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Blyth, Eric

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DONOR CONCEPTION: A PRIVATE FAMILY MATTER?

Professor Eric Blyth BA MA PhD
Donor-conceived people *should always* be able to learn the identity of their donor if they so choose.
Parents should be positively encouraged to tell their DC children from an early age about their conception - as is specified in legislation.
Counselling /intermediary services **should be** available to support information-exchange (and contact where mutually agreed) between DC people and their donors + **mutually agreed** information exchange/contact between DC ½ siblings and between DC ½ siblings and any other children of the donor.
Serious consideration **should be** given to the merits/demerits and practicalities of recording donor conception on birth registration - as promised by government ministers in 2008.
As a corollary, individuals and couples who are unable or unwilling to tell their donor-conceived child about the nature of their conception (for personal, familial, religious, cultural or other reasons) **ought not** to use this form of family-building.