



CANADIAN FERTILITY AND ANDROLOGY SOCIETY
SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DE FERTILITÉ ET D'ANDROLOGIE

Starting conversations **Donor conception resource list**

A Helpful Resource of Books, Websites and DVDs
For Parents, Children and Teens
and those working in the field of Assisted Human Reproduction

Compiled by
Counselling Special Interest Group (CSIG)

In affiliation with
CFAS

Counselling Special Interest Group (CSIG) Taskforce Committee:

Chair: Irene Glavac Petric MSW, RSW

Gabriele Klimstra BSW, RSW

Catherine Stafford M.Ed, CCC

Jean Haase MSW, RSW

Lori Parker M.A.

Julia Sen Ph.D.

With assistance from Janet Takefman, PhD, Chair, CSIG

November 2013

INDEX

Introduction.....	3
Resources for Parents	
Books.....	4
Online.....	5
Films.....	6
Radio/Podcasts.....	6
Resources for Children	
Books.....	7
Family Diversity.....	7
Introduction to Assisted Conception.....	8
All Avenues of Assisted Reproduction.....	8
Egg Donation.....	9
Sperm Donation.....	11
Embryo Donation.....	15
Surrogacy/Gestational Carrier.....	15
Resources for Tweens, Teens and Young Adults	
Books.....	18
Online.....	20
Films.....	21
Resources for Professionals	
Books.....	22
Journal Articles.....	23
Articles.....	24
Position Papers.....	24
Online.....	24
Podcasts.....	24

INTRODUCTION

In September 2012, a task force comprised of counsellors from the Counselling Special Interest Group (CSIG) began compiling a resource list on topics related to disclosure to Donor Conceived Children. It is our hope this document provides reliable information to intended parents and children of all ages who are donor conceived. The collection of books, articles and websites was chosen to provide individuals using donor conception with information and a starting point for conversations with their families, friends and children. While it is not an exhaustive list, it contains information for parents from a variety of family configurations.

For a professional working in the area of Assisted Human Reproduction it is our hope these resources will serve as an educational guide.

Irene Glavac Petric MSW, RSW
Task Force Chair



RESOURCES FOR PARENTS

BOOKS

[Building a Family with the Assistance of Donor Insemination](#) (2004)

Author: Ken Daniels

Publisher: Dunmore Press

[Choosing to be Open about Donor Conception: Experiences of Parents](#) (2002)

Authors: Sharon Pettle and Jan Burns

Booklet for parents available through Donor Conception Network, UK

[Helping the Stork: The Choices of Donor Insemination](#) (1997)

Authors: Carol Frost Vercollone, MSW, Heidi Moss, MSW, and Robert Moss, Ph.D

Publisher: Wiley

[Experiences of Donor Conception: Parents, Offspring and Donors throughout the Years](#) (2009)

Author: Caroline Lorbach

Publisher: Jessica Kingsley

[The Complete Lesbian & Gay Parenting Guide](#) (2004)

Author: Arlene Istar Lev, CSW

Publisher: Berkley Publishing Group

[The Lesbian Parenting Book: A Guide to Creating Families and Raising Children](#) (2003)

Author: Dr. Merilee Clunis

Publisher: Seal Press

[Mommies, Daddies, Donors, Surrogates: Answering Tough Questions and Building Strong Families.](#) (2005)

Author: Diane Ehrensaft, Ph.D

Publisher: Guildford Press

[Choosing Single Motherhood: The Thinking Woman's Guide](#) (2005)

Author: Mikki Morrissette

["Telling and Talking" Series](#) (2006)

Author: Olivia Montuschi

Four Booklets for parents covering age groups 0-7, 8-11, 12-16, 17 and over

Produced by the The Donor Conception Network



Perspective Press offers resources regarding adoption and children conceived with Assisted Human Reproduction

'Telling and Talking with Friends and Family' (2013)

'Our Family: A telling and talking guide for friends and relatives' (2013)

Author: Olivia Montuschi

Available as booklets or PDF download

Produced by the Donor Conception Network

ONLINE

Talking To Children about Assisted Reproductive Technology

<http://www.artparenting.org/index.html>

The Maternal and Child Health Library at Georgetown University

<http://mchlibrary.info/guides/ART.html>

Donor Conception Network

www.dcnetwork.org

The South Western Ontario Donor Conception Support Network

www.donorconception.com

American Society of Reproductive Medicine

www.asrm.org/(Under patient resources to MHPG Resources)

