Choosing a donor
Posted by JR - 2011/03/12 04:58
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The Californian cryobank offers extensive search criteria for donors including characteristics such as hair colour, hair texture, eye colour, ancestry, ethnic origin, religion, level of education, area of study, skin type, height and blood type.

Does this and the option to select ◆must have◆ characteristics and see donors ◆celebrity look alike◆ raise issues around creating designer babies or is it similar to dating and seeking out certain characteristics in your partner? Where is the line?

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Re:Choosing a donor
Posted by Dr Allan Pacey - 2011/03/20 23:03
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This is an interesting question and I suspect that most recipients of donor sperm select their donor on the basis of the characteristics they would like the father to have, rather than because of how they would like a donor conceived son or daughter to have them. However, I don't know for sure. If they don't then they need to be be made aware that genetics does not work this way. As the marketing man says in the film "Ben Affleck's children don't look like Ben Affleck!"

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Re:Choosing a donor
Posted by Redwooddforest - 2011/09/28 06:17
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Hello, Thank you so much for this opportunity to talk about the film. What a fantastic documentary film. So far I have not been able to see the whole film, only a few pre views. I don't know how to get to a website where I can download the film. Where can I download the whole film? The film clips touched me to tears. That is because of the nature of the father and his children. They are all extremely kind hearted.

My thoughts in regards to the sperm bank is that I find it totally great that it exists, I see no reason why there is a discussion on ethics about it, and men should have the opportunity to donate as much of their DNA as they want to. There should not be a limit to it. The men who donate sperm are fist of all not tied to some dogma at least not in regards to dealing with sperm, that alone makes them more open minded, so the open minded characteristic is already there, then women who take the donated sperm are also more open minded, and many people who are open minded happen to also be caring, this makes more caring off spring. I don't know Ben Afflek, but in his case women opt to choose because of looks and fame rather than kind heartedness. Generally it seems like that the chances of women choosing not kind hearted donors is less likely among women who take donor sperm than women who date. The bad fad issue falls away when opting to use the sperm bank. This is going into the right direction. The bottom line of my thoughts is: We desperately need more caring humans on this planet. Some people will make an issue out of this and call me eugenic. My only wish that I have for the future generations on this planet is that they are kind hearted and nothing else matters to me. If we can somehow move into that direction then we can save all of us. So my appeal to the sperm banks is this: Please display a letter to the women who take DNA offering to them to think about the choice wisely and take the one who is kind hearted. And it would be great if the sperm bank also offers to the donors to write a few pages about themselves, they don't have to display their names, but talk about their lives, whether they have animals, whether they love animals equally to humans and whether they are committed to give to the greater good. Then the women have the choice of opting for the one

who cares deeply and not only the looks or the fame by itself. Jeffrey looked like a photo model, this got him elected and certainly also his kind face. But in general, if there is a small bio about the man with the emphasis on whether or not he cares will help further make the right choices. I believe that most women would opt for the kind hearted DNA versus the cold hearted one.

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