

Four Exciting New Projects on Trans Parenting

1. Creating Our Families - A study about trans and queer people who have thought about, tried to, or are having kids with the help of fertility clinics or sperm banks.

2. Transforming Family Project - A study about trans parents experiences of discrimination as well as the strengths that trans people bring to parenting.

3. Trans Men Considering Pregnancy – A weekend course for trans men.

4. Toronto Trans Dads Group – A group of trans dads who get together for mutual support and fun with their kids.

1. Creating Our Families: Call for Participants

There is a new research project in Ontario looking at how trans and queer folks relate to fertility clinics and sperm banks, aka “assisted human reproduction services” or AHR. We want to hear about our decisions not to use them, and why. We also want to learn about our experiences with them – good, bad or indifferent - as trans, bisexual, gay, lesbian and queer people. **It ‘s very important to us that trans people who have considered OR actually used these services are well represented as participants in this study.**

We’ve heard in our communities that trans people often face particular challenges accessing AHR when planning future reproduction options or trying to have children. However, the little research done on this topic still debates whether or not trans people should even have access to assisted reproduction services at all.

We want to rewrite that script, and replace it with our own well-researched stories about desiring, planning and/or having children as trans people, and what it is like for us to seek and use the services we need to create families.

Our research team will share the research findings with LGBTQ community members, policy makers and service providers, in order to create positive changes for us and our future family planning. **Please include your stories and voices in this important project!**

This project is a partnership between queer Toronto researchers at CAMH (Lori Ross and Leah Steele) and Rachel Epstein of the LGBTQ Parenting Network at Sherbourne Health Centre. The project team includes trans research staff and is advised by trans advocates and parents.

For more information on this study visit:

<http://www.lgbtqparentingconnection.ca/research/Participateinresearch.cfm>

To participate please contact us:

1-866-371-6667 or 416 535-8501 x 7380

Email: creating_families@camh.net

2. Transforming Family: Trans Voices on Parenting

Are you a trans person currently parenting*? Are you interested in sharing your experience?

Trans people who are parents of any kind (step-parents, adoptive parents, birth parents, non-birth parents, etc.) are invited to participate in this research study to explore the impact of discrimination on trans parents and identify some of the strengths trans people bring to parenting. The goal of this study is to create visibility around trans parents' struggles by sharing this information with service providers and the broader community.

All trans identities welcome

- Participation includes taking part in a 2 hour focus group
- An honorarium and childcare will be provided
- ASL interpretation will be provided upon request

The Transforming Family Project is a team of researchers and community members from the LGBTQ Parenting Network at the Sherbourne Health Centre. This project is funded through the Community One Foundation and the Centre for the Study of Gender, Social Inequities and Mental Health.

Focus groups are open to trans parents who are living in or able to travel to downtown Toronto. To participate or for more information please contact **Jake Pyne: (416) 324 4100 x 5336** or jpyne@sherbourne.on.ca

For more information on this and other LGBTQ research projects visit:

<http://www.lgbtqparentingconnection.ca/research/Participateinresearch.cfm>

*Eligibility also includes trans parents of adult children as well as those who are not currently in contact with their children.

3. Trans Men Considering Pregnancy Course – November 19 -21, 2010

Registration is now open for our new family planning course, *Transmen Considering Pregnancy*. This weekend course is for transmen, trans-masculine people and others on the FTM spectrum who are considering becoming: bearing fathers, seahorse papas, egg daddies or otherwise becoming parents through pregnancy and birth. Relevant practical, emotional, social, medical, financial and legal issues will be explored. Partners and intended co-parents are encouraged to attend.

For more information on this course, including course details, times, and information on registration, visit our website at <http://www.lgbtqparentingconnection.ca/programs.cfm> or click [here](#)

To register, please see or call Karin or Nicole at The 519 Church Street Community Centre's Front Desk, (416) 392-6874.

This course is a joint project of the *LGBTQ Parenting Network at Sherbourne Health Centre* and *Queer Parenting Programs at The 519*.

4. Toronto Trans Dads Group

CALLING ALL TRANS DADS! Are you a trans / ftm dad who is interested in connecting with others? A new group has started and we get together once a month, sometimes with kids and sometimes without. A very broad range of trans identities are welcome as well as both prospective and current dads. **Contact Jake at: jakecat@hotmail.com**