The National Infertility Association

www.resolve.org

LGBTQ Parenting Connection

www.lgbtqparentingconnection.ca/resources.cfm

Infertility Awareness Association of Canada (IAAC)

www.IAAC.ca

Single Mothers

www.choicemoms.org

A Blog about Books for Donor Offspring

<http://booksfordonoroffspring.blogspot.com>



Patricia A. Sarles, M.A., M.L.S., Librarian and consumer who has compiled this blog to be of assistance to parents looking for books to help them explain assisted conception to their children: In Vitro Fertilization, Donor Egg, Sperm, Embryo, or Surrogacy. These books are in English, French, Dutch, German, Spanish, Hebrew and Italian.

FILMS

DOCUMENTARY

Offspring (2001)

Barry Stevens, documents his quest to find his half siblings.

Bio-dad (2009)

Barry Stevens chronicles the search for his own sperm-donor father.

Sperm Donor X: A Different Conception (2012)

Filmmaker Deidre Fishel documents her journey and that of three other women toward single motherhood through the use of donor sperm.

Donor Unknown (2013)

Filmmaker Jerry Rothwell explores the story of Donor 150 through the eyes of some of the children conceived with his sperm.

RADIO/PODCASTS

DOCUMENTARIES

Brave New Family (2008, CBC Radio)

Originally presented on Ideas, Alison Motluk explores the stories of women seeking out their sperm donors and half siblings in this two part series. Features interviews with donor offspring and he creator of the Donor Offspring Registry.

From Here to Maternity (2009, CBC Radio)

Alison Motluck investigates the business of egg donation. Ethical issues and cross border care are covered in this two part series.

Wanted: Egg Donor in Good Health (2012, CBC Radio)

Freelance science journalist Alison Motluk follows the stories of several young women who became egg donors.

Review by Linda Wijlaars, PhD student (Epidemiology & Public Health), University College London (Mar 5/12. BioNews 647)



RESOURCES FOR CHILDREN

BOOKS ON FAMILY DIVERSITY

Books in this category introduce children to the many different kinds of families and the meaning of being a family.

The Family Book (2003)

Author/Illustrator: Todd Parr

Ages: 4-8

The Family Book celebrates all the different varieties of families. This book may encourage children to ask questions about their own families.

Cookies and Cake & The Families We Make (2011)

Author: Jennifer L. Egan, Illustrator: Robin Gulak

Ages: 4-8

The author uses the metaphor of the different cakes and cookies we can bake to help young readers respect, accept and welcome diversity.

What Makes a Baby (2012)

Author: Cory Silverberg, Illustrator: Fiona Smyth

Ages: 3-8

A modern picture book about where babies come for every kind of family and every kind of kid.

What Matters Most: A Children's Book of Families (2008)

Author/Illustrator: Kristin Carter

Ages: 4-8

This story is narrated through the eyes of a four- year-old girl living with her single dad.

Birds of a Different Feather (2011)

Author: Kelly Wendel

Ages: 4-8

This book speaks directly to families comprised of members with differing genetic backgrounds such as adoptive and foster families, blended families with step and half siblings, and families using AHR.



BOOKS THAT PROVIDE AN INTRODUCTION TO ASSISTED CONCEPTION

I Love My Family: A Book about Assisted Conception for Young Children (2011)

Author: Tammy Troute-Wood, Editor: Heather Cobb, Illustrator: Brent Patrick Gough

Ages: 3-5

Assists families to discuss assisted conception (including IVF, egg donor, sperm donor, and surrogacy) with children 3 to 5 years old. The book uses diverse pictures, inclusive language and accurate anatomy to provide a tool to explain all manners of assisted conception for all families.

BOOKS ABOUT ALL AVENUES OF ASSISTED HUMAN REPRODUCTION

Hope and Will Have a Baby (2007)

Authors: Irene Celcer and Horacio Gatto

Each Book in the series presents a different conception story. The stories contain Christian references and discuss detailed information regarding donors such as hobbies/sports interests which may not be available for some families using anonymous gametes.

Ages: 3-8

The Gift of Embryo Donation

The Gift of Sperm Donation

The Gift of Egg Donation The Gift of Surrogacy

Before You Were Born: Our Wish for a Baby (2004)

Author: Janice Grimes, Illustrator: Mary Moye-Rowley

Ages: 3-5

Each book in this series presents a different conception story. Written by a nurse, this is the story of a baby bear that loves to hear the story of how he was born. Excellent illustrations.

