

# Wendy Kramer CV

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## Education

### **Long Island University, Communications Arts**

Bachelor of Arts, Magna Cum Laude, 1980

### **Continuing Education Coursework:**

**Colorado Counseling Association**, Certificate in Grief Counseling

#### **American Psychological Association**

Forgiveness in Psychotherapy: Emerging Research and Clinical Applications

LGBTQ Parent Families: Practice & Policy

Changing Emotion with Emotion

Positive Psychotherapy: Integrating the Yin and Yang of Human Experience

#### **Mental Health First Aid**, Certified

**American Counseling Association**, Identifying and Addressing Grief and Loss Issues

**Peak to Peak Alliance**, QPR: Suicide Prevention Training

**Other Trainings:** Disenfranchised Grief, Metacognitive Therapy

## Professional Experience

### **Business Management – 1980-2009**

Business management, financial management, and accounting for small and medium-sized organizations. Restaurant owner, 7 years.

### **Co-Founder and Director, Donor Sibling Registry (DSR) 2000-Present**

Wendy is the Co-Founder and Director of the [Donor Sibling Registry](#) (DSR). The DSR was founded in 2000 with her donor-conceived son Ryan to assist individuals conceived as a result of sperm, egg, or embryo donation who are seeking to make mutually desired contact with others with whom they share genetic ties. With more than 95,000 members in 105 countries, the DSR has helped connect more than 27,000 with their half-siblings and/or biological parents. Wendy has listened to, advised/consulted, and researched thousands of these parents, donors, donor-conceived people, and other donor family members.

Without any outside support, the DSR has pioneered an international discussion about the donor conception industry and families through its research, lectures, speaking engagements, and media appearances.

## Television and Books

Wendy was an Associate Producer for the 2011 *Emmy-nominated* documentary *Sperm Donor* and on the 2013 MTV News & Docs six-part docu-series called *Generation Cryo*. She published the book *Counseling Donor Family Members: A Guide for Mental Health Professionals* and has conducted related training for counselors and psychology organizations in the US, Canada, Europe, and Argentina. She co-wrote the book *Finding Our Families: A First-of-Its-Kind Book for Donor-Conceived People and Their Families*, wrote the children's book *Your Family: A Donor Kid's Story*, and authored the book *Donor Family Matters: My Story of Raising a Profoundly Gifted Donor-Conceived Child, Redefining Family, and Building the Donor Sibling Registry*.

Wendy holds a Magna Cum Laude B.A. in Communication Arts, has completed many postgraduate courses in counseling and psychology, is Mental Health First Aid certified, was a Huffington Post contributor, and is a monthly *Psychology Today* contributor.

She was married when she gave birth to her donor-conceived son Ryan in 1990 and began raising him as an only parent in 1991. Ryan has connected with his biological father and grandparents and knows of 30 half-siblings so far.

## Research

Wendy has conducted and presented many research studies on all donor family members and is co-author on [dozens of resulting peer-reviewed papers](#) published in *Social Science and Medicine*, *Human Reproduction*, *Reproductive BioMedicine & Society*, *Facts, Views & Vision in OB/GYN*, *Reproductive BioMedicine Online (RBMOOnline)*, *Advances in Reproductive Sciences*, *Contemporary Perspectives in Family Research*, *Fertility and Sterility*, *The Journal of Family Issues*, *Children and Society*, *The Journal of Law and the Biosciences*, and more. She has contributed chapters to several books on donor conception, has reviewed abstracts for the American Society of Reproductive Medicine, and has been a peer reviewer for the journals *Human Reproduction*, *Reproductive Health*, *Reproductive BioMedicine (RBM) Online*, *BioMed Central (BMC) Women's Health*, *Frontiers in Global Women's Health*, and *The Journal of Comparative Effectiveness Research*. Wendy is a review editor for *Frontiers in Global Women's Health* and *Frontiers in Reproductive Health: Assisted Reproduction*.

## Published Research

The following research has been presented at meetings and conferences around the world, including ASRM, ESHRE, British Fertility Society, Australian Fertility Society, CRYO, Human Reproduction, ASPIRE, and several sociology, family, mental health, genetics, bio-ethics, academic, gynecology and obstetrics, legal, and LGBTQ conferences in North America, South America, Central America, Europe, Australia, and Asia.

### **2021: Advanced Medical and Clinical Research:**

**The Donor Conceived Adult: Implications Within Family, Medical, and Mental Healthcare Systems**  
Bertisch, H. and Kramer, W.

### **2019: Personal Relationships (Journal of the International Association for Relationship Research):**

*Attachment in donor-conceived adults: Curiosity, Search and Contact*

Elizabeth Lozano, R Chris Fraley, and Wendy Kramer.

**2017: Reproductive BioMedicine Online:** [Long-term breast cancer risk following ovarian stimulation in young egg donors: a call for follow-up, research and informed consent](#). Jennifer Schneider, MD, Jennifer Lahl, and Wendy Kramer.

**2016: Fertility and Sterility:** *Integrating donor conception into identity development: Adolescents in fatherless families*. Collaboration with Cambridge University, UK and The New School, NY

**2016 Journal of Family Issues:** *Donor Sibling Networks as a Vehicle for Expanding Kinship: A Replication and Extension*. Rosanna Hertz, Margaret K. Nelson, and Wendy Kramer DOI: 10.1177/0192513X16631018

**2016 Children And Society:** *Adolescents conceived through donor insemination in mother-headed families: A qualitative study of motivations and experiences of contacting and meeting same-donor offspring*. Collaboration with Cambridge University, UK, and The New School, NY

**2015 EC Gynaecology:** (Commentary) [The Need For Comprehensive Genetic Testing of Gamete Donors](#)

**2015: Reproductive Biomedicine and Society:** *Emerging models for facilitating contact between people genetically related through donor conception: a preliminary analysis and discussion*. M. Crawshaw, K. Daniels, K. Bourne, D. Adams, J.A.P Van Hoof, L. Pasch, P. Thorn  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.rbms.2015.10.001>

**2015 Social Science and Medicine:** *Gendering gametes: The unequal contributions of sperm and egg donors*. Margaret Nelson, Rosanna Hertz and Wendy Kramer [doi:10.1016/j.socscimed.2015.10.049](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2015.10.049)

**2015 The Journal of Law and the Biosciences:** *Gamete Donor Anonymity and Limits on Numbers of Offspring: The Views of Three Stakeholders*. Margaret Nelson, Rosanna Hertz, and Wendy Kramer.  
<http