's interests are insufficient to take from the woman the decision after conception whether she will bear a child, and that she as the appropriate decision maker, must be free to choose." We feel that this decision is a definitive statement that deserves national attention.

The signatures are available upon request from the Society for Developmental Biology. They include the officers of the society, as well as prominent developmental biologists from colleges, universities, and professional institutions throughout the country.

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11 AUGUST 1972



#### A digital approach

Single-photon counting, a highly sensitive technique which actually samples individual quanta of light, is generally acknowledged to be the best method of measuring very low light levels. Now Ortec has applied this technique to the field of nanosecond fluorescence spectroscopy. The Ortec Model 9200 Nanosecond Fluorescence Spectrometer uses a short duration optical light pulse to excite the sample and measures the decaying fluorescence intensity as a function of time over several decades.

Our system offers sensitivity and accuracy increased by orders of magnitude compared to existing analytical techniques. This new system is already producing outstanding results in studies of chemical reaction rates, molecular structure, and molecular conformation changes.

#### Improved data reduction

A multichannel analyzer records each detected fluorescence photon against a time base for immediate CRT display or Teletype printout of the spectrum. Data is manipulated and stored in a digital,

computer-compatible mode. A computer interface can thus be incorporated to facilitate reduction of complex data.

The 9200 system will measure both single and multiple decay components. Multiple components are clearly represented on the spectrum and easily read. (The spectrum above shows the straight line response of a sample having a single lifetime.)

Sensitivity is better than 1 ppb quinine sulfate in sulfuric acid. Linearity is typically better than 1%.

#### System components

The exact system configuration will depend on the user's particular requirements, but the basic system consists of a nanosecond light pulser, sample chamber including photomultiplier, multichannel analyzer, and associated electronics. The entire system is designed around NIM-standard modules for enhanced flexibility, reliability, and ease of servicing.

#### Data sheet on request

If you'd like more information on the Ortec Model 9200 Nanosecond Fluorescence Spectrometer, we'd be happy to send you a data sheet that tells all about it. Just write or call Ortec Incorporated, 110 Midland Road, Oak Ridge, Tenn. 37830. Phone: (615) 482-4411.

In Europe: Ortec Ltd., Dallow Road, Luton, Bedfordshire. Phone: LUton 27557. Ortec GmbH, 8 München 13, Frankfurter Ring 81, West Germany. Phone: (0811) 359-1001.

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