Before You Were Born...Our Wish for a Baby: The Story of An IVF Baby

Before You Were Born...Our Wish for a Baby: The Story of A Frozen Embryo

Before You Were Born...Our Wish for a Baby: The Story of Donor Insemination

Before You Were Born...Our Wish for a Baby: The Story of A Donor Egg

Before You Were Born...Our Wish for a Baby: The Story of Donor Sperm (IVF)

Before You Were Born...Our Wish for a Baby: The Story of A Gestational Carrier

Before You Were Born...Our Wish for a Baby: The Story of Surrogacy

Before You Were Born...Our Wish for a Baby: The Story of A Donor Embryo

Before You Were Born...Our Wish for a Baby: A Baby Conceived For Female Partners



Before You Were Born...Our Wish for a Baby: A Baby Conceived For Male Partner

Recipes of How Babies are Made (2007)

Author: Carmen Martinez Jover, Illustrator: Rosemary Martinez

Ages 4-8

Explains in a very simple way all the different methods used to conceive children nowadays. This story helps parents share the many ways that children can be born into a family. It is set in a heterosexual context. Its through the illustrations that children can easily visualize all these different methods and understand them in a simple and natural way including egg donation, sperm donation, embryo donation, surrogacy and adoption.

EGG DONATION

One More Giraffe (2009)

Author: Kim Noble, Illustrator: Stephanie Gibson

Ages: 1-3

Reading this book to your child will help you begin to introduce the key concepts about babies and egg- donation.

The Very Special Ducklings: (A Very Simple Story About Egg Donation) (2005)

Author: Wava Cirisan, Illustrator: Stella Schultze

Ages: 3-8

This story is for very young children but introduces the concept of egg and embryo donation in a simple way. What is interesting is that it does not discuss the father duckling's role in the decision to receive or donate eggs but highlights the mother duck's.

Tabitha and Timothy Grow a Flower (2010)

Author: Sarah Shackleton, Illustrator: Gillian Coulson

Ages: 2-5

A simple story explaining the concept of egg donation to a young child. It is a starter book on the subject of third party reproduction.

The Pea That Was Me: An Egg Donation Story (2012)

Author/Illustrator: Kimberly Kluger-Bell

Ages: 4-8

Introduces young children to the idea that a generous egg donor (along with a doctor and their parents) helped to bring them into the world and into their loving family.

A Bun in the Oven: The Story of Conception Via Donor Egg (2011)

Author: Anita Stokes, Illustrator: Red

Ages: 2-5



Available directly from author: paulstokes@slingshot.co.nz

A Tiny Itsy Bitsy Gift of Life: An Egg Donor Story (2009)

Author: Carmen Martinez-Jover, Illustrator: Rosemary Martinez

Ages: 2-5

A touching children's egg donor story.

Our Story - For Children Conceived Through Egg Donation in Heterosexual Couple Families (2002)

Author: Donor Conception Network

Ages: 2-5

A story of a family who used egg donation to have a child.

Mommy Was Your Tummy big? (2007)

Author/Illustrator: Catherine Nadel

Ages: 2-5

A mother elephant explains her use of donor eggs to her child. With charming illustrations and simple words, this book can help parents who used in vitro fertilization and donor eggs begin to explain the process to their small children.

A Part Was Given and an Angel Was Born (2002)

Author/Illustrator: Rozanne Nathalie

Ages: 2-5

This book creates a means by which communication about egg donation can begin. In a simplistic manner, the book provides a vehicle for introducing this form of third party parenting to their child.

Phoebe's Family: A Story About Egg Donation (2010)

Author: Linda Stamm, Ph.D., Illustrator: Joann Clipp

Ages: 2-5

Phoebe's mom tells her the wonderful and unique story of how she came into being through egg donation to a heterosexual couple.

A Very Special Lady: A Story About IVF, an Egg Donor and a Little Girl (2012)

Author: Nell Carswell, Illustrator: Sarah Merrigan.

Ages: 2-5

This is a story about IVF, an egg donor and the arrival of a baby girl.

Sometimes it Takes Three to Make a Baby: Explaining Egg Donor Conception to Young Children (2002)

Author: Kate Bourne, Illustrator: Don Thompson.

Ages: 3-9

Written by an infertility counselor, this is the story of a mum and dad who tried very hard to have a baby and couldn't.



