

Donor conception – your story

An invitation to take part in a research project on donor conception in families

About the research project

We are researchers from the University of Manchester who are working on a project about how couples who conceive using donor sperm, eggs or embryos feel about telling parents and relatives about their decision to use a donor.

Wider family is often very important in the context of having a baby, and we are investigating how couples feel about discussing the process of donor conception with their own parents, in-laws and extended families.

As part of this project we want to talk to heterosexual and lesbian couples about their experiences. We are interested in talking to couples who have shared information with their relatives, but also those who have decided to keep some things private.

Are you a lesbian or heterosexual couple who have conceived using egg, sperm or embryo donation? We would love to hear your story.

Taking part

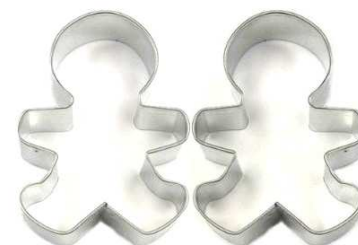


Taking part in this project will involve participating in an interview which will be about an hour or so long. We are interested in interviewing you together, if possible, but we also do individual interviews. The interview will focus on your experience and will be like an informal conversation. The interviews usually take place at home or anywhere that you feel comfortable.

As part of the interview we will also do an easy-to-complete exercise which involves mapping the people in your family. This is so that we can get a better sense of your individual experience. At the end of the interview we will also ask you to fill in a short questionnaire about yourself.

Your participation is anonymous and confidential

What you say in the interview is completely anonymous and your participation in the project is confidential. Any information you give us will be held securely and treated in strict confidence. We will not use real names, or other identifying details, in our publications or reports. Only fully anonymised data will be archived for use of other researchers and for training and teaching purposes.



This project has been approved by the University of Manchester Ethics Committee and will abide by the Economic and Social Research Council's statement on ethical practice (you can view this at www.esrcsocietytoday.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/opportunities/research_ethics_framework/)

Interested in taking part?

If you would like to take part, or would just like more information, please phone or e-mail Petra Nordqvist (contact details below). Petra will then get in touch to answer any questions you have and, if you would like to take part in the project, to arrange a convenient time for the interview. If you decide to become involved, you are free to withdraw from the project at any time without giving a reason.

This project is based at the Morgan Centre for the Study of Relationship and Personal Life and Sociology at the University of Manchester. It is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council UK (www.esrc.ac.uk). The project began in October 2010 and will run until April 2013.

Project team

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