

The Lesbian Archive and Information Centre Timeline

Revealing the hidden history of British lesbian women.

1989: Pregnant Lesbians!

A debate that started decades ago carries on to this day about the eligibility of lesbian couples to access fertility treatment. This early day motion eventually led to the 1990 Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act.

The act is currently under review to remove the need of a baby to have a father and hence make IVF treatment more accessible to lesbians and single mothers.

Artificial Insemination by Donor (AID) Early Day Motion

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

IMPREGNATION OF LESBIAN WOMEN

" That this House notes with profound concern the recent revelation that 55 lesbian couples and eight single lesbians have been impregnated by one sperm bank clinic alone during the last three years; expresses its great dismay at the ease with which these and two thousands other single women who are not infertile were able to gain access to such facilities; believes that such practices undermine the status of marriage, corrupt the family unit, and leave the ensuing children at grave risk of subsequent emotional harm; and calls upon the Secretary of State to review his policy on such matters and bring forward legislation before the House which will enable it to come to a decision as to whether or not such practices should be allowed."

This statement at present has the support of 17 M.P.s

[An "Early Day Motion" is an expression of intent.]

AID Early Day Motion, 1989.

