



Postgraduate Conference: The Sociology of Technologically Mediated Reproduction

Thursday 29th May 2014
De Montfort University, Leicester

Postgraduate students and staff from the [Reproduction Research Group](#) at De Montfort University would like to invite postgraduate students and early career researchers to attend a full one day conference being held at De Montfort University, Leicester on 'The Sociology of Technologically Mediated Reproduction'. This conference will include a keynote lecture from [Professor Sarah Franklin](#), Cambridge University, a writing workshop providing advice on publishing in the field as well as the chance to hear presentations from, and network with, early career researchers and fellow students working in this exciting and dynamic field of research.

Assisted reproductive technologies (ARTs) converge at the intersection between gender, technology, kinship, commerce and politics and therefore generate considerable public, ethical and academic debate. Sociologists continue to have a significant role in understanding the ways in which technologically mediated reproduction is variously interpreted in these debates as representing progress, promise or threat in a range of social contexts. Authors and researchers in this field have successfully demonstrated how local regulatory practices and diverse cultural settings mediate the experiences of those engaging with ARTs, both as 'users' and 'providers'. Feminist sociologists in particular have raised important questions about the exploitation of women, especially in low resource countries, and have highlighted issues of commercialisation, globalization, exploitation, reproductive rights, and medicalisation as central concerns to a sociology of ARTs.

This postgraduate conference aims to facilitate critical theoretical reflection and discussion of on-going empirical work across the ART landscape. It will offer an opportunity for postgraduates to debate and develop their work in an informal and participatory environment. This conference also hopes to stimulate the development of a new postgraduate network bringing together students and researchers working in the field of technologically mediated reproduction.

At this event, postgraduates and early career researchers will be presenting on the following confirmed topics:

- IVF/ICSI
- Gamete donation
- Donor matching
- Social egg freezing
- Gay men and surrogacy
- Mitochondrial donation/replacement
- Home ovulatory technologies
- International surrogacy

All delegates are invited to submit A3 posters for display and discussion at the event. The posters will be judged by senior members of the Reproduction Research Group and the winning poster will receive a £20 Amazon voucher.

Spaces are limited for this exciting postgraduate conference, as such early booking is advised. Registration closes on **16th May**. Conference registration fee includes attendance at the keynote lecture, writing shop, presentations, lunch, refreshments and wine reception.

To book please visit

<http://portal.britsoc.co.uk/public/event/eventBooking.aspx?id=EVT10336>

£10 BSA Members, £25 Non-BSA Members.

For further information please contact Kylie Baldwin kbaldwin@dmu.ac.uk