

## **28: 2018 STUDY OF 485 ADULT DONOR-CONCEIVED PEOPLE**

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### **Objective**

The purpose of the study was to better understand donor-conceived adults and their individual differences with regards to viewing their own donor conception, their desire to search for the donor, search methodologies used, and if the donor was found, how they defined that relationship.

### **Design**

Online questionnaire for adult donor offspring with qualitative and quantitative questions.

### **Material and Methods**

The online survey was made available to Donor Sibling Registry members 12/17-1/18.

### **Results**

3.9% (19) of respondents were conceived with an egg donor, 466 (96%) with a sperm donor. 76.5% female, 20.3% male. The age range was from 18-74. Disclosure: 85.1% were told that they were donor-conceived by their parents, 3.3% by "someone else", 11% found out "on their own". Searching: 70.3% tried to find their donor, 29.6% had not done so. Methods used for finding donors: (participants could select all that applied): 17.6% used record searches, 24.1% utilized DNA testing, 21.2% contacted the clinic/doctor/sperm bank, 31.6% used the DSR. Contacting donors: 30.9% found their donor, 66.6% attempted contact. 16.7% through social media, 11.8% via DNA testing, 11.3% through the DSR, 26.7% sent a letter, 11.8% called/texted, 15.8% reached out to the donor's family, and 5.9% used other means of contact. 84% agreed with the statement, "I think a lot about the characteristics I might share with my donor." 60.7% agreed, "I understand myself better because I have thought about who I am in relation to my parents and donor."

### **Conclusions**

Conclusions/feelings about being donor-conceived: 50.4% agreed, "I am still trying to figure out how donor conception relates to who I am", 15% felt angry about being donor-conceived, 73.1% said they did not. 10.4% felt embarrassed about being donor-conceived, 7.5% felt ashamed, and 15.3% like to keep it a secret. 69% are happy to tell anyone about their donor conception.

### **Support**

None