



When does Cillian exist in potentiality?



- Cillian exists only when some matter has the (2nd) potential to engage in human activities. At that point, it is actually alive—it is able to do what humans can do.
- The fact that some material has the 1st potential to perform human activities does not mean the human exists. It means only that some material can be turned into an entity that can perform human activities.
- If abortion destroys something that is potentially alive in the first sense of potentiality, it does not destroy human life. Burning a lot of timber does not thereby destroy a house. If abortion destroyed something that is potentially alive in the second sense of potentiality, then it does destroy a human life.