

How informed are Catholics about assisted reproduction

Infertility is on the increase and alongside this problem there has been a growth in the number of clinics offering assisted reproduction mainly in the developed world. More and more people who are unable to give birth naturally are deciding on artificial insemination.

The goal of this thesis was to find out the standing of the Catholic people with regards to this phenomenon, how much they are aware of it, what is the source of their knowledge and how much they agree with the church's teaching.

The first part introduces the techniques of reproductive medicine and, in particular, their negative circumstances. The following part describes the research whose focus was groups of Catholics in Prague, outside Prague and also students at theological colleges. Its results to a large extent answer the questions that the author asks herself in the introduction.

KEYWORDS: Assisted Reproduction, Artificial Insemination, Catholics, Embryo, Infertility.