A Most Precious Gift: A Story of Egg Donation (2009)

Author: Kerry Roling

Ages: 3-9

Told in rhyme, this blank-page book created to “support a child to draw their own illustrations or attach photographs,” is a long poem that tells the story of a fairy godmother who donated her egg so that another couple could have a child.

Mom and Dad and the Journey They Had (2010)

Author: Molly Summer, Illustrator: Monica Meza

Ages: 4-9

The Thompson home is bustling with excitement because soon they will be welcoming a new baby into their family and Patrick will be a big brother for the very first time! As they are preparing the house, Patrick asks his parents to tell him about when he was a baby. They tell him about the incredible journey they took to have him, with the help of an egg donor.

Mommy, Did I Grow in Your Tummy? : Where Some Babies Come From (2011)

Author: Elaine R Gordon, Illustrator: Kathy Clo

Ages: 5-12

Written by a clinical psychologist who experienced infertility herself, this book is designed to start conversations. This beautifully illustrated story is about Sandy and Bob who, after trying very hard to have a baby, go to a doctor for help. They learn that they can make a baby “another way.” The book explains all of ways a baby can be made.

SPERM DONATION

SINGLE MOTHERS

Why Don't I Have A Daddy?: A Story of Donor Conception (2008)

Author: George Anne Clay

Ages: 2-6

This book presents the basic facts of anonymous donor conception in a simple but loving manner.

Will I Ever Have a Daddy? (2008)

Author: Tena Moore

Ages: 2-6

This book shows how a single mom can explain to her young child born from a donor father, who their daddy is, from a Christian perspective.



Just the Baby For Me (2008)

Author: Barbara Levin

Ages: 2-6

Told in a warm, clear and easy to follow manner, this story helps children understand their conception by donor insemination.

Our Story - For Children Conceived Through Sperm Donation in Solo Mum Families (2002)

Author: Donor Conception Network

Ages: 2-6

Mom and Me...The Way It Should Be! (2010)

Author: Tina Rella, Illustrator: Monica Mezza

Ages: 3-8

Mom tells Shalisse about the unforgettable journey she took to have her, using a sperm donor.

Nan's Donut Dilemma (2011)

Author: Mary E. Ryan, Illustrator: Colleen Muske

Ages: 3-8

This is a sweet story about how one single mom helps her 6 year old daughter understand why she doesn't have a dad.

I Felt You Flutter in My Heart (2012)

Written and created by Choice Moms and Choice Kids

Ages: 3-8

Single women who decide to have a baby on their own can share this simple story with their beloved children -- featuring colorful artwork by Choice Kids.

Cloe quiere ser mamá (2012)

Author: Rosa Maestro, Illustrator: Bárbara Guillén Feltrer

Language: Spanish

Ages: 3-8

Cloe quiere ser mamá es un cuento infantil para hijos de madres solteras por elección. Cloe quiere ser mamá is a children's book about children of single mothers by choice conceived via artificial insemination.



SAME SEX COUPLES WOMEN

A Tale of Two Mommies (2011)

Author: Vanita Oelschlager, Illustrator: Mike Blanc

Ages 4-8

This book lets us look inside one non-traditional family, a same sex couple and their son. As the children talk, it's clear this boy lives in a nurturing environment where the biggest issues are the everyday challenges of growing up.

Our Story - For Children Conceived Through Sperm Donation in Lesbian Families (2002)

Author: Donor Conception Network

Ages: 3-8

Excerpt from the book:

"One day I said 'Have I got a dad?' Then my mums told me all about how a hospital helped them to have a baby - me! I am really happy my mums could do this and I am proud of us and our family."

And Baby Makes 4 (2009)

Written by Judith Benjamin, graphics by Judith Freeman.

Ages: 4-8

One of her moms is pregnant! What will this mean for a child who is becoming an older sibling? Her mothers prepare her for the change in their family, and finally the baby arrives. The girl feels some ambivalence, with a happy acceptance of the new baby at the end.

WOMEN-KNOWN SPERM DONOR

Under a Rainbow (2012)

Author: Zera Walpole

Ages: 3-6

A simple rhyme story book for children of lesbian parents with a known 'donor' Daddy.



