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INFERTILITY

The Emotional Side of Infertility

By Chrissie Jones

Sympathetically written by a woman who has experienced infertility & has listened to numerous other couples describe their journeys. Highlights feelings commonly experienced, & in a clear, easy-to-follow way, suggests coping strategies.

In Pursuit of Parenthood: Real-life Experiences of IVF

By Kate Brian

A sensitive, well-researched account of each stage of treatment, including strategies for coping with the intense psychological stress. Real-life couples share their experiences in a series of in-depth interviews covering a wide range of circumstances & outcomes.

Overcoming Infertility: A Compassionate Resource for Getting Pregnant

By Dr. Robert Jansen

A uniquely holistic view by an internationally-known fertility expert who examines possible causes; explains testing methods; discusses potential treatments (medication, microsurgery, IVF/GIFT, surrogacy, sperm/egg donation); & weighs the physical & psychological costs/benefits of each.

The Pregnancy Prescription: The Success-Oriented Approach to Overcoming Infertility

By Dr. Hugh Melnick & Nancy Intrator

A strategy for helping you conceive as quickly & cost-effectively as possible: a step-by-step plan for using the newest technology to bypass (rather than correct) those stages in the reproductive process which appear most likely to be preventing you from becoming pregnant.

Sweet Grapes: How to Stop Being Infertile & Start Living Again

By Jean & Michael Carter

Communication & decision-making to empower couples to reclaim control of their lives, plus childfree living as a positive option.

Taking Charge of Infertility

By Patricia Irwin Johnston

A handbook to assist with the emotional & psychological issues which accompany

infertility & help couples to communicate realistically & effectively at a difficult time.

Understanding Infertility: Insights for Family & Friends

By Patricia Irwin Johnston

An introduction for the caring, but uninformed, to infertility's potential losses. Explains how reactions to these losses can create communication difficulties. Discusses the impact fertility impairment has on financial, physical, emotional & temporal resources. Points out potential insensitivities. Corrects myths & misinformation.

DONOR CONCEPTION (adults)

Behind Closed Doors: Moving Beyond Secrecy & Shame

Edited by Mikki Morrisette & the Donor Sibling Registry

Essays by a DI dad, a formerly anonymous donor, Wendy Kramer (Donor Sibling Registry), Olivia Montuschi (Donor Conception Network) & 3 donor offspring - designed to enable more open conversation for families - plus recommendations for change within the industry.

Building a Family with the Assistance of Donor Insemination

By Ken Daniels, Professor of Social Work; counsellor; researcher; policy consultant to governments, professional & patient organizations; leader of patient preparation seminars.

Combines research by the author & others, along with many years of conversations with offspring, donors, single, lesbian & heterosexual parents around the world, into a book that will contribute to the health & well-being of families everywhere. Parents share their stories, thoughts & feelings.

Choosing Single Motherhood: The Thinking Woman's Guide

By Mikki Morrisette

Based on extensive up-to-date research, advice from child experts & family therapists, & conversations with more than 100 single women & their children, this book explores such issues as: Can I afford to do this? Should I wait longer to see if life turns a new corner? How do single moms handle the stress? What are the effects on the child? How do I answer a child's questions about

"daddy?" Pros & cons of using a known, open-identity or anonymous donor.

Choosing to be Open about Donor Conception: Experiences of Parents

By Sharon Pettle & Jan Burns, Psychologists

Single parents, lesbian & heterosexual couples, with children ranging from infants to teens, speak frankly about influences on the decision to be open; thoughts about secrets; telling family & friends; handling 'professionals'; dealing with remarks about resemblance; stages in telling; thinking about schools; reflecting on the whole experience.

Experiences of Donor Conception: Parents, Offspring and Donors through the Years

By Caroline Lorbach, Mother of 3 children via DI. Consumer advocate for the Donor Conception Support Group of Australia.

Draws on the experiences of married, single & lesbian parents from families using sperm, egg & embryo donation; offspring; & donors. Explores the process from finding out about an infertility problem, deciding on donor conception, choosing a donor, discussing the decision with others, to considering whether & how to tell children about their conception, & how adult offspring feel. Practical suggestions, as well as in-depth consideration of the emotional & ethical issues involved, including access to information about the donor.

Families Following Assisted Conception: What Do We Tell Our Child?

By Dr. Alexina McWhinnie

Deals with the question of secrecy & openness in families who have children following DI, IVF & surrogacy. Addresses parents' doubts, uncertainties & concerns. Offers the experiences & views of those who have already had to deal with these issues & the ensuing dilemmas in their daily lives as their children grow towards adulthood.

Having Your Baby Through Egg Donation

By Ellen Sarasohn Glazer, MSW

Compassionate support & essential information on the medical, ethical & psychological aspects to help married, single or lesbian women & their partners, as well as gay men/couples, decide whether egg donation is right for them, using an anonymous or known donor.

