



Joint Centre for Bioethics
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

BIOETHICS SEMINAR

March 22, 2017, 4:10-5:30 pm

155 College St., Room 108 (main floor, to the right of the elevators)

This event will be webcast:

<https://jcb.adobeconnect.com/bioethicsseminars/>

The Path to Parenthood isn't Always Straight: A Qualitative Exploration of the Experiences of Gestational Surrogacy for Gay Men in Canada – Perspectives of Gay Fathers and Surrogates

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Abstract: The use of gestational surrogacy in Canada has continued to steadily rise over the past decade. Gestational surrogacy has not only provided new reproductive options for heterosexual couples experiencing infertility, but has also yielded new paths to parenthood for gay men. Canada has witnessed an increased number of gay father-headed households since the 2006 enactment of marriage equality. ARTs however continue to be ascribed in both practice and scholarship as biomedical interventions to resolve clinical infertility. This, in turn, has shaped heteronormative practices and policies of fertility care and third-party reproduction. The aim of this presentation is to report on findings from a qualitative study that investigated the experiences of both gay fathers who had pursued gestational surrogacy and gestational surrogates who bore a child for gay men. Implications and recommendations for healthcare, social work and policy will be discussed.

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A partnership among the University of Toronto; Centre for Addiction and Mental Health; Holland Bloorview Kids Rehab; The Hospital for Sick Children; Humber River Hospital; Mount Sinai Hospital; Toronto Community Care Access Centre; Trillium Health Partners; and University Health Network (Princess Margaret Hospital, Toronto General Hospital, Toronto Rehabilitation Institute, and Toronto Western Hospital).