HETEROSEXUAL COUPLES

My Story - For children conceived through sperm donation in heterosexual families
(2001)

Authors: Jane Offord, Angela Mays, Sheila Cooke

Ages: 3-6

Dans notre histoire, il y a ... une graine magique! (2008)

Illustrator: Nicolas Hunerblaes

Ages: 3-6

Quand un couple s'oriente vers el don de sperme pour fonder sa famille, la difficile question de l'information à délivrer aux enfants se pose fréquemment : que dire ? comment le dire ? quand le dire ? Pour aider des parents à raconter leur histoire à leur enfant, l'association MAIA a souhaité éditer un petit livre pour enfant, qui aidera les papas et les mamans à leur parler du don, avec des mots simples et compréhensibles. When a couple turned to sperm donation to start a family, the difficult issue of information to provide children frequently arises: what can we say? how to say? when to say? To help parents tell their story to their child. This a small children's book that will help moms and dads to talk about the way they had their child using simple and understandable language.

Let Me Explain: A Story About Donor Insemination (1995)

Author: Jane T. Schnitter, Illustrator: Joanne Bowring

Ages: 5-12

Narrated by a little girl, this story discusses donor insemination in heterosexual couples. It introduces terms including genes, sperm and ova. It also chronicles the little girl's feelings about being born of donor sperm and how she copes with this part of her life story.

Butterflies & Magical Wings (2006)

Author: Amy Margolis, Illustrator: Natalie Marino

Ages: 7-10

Using butterflies as a metaphor for people conceiving with help from a third party, Flutter and Milo do a “magic baby butterfly dance” to have a baby of their own. Unfortunately, their magic dance doesn’t work until they meet a special butterfly who has “magical spots” that she can lend them. With the help of “scientific technology,” they have a baby butterfly of their own. Colorful illustrations.



EMBRYO DONATION

Training Wheels: How Did I Get Here? (2012)

Author: Chris E. Barrett and Sally B. Hunter, Illustrator: Tyler Garrison

Ages: 2-4

The story is about five year old Miles and the new bike he gets for his birthday from his special friend, Mike in California. Miles' parents explain that Mike's mom and dad generously donated their remaining embryos and he was born as a result of their loving gift. The book is told in a delightful rhyming pattern, using words that are easy for preschoolers to understand and a storyline that will help to satisfy their curiosity about where they came from.

Our Story - For Children Conceived Through Double or Embryo Donation in Heterosexual Families (2002)

Author: Alison McKee

Ages: 3-8

Excerpt from the book:

"Mummy and Daddy tried for a long time to make a baby. The doctor said there were problems with Mummy's eggs and Daddy's sperm and this made Mummy and Daddy very sad. The doctor said there are kind ladies and kind men called donors. They wanted to help so that Mummy and Daddy could have a happy family of their own." This new book is suitable for heterosexual families.

SURROGACY/GESTATIONAL CARRIERS

SAME SEX COUPLES-DADS

Two Daddies ... and Me! (2013)

Ages: 2-4

Author: Robbi Anne Packard, Illustrator: Lori Ann McElroy

A young girl describes her life with her two fathers. Told in rhyme, this story is written by a woman who was the surrogate mother to a little girl born for a gay male couple. With colorful illustrations and few words, it is for very young children describing a day in the life of this little girl with her two dads, emphasizing that they are a family.

And Tango Makes Three (2005)

Authors: Justin Richardson & Peter Parnell, Illustrator: Henry Cole

Ages: 4-8

This tale based on a true story about a charming penguin family living in New York City's Central Park Zoo.



Daddy and Pop (2010)

Author: Tina Rella, Illustrator: Monica Meza

Ages: 2-8

In this heartwarming story of a little girl with two fathers, Daddy and Pop tell her about the amazing journey they took to have her, by using an egg donor and a surrogate, in this fun-filled musical book! Each book comes with an accompanying musical CD. Daddy and Pop is part of the Love Makes a Family Series, celebrating families made possible by assisted reproduction and adoption.

This is My Family: A First Look at Same-Sex Parents (2012)

Author: Pat Thomas, Illustrator: Lesley Harker

Ages: 2-6

This new title in Barron's A First Look At series encourages kids of preschool through early school age to understand and overcome problems that might trouble them in social and family relationships. Written by an experienced psychotherapist and counsellor on a level that is always understandable to younger children, this book seeks to promote positive interactions among children, parents, and teachers.