Mommies, Daddies, Donors, Surrogates: Answering Tough Questions & Building Strong Families

By Diane Ehrensaft, PhD; Psychologist

Addresses & empathizes with the complicated thoughts & feelings that can arise before & after heterosexual, lesbian or single parent family creation, while keeping a strong focus on the developmental needs of children.

The Offspring Speak: Report on the 2000 International Conference of Donor Offspring

By Sherry Dale (Franz), MSW, & Diane Allen, Executive Director, Infertility Network

This 93 page report highlights the themes & recommendations arising from the conference, & includes a complete transcript of presentations by offspring & various experts, along with position papers from support organizations around the world.

Sperm Donor Offspring: Identity & Other Experiences

By Lynne Spencer, RN, MA (Psych); Offspring

Explores how being an offspring affects people's life experience & identity. Common themes: family secrecy, identity confusion, a sense of not fitting in & a need for ancestral connection. Includes resources for support.

Telling & Talking About Donor Conception: A Guide for Parents

By the Donor Conception Network

Written by a parent of donor conceived young people & based on children's developmental stages, these books provide parents with a source of emotional support & practical guidance in finding the right time & language to 'tell' & continue conversations with their children over the years. Separate versions for parents of children aged 0-7, 8-11, 12-16, & 17+ years old.

Third Party Assisted Conception Across Cultures: Social, Legal & Ethical Perspectives

Edited by Eric Blyth & Ruth Landau

Authors from a broad range of professional backgrounds & 13 different countries in North & South America, Africa, Europe, Asia & Australasia address many contemporary social issues including the role of the state in family creation, the changing forms & conceptualizations of a 'family,' & concerns about the potential commodification of body-parts & functions.

Truth & the Child 10 Years On: Information Exchange in Donor Assisted Conception

Edited by Eric Blyth, Marilyn Crawshaw & Jennifer Speirs

Essays by donor offspring, egg donors, a DI mother, a mother through surrogacy, a family through adoption, as well as counsellors, researchers & lawyers, on the rights & needs of those born following assisted conception to know about their genetic origins.

Who Am I? Experiences of Donor Conception

Essays by offspring about the impact of donor conception on themselves & their families, plus reflections by Dr. Alexina McWhinnie, a social researcher who has worked extensively in the area of assisted conception.

DONOR CONCEPTION (children)

How I Began: The Story of DI

By the New South Wales (Australia) Infertility Social Workers Group

Picture book for children 5-8, born to heterosexual couples, about basic human anatomy, conception, DI & birth. Highlights feelings commonly experienced & in a clear, easy-to-follow way, suggests coping strategies.

Let Me Explain: A Story about Donor Insemination

By Jane T. Schnitter

Text & pictures combine to create a reassuring message for children 6-10 about this form of family-building, while explaining, in simple language, the impact of genetics on looks, interests, abilities, etc.

Mommy, Did I Grow in Your Tummy? Where Some Babies Come From

By Elaine Gordon, PhD

Helps heterosexual couples talk to their young children in a way that helps the child feel good about their origins.

My Story / Our Story

Published by the Donor Conception Network

Illustrated story books for children 3-6 years. Clear, sensitive & straightforward explanations about how children were conceived & became part of their family. Separate versions for children born through DI to heterosexual couples, single mothers or lesbian parents; or by egg donation to heterosexual couples.

Phoebe's Family: A Story about Egg Donation

By Linda Stamm, PsyD

A heartfelt story for children of heterosexual couples which explains the process of egg donation & answers their questions with sensitivity & clarity.

Sometimes It Takes 3 to Make a Baby: Explaining Egg Donation to Young Children

By Kate Bourne, Infertility Counsellor

Includes: an illustrated guide for young children born to heterosexual couples, explaining in simple language the process of egg donation; a workbook for the child to complete, including their own personal photos, mementos & drawings; advice for parents on how to talk to young children about their conception; one couple's story about how they approached talking to their daughter about her origins & her reactions.

ADOPTION

Adopting After Infertility

By Patricia Irwin Johnston

Couples struggling to decide whether adoption is the right option, those who've already decided & are making decisions about how/when/who, & adoptive parents, as well as the professionals who work with them, are the audience for this compassionate guide through infertility to parenting.

Adopting Your Child: Options, Answers & Actions

By Nancy Thalia Reynolds

Checklists & worksheets help prospective parents devise a strategy to keep their adoption plans on track. Every step in public & private adoption is explored. Learn about facilitators, social workers & legal professionals.

Launching a Baby's Adoption: Practical Strategies for Parents & Professionals

By Patricia Irwin Johnston

Topics include getting ready, practical strategies for promoting attachment, making choices, adjustments for parenting partners, coping with insensitivity from others, post-arrival blues, bringing family & friends aboard, what to do if a birthparent has a change of heart, deciding what's an adoption issue & what's not, etc.

Rosie's Family: An Adoption Story

By Lori Rosove, Adoption social worker

A comprehensive children's picture book that helps adoptive parents & their children discuss the many issues surrounding adoption.