

International Conference

— THE NETWORK ON ETHICS OF FAMILY —

“Postponed Motherhood and the Ethics of Family”

Göttingen (Germany), October 14–15, 2014

Organized By

Stephanie Bernstein & Claudia Wiesemann

Coordination

Institute of Medical Ethics and History of Medicine
Göttingen University, Germany

Conference Venue

Historische Sternwarte (Historic Observatory)
Geismar Landstraße 11, 37083 Göttingen

Keynote Speakers

Ulrik Kihlbom (SWE) | Heidi Mertes (BEL)

Guido Pennings (BEL) | Marian Verkerk (NED)

Stephanie Bernstein (GER) | Claudia Wiesemann (GER)

Contact & Registration

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Advances in reproductive medicine, like in-vitro fertilization and germ cell donation, have a high potential to change dramatically our perception of family and parenthood. Recent research in reproductive medicine focusses on infertility due to advanced age. Within the last ten years, it has become possible to store oocytes by cryopreservation. Due to this improvement in egg-cell vitrification, the option for healthy women to freeze their unfertilized egg cells, so-called ‘social freezing’, is now likely to become clinical routine. We will discuss this new technology, compare different legal and ethical approaches on an international level and discuss the normative concepts of late parenthood in light of a family-ethics approach.

Conference language will be English.

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Stephanie Bernstein & Claudia Wiesemann
*Institute of Medical Ethics and History of Medicine
Göttingen University, Germany*

Keynote speakers:

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Marian Verkerk (NED) | Stephanie Bernstein (GER) | Claudia Wiesemann (GER)

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Tuesday, October 14, 2014

8:30 – 9:00 a.m.	Registration
9:00 – 9:15 a.m.	Welcome and opening remarks <i>Claudia Wiesemann (GER)</i>
9:15 – 10:00 a.m.	“Reproductive Autonomy – Its Scope and Limits from a Perspective of Family Ethics” <i>Guido Pennings (BEL)</i>
10:00 – 10:45 a.m.	“Cryopreservation of Oocytes for Reproductive Purposes – Social and Ethical Aspects” <i>Heidi Mertes (BEL)</i>
10:45 – 11:15 a.m.	Coffee break
11:15 – 12:15 p.m.	SESSION 1 REPRODUCTIVE AUTONOMY AND ITS LIMITS “Social Freezing and Reproductive Autonomy” <i>Christoph Schickhardt (GER)</i> “Is Social Freezing ‘as Such’ a Way to Late Parenthood?” <i>Hana Konečná, Catriona Menzies & Karolína Davidová (CZE)</i>
12:15 – 1:30 p.m.	Lunch break
1:30 – 2:15 p.m.	“Postponed Motherhood, Gender, and Age” <i>Stephanie Bernstein (GER) & Claudia Wiesemann (GER)</i>
2:15 – 3:15 p.m.	SESSION 2 MOTIVATIONS OF WOMEN TO POSTPONE PARENTHOOD “The Profile and Motivations of Women Who Freeze Their Eggs for ‘Social’ Reasons” <i>Kylie Baldwin (GBR)</i> “Stop the Clock – Overriding Time-borders With Egg- and Ovarian Tissue Freezing” <i>Claudia Bozzaro (GER)</i>
3:15 – 3:45 p.m.	Coffee break
3:45 – 4:30 p.m.	“Postponed Motherhood and the Ethics of Care” <i>Marian Verkerk (NED)</i>
4:30 – 5:30 p.m.	SESSION 3 FEMINIST PERSPECTIVES OF POSTPONED MOTHERHOOD “Is Fertility Preservation for Social Purposes a Feminist Technology?” <i>Jennifer A. Parks (USA)</i> “A Matter of Choice: Social Freezing and Neoliberal Feminism” <i>Alana Cattapan (CAN)</i>

5:30 – 6:30 p.m. **SESSION 4 | POSTPONED MOTHERHOOD AND THE STATE**

“What is Wrong With Preventing Postmenopausal Women from Accessing Fertility Treatment?”

Daniela Cutas (SWE)

“Postponed Motherhood and the State”

Anna Smajdor (GBR)

7:30 p.m. **Conference Dinner** at restaurant “Planea”

Wednesday, October 15, 2014

9:00 – 9:45 a.m. “Family Ethics and Postponed Parenthood”

Ulrik Kihlbom (SWE)

9:45 – 10:45 a.m. **SESSION 5 | ETHICAL CONCEPTS OF POSTPONED PARENTHOOD**

“The Moral (Ir)Relevance of Paternal Age”

Angel Petropanagos (CAN)

“Postponed Fatherhood: Epigenetics and Ethics”

Kristien Hens (NED)

10:45 – 11:15 a.m. **Coffee break**

11:15 – 12.15 p.m. **SESSION 4 | ART MARKETS AND POSTPONED PARENTHOOD**

“Regulation of ART by the Example of Social Egg Freezing in Canada”

Kathleen Hammond (CAN)

“Delaying Motherhood: is Social Freezing a Key Solution? A View of French Law”

Allane Madanamoothoo (FRA)

12:15 p.m. **Concluding remarks**

▲ Contact & Registration

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Conference participants (guests and presenting authors) are required to register for the conference. Conference participation fee for guests: **35 €**, *incl.* lunch buffet on conference days, refreshments during the session breaks and a conference folder, *excl.* Conference Dinner.