Daddy Dog and Papi Panda's Rainbow Family: It takes love to make a family (2012)

Author: Anthony Hale

Ages: 3-7

This children's book is about the formation of a non-traditional family. The characters are same sex parents who created their family through a combination of adoption and surrogacy. The characters are vividly colored animals. The book is ideal for children of same sex parents as well as for parents who wish to educate their children about the diversity of family structure.

The Baby Kangaroo Treasure Hunt, a A Gay Parenting Story (2010)

Author: Carmen Martinez Jover, Illustrator: Rosemary Martinez

Ages 6-10

A sweet children's story of how two kangaroos: Jack and Sam, a gay couple, have their own baby by means of an egg donor and surrogacy. Using kangaroos in the story enables children to easily understand the methods related to their conception in a simple and loving way. Best suited for families that know their donors or surrogates.



SURROGACY/GESTATIONAL CARRIERS HETEROSEXUAL COUPLES

The Kangaroo Pouch: A Story About Gestational Surrogacy For Young Children (2007)

Author: Sarah Phillips Pellet, Illustrator: Laurie A Faust

Ages: 2-6

This discussion-starter is narrated by Oliver the Kangaroo who lives happily with his parents and brother. He tells the story of how his mother one day had the idea to help another family have a baby by carrying that baby in her kangaroo pouch. It was written by a mother to help explain her decision to become a gestational surrogate to her children.

Nick's story: [how one family proved that miracles can happen] (2008)

Author: Meg Corning, Illustrator Deborah J. McGee

Ages: 3-9

Tells the story of how a little boy was born to a surrogate mother.

Sacha, the Little Bright Shooting Star (2012)

Author/Illustrator: Sofia Prezani

Ages: 3-9

A surrogacy journey recounted as a tale of wild bears to introduce young children to the concept of surrogacy, the first building blocks to opening a discussion of their child's own birth story and unique path by which their child entered their parent's life.

FOR CHILDREN OF SURROGATES/GESTATIONAL CARRIERS

Once Upon a Surrogate: The Stork's Helpers (2010)

Author: Jill Hancock Reeder, Illustrators: Tristan, Jessica, and Jill Reeder

Ages: 4-10

Describes the process of surrogacy to the children of the surrogate, who are often overlooked in the process. It provides an excellent conversation starter for surrogates and their families.

A Baby for Mabel and Frederick (2005)

Author: Karen Poston

Ages: 4-8

Emma's mom is a surrogate - she's carrying a baby for a couple who can't have their own children. Emma is very excited and proud that she and her mom are helping to make a new family. Helps children understand in simple terms what goes on during a gestational surrogacy. This story is narrated by the daughter of a gestational carrier and is also available in a version narrated by a boy as well as a coloring book.



RESOURCES FOR TWEENS, TEENS AND YOUNG ADULTS

BOOKS FICTION

My So-Called Family (2009)

Author: Courtney Sheinmel

Ages 9-13

Leah, who was conceived through a donor bank, decides that even though she loves her mother, stepfather, and stepbrother, she wants to find out if she has any other siblings, and sets out to investigate without telling anyone what she is doing.

The Other Half of Me (2007)

Author: Emily Franklin

Ages: 9-13

Feeling out of place in her athletic family, artistic sixteen-year-old Jenny Fitzgerald, who was conceived using a sperm donor, finds her half sister through the Sibling Donor Registry and contacts her, hoping that this will finally make her feel complete.

Donuthead (2003)

Author: Sue Stauffacher

Ages: 9-13

This is a Pre-teen book with a donor offspring character.

Donutheart (2006)

Author: Sue Stauffacher

Ages: 9-13

Sequel to Donuthead.

Dads, Geeks and Blue Haired Freaks (2012)

Author: Ellie Phillips

Ages: 13-17

Sadie Nathanson spends her life trying to survive the excruciating embarrassment of simply existing. It's hard enough being a bit of a shrinking violet within a loud and outspoken extended family, but the unexpected card from 'Dad' on her 15th birthday is the last straw. As 'Dad' was an Internet sperm-donor, it doesn't take a genius to work out that this is a bad joke, probably set up by her ex-best-friend Shonna. But it starts Sadie wondering - just who was her father? What would happen if she tracked him down? So she decides to do just that. With help from her nerd cousin Billy, his friend Nodding Tony and a regular dose of 'Haironomics' (Sadie's own hairstyle-related philosophy system), they uncover a lot more than they bargain for.



