

ABSTRACT

Nowadays, anonymous sperm donation is indeed a globally discussed topic: the popularity of the use of assisted reproduction technology for the purpose of conception is directly proportional to increasing infertility and technological progress. Also, the duration of its use already started to show, with the first generation of opinionated anonymous donor children growing up. The aim of my work is to analyze what are the today's Western society's current ethical and legal views on the anonymous sperm donation and its alternatives, as well as what they should be, and to demonstrate these on the example of Canada, United Kingdom and Australia. In the first two chapters, I outline the context of ethical and legal thinking about anonymous sperm donation: I analyze the concept and implications of the infertility, as well as the development and types of methods of assisted reproduction. Further, I proceed from the basis of ethical reasoning and the determination whether the right to know one's origins, implying the right to know the circumstances of one's conception, exist, and its competition with the rights of parents and donors in the third chapter, to its legal grounds. First, in the fourth chapter, I deal with legislation on the right to know one's origins and other related rights in the international and regional law. In the fifth and sixth chapter I then describe the relevant national legislation in three Commonwealth countries: Canada, UK and Australia, while I put the greatest emphasis on analysis and evaluation of deficiencies of the first one, the other two may serve as an inspiration for their solutions. The outcome of my work lies in the answer to the question whether the right to know one's origins, implying the right to know the circumstances of one's conception, exist, and the draft of legislative recommendations for Canada, which would, in accordance with Canada's international legal obligations, take this fact into an account, as well as a proposal of a common framework for ethical and legal thinking about the anonymous sperm donation, both of which I include in chapter seven.