



## Christian Voices for Life

### Weekly Pro-Life

#### Education

#### Prayer

#### Action

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### This week's Topic: Egg Donation - Risks and Morality

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**Education:** In Vitro Fertilization to produce children for infertile couples is big business. Some women wanting babies are unable to produce healthy eggs, so eggs from young, healthy women are in demand. If the donors are intelligent and beautiful, or of Asian or Jewish ethnicity, the value of their eggs is even higher. So companies in the business of procuring eggs go to college campuses and third world countries, where the donor fee of thousands of dollars is likely to attract donors. Many young women feel that they are doing a wonderful thing to help another couple have a baby, and they can earn money at the same time. (1)

But there are serious risks involved in egg donation, and long term studies have not been done. Powerful drugs are used to manipulate the donor's ovaries to synchronize with the recipient and produce several eggs at once, rather than the usual one. Harvesting the eggs also poses risks. There are a number of individual cases where women have become infertile, had serious complications, or even died. (2)

But aside from the physical risks, what about the morality of egg donation? While women may be motivated by a charitable desire to help another woman have a child, do they realize that their eggs will be used to produce several children, most of whom will not survive? Do they realize that children they help create may be raised by homosexual parents? Do they realize that NaPro Technology actually offers infertile couples better hope of success than IVF? Do they understand that a child has the right to know that they were a fruit of their parents' love for each other? Do they think about how a child will feel, knowing that they have an anonymous mother that they will never meet?

1. Waters, Abby, "Egg Donation Risks – 7 Dangers of Donating Eggs", retrieved 1/6/15 from <http://www.fertilitynation.com/7-egg-donation-risks-every-donor-should-know-about/#.VKwOe3tHMtc>

2. Norsigian, Judy, "Egg Donation Dangers", retr. 1/6/15 from [www.councilforresponsiblegenetics.org/ViewPage.aspx?pageId=103](http://www.councilforresponsiblegenetics.org/ViewPage.aspx?pageId=103)



**Prayer:** Dear Father God, we ask your mercy on infertile couples. Help them to find the help they need through NaPro Technology to achieve pregnancy according to Your plan, if that is Your will for them. Help them to trust in You and be open to adoption as a way to build their family if that is Your will for them. Please let young women who are solicited to be egg donors to understand the serious health risks involved, and turn to You for guidance for their decision.



**Action:** Tell any young college women you know about the dangers of egg donation. Ask them to spread the word on campus that there are serious health risks involved as well as moral issues that should be considered. If you have friends that are infertile, refer them to doctors who use NaPro Technology, rather than IVF, to help them. Such doctors can be found at [www.fertilitycare.org](http://www.fertilitycare.org).

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