Nobel Genes (2010)

Author: Rune Michaels

Ages: 13-17

It's tough to measure up to your parents' expectations. Imagine how much harder it would be if your mother told you that your biological father—whom you'd never met—was a Nobel prize-winning genius? NOBEL GENES is the story of just such a boy. Even when he thought he discovered the most important truth, in his dreams, he finds one answer that he never imagined. Does it matter who you come from?

Finding Cassidy (2006)

Author: Laura Langston

Ages: 13-17

“You were conceived under exceptional circumstances.” Sixteen year old Cassidy can hardly believe it. Finding Cassidy is a terrific young adult novel that tackles a provocative subject with honesty and humour.

Call Me Mimi: The World's Ugliest Beauty Queen (2008)

Author: Francis Chalifour

Ages: 13-17

Seventeen-year-old Mimi heads to Toronto to find her sperm donor father after things go awry at her prom.

Between Mom and Jo (2006)

Author: Julie Anne Peters

Ages: 13-17

Fourteen-year-old Nick has a three-legged dog named Lucky 2, some pet fish, and two mothers, whose relationship complicates his entire life as they face prejudice, work problems, alcoholism, cancer, and finally separation.

Feathered (2008)

Author: Laura Kasischke

Ages: 18+

This book is recommended for mature teens only.

Donorboy: A Novel (2004)

Author: Brendan Halpin

Ages: 18+



BOOKS NON-FICTION

Telling and Talking about Donor Conception with 12-16 year olds: A Guide for Parents (2006)

Author: Olivia Montuschi

Published by Donor Conception Network (UK)

Telling and Talking About Donor Conception With People Aged 17 and Over: A Guide for Parents (2006)

Author: Olivia Montuschi

Published by Donor Conception Network (UK)

Who Am I? : Experiences of Donor Conception (2006)

Author: Alexina McWhinnie

Publisher: Idreos Education Trust

Three adult offspring conceived by donor insemination share their experiences. Dr Alexina McWhinnie, a social researcher who has worked extensively in the area of assisted conception, reflects further on their stories and those of other donor-conceived adults.

Experiences of Donor Conception: Parents, Offspring and Donors Through the Years (2002)

Author: Carol Lorbach

Publisher: Jessica Kingley

Voices of Donor Conception (Volume 1). Behind Closed Doors: Moving Beyond Secrecy and Shame. (2006)

Authors: Kirk Maxey, Olivia Montuschi, Rebecca Hamilton, Wendy Kramer, Ryan Kramer

Editor: Mikki Morrissette

This is the first volume in this collection of real stories about people affected by the donor conception industry. It includes first-person essays designed to take some of the stigma out of donor conception and enable more open conversation for families affected by donor insemination.

ONLINE LATE TEENS AND YOUNG ADULTS

Donor Sibling Registry

The Donor Sibling Registry is a website and non-profit US organization serving donor offspring, sperm donors, egg donors and other donor conceived people. It has over 38,000 registrants (donors, offspring, parents and professionals) and is designed to facilitate connections between people sharing genetic links. It also provides general information and links to research regarding donor conception.

www.donorsiblingregistry.com



People Conceived Via Artificial Insemination (PCVAI)

This is a US-based group for adult donor offspring over the age of 18 to exchange views and experiences with one another.

<http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/PCVAI>

International Donor Offspring Alliance

This is a web-based organization for professionals and offspring that advocates for openness in gamete donation.

<http://www.idoalliance.org>

Infertility Network

Resources including booklets and videos

www.infertilitynetwork.org/dc_telling

FILMS DOCUMENTARY

Donor Unknown (2013)

Filmmaker Jerry Rothwell explores the story of Donor 150 through the eyes of some of the children conceived with his sperm.

Bio-dad (2009)

Barry Stevens chronicles the search for his own sperm-donor father.

'Telling and Talking' (2006)

Parents and children in ten families answering questions about their experiences of 'telling' and continuing to talk together as children grow and change. The families are 2 single women, 1 lesbian couple and 7 heterosexual couples. They have used anonymous or known egg donation, anonymous sperm donation or double (egg and sperm) donation.

A Different Story (2003)

Seven children and young people talk about their thoughts and feelings about being conceived with the help of anonymous sperm donors.

Offspring (2001)

Documentary film made by professional filmmaker Barry Stevens who was born as a result of Donor Insemination nearly 60 years ago.

Are You My Father? (2001)

This film follows a New Zealand student as she searches to find her sperm donor.



RESOURCES FOR PROFESSIONALS

BOOKS

Am I My Genes?: Confronting Fate and Family Secrets in the Age of Genetic Testing (2012)

Author: Robert L. Klitzman

Publisher: Oxford University Press

Sex Cells: The Medical Market for Eggs and Sperm (2011)

Author: Rene Almeling

Publisher: University of California Press

Assisted Human Reproduction: Psychological and Ethical Dilemmas (2003)

Editors: Dani Singer and Myra Hunter

Publisher: Whurr

Building a Family with the Assistance of Donor Insemination (2004)

Author: Ken Daniels

Publisher: University of Canterbury

Ethical Dilemmas in Fertility Counseling (2010)

Authors: Judith E. Horowitz, Joann Paley Galst, and Nanette Elster

Publisher: American Psychological Association

Infertility Counseling: A Comprehensive Handbook for Clinicians 2nd Edition (2006)

Editors: Sharon N. Covington and Linda Hammer Burns

Publisher: Cambridge University Press

Reproductive Donation: Practice, Policy & Bioethics (2012)

Editors: Martin Richards, Guido Pennings, and John B. Appleby

Publisher: Cambridge University Press

Reproductive Health Psychology (2012)

Author: Olga B. A. van den Akker

Publisher: Wiley-Blackwell

Mommies, Daddies, Donors, Surrogates: Answering tough questions and building strong families (2005)

Author: Diane Ehrensaft

Publisher: Guildford Press



JOURNAL ARTICLES

Journal of Law and Medicine: Special Issue on Donor Conception (31 May 2012)

The issue contains the following articles on the topic of Donor Conception:

Guest editorial, Donor Conception, Secrecy and the Search Information – Sonia Allan.

Accessing donor conception information in Australia: A call for retrospective access – Damian Adams and Caroline Lorbach.

Information rights and donor conception: Lessons from adoption? – Richard Chisholm.

Donor-conceived individuals and access to information about their genetic origins: The relevance and role of rights – John Tobin.

Keeping mum about dad: “Contracts” to protect gamete donor anonymity – Anne Rees.

Donor-conceived people’s views and experiences of their genetic origins: A critical analysis of the research evidence – Eric Blyth, Marilyn Crawshaw, Lucy Frith and Caroline Jones.

Legal parent versus biological parent: The impact of disclosure – Naomi Cahn.

Donor conception legislation in Victoria, Australia: The “Time to Tell” campaign, donor-linking and implications for clinical practice – Louise Johnson, Kate Bourne and Karin Hammarberg.

Additional Journal Articles:

Experiences of offspring searching for and contacting their donor siblings and donor Jadv, V., Freeman, T., Kramer, W., & Golumbok, S. (2010). *Reproductive BioMedicine Online*, 20(4), 523-532.

Views of donors and recipients regarding disclosure to children following altruistic known oocyte donation Yee, S., Blyth, E., Tsang, A. K. (2011). *Reproductive BioMedicine Online* 23(7), 851-859.

Strategies for disclosure: How parents approach telling their children that they were donor conceived with donor gametes Mac Dougall, K., Becker, G., Scheib, J. E., & Nachtigall, R. D. (2007). *Fertility & Sterility*, 87(3), 524-533.

The child's advocate in donor conception: The telling of the story



Probasco, K. (2012). *Pediatric Nursing*, 38(3), 179-182.

Informing offspring of their conception by gamete donation

Ethics Committee of the American Society of Reproductive Medicine. (2004). *Fertility & Sterility*, 81(3), 527-531.

ARTICLES

IAAC articles, via www.iaac.ca

Donor Insemination: The needs of the children (Spring 2010). Dr. Petra Thorn

Donor Insemination: The needs of the couple (Winter 2010). Dr. Petra Thorn

To Tell, or Not To Tell: For children of donor-assisted parents, learning the “facts of life” can make all the difference (2010). Dr. Janice Grimes.

POSITION PAPERS

Informing offspring of their conception by gamete donation (2004)

Published By: Ethics Committee of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine.
Fertility & Sterility, 81(3), 527-531.

ONLINE

HUMAN FERTILISATION EMBRYOLOGY AUTHORITY <http://www.hfea.gov.uk/114.html>

BRITISH INFERTILITY COUNSELLING ASSOCIATION www.bica.net

American Society for Reproductive Medicine www.asrm.org

PODCASTS

Being-The Donor Conceived Perspective (2013)

http://www.bionews.org.uk/page_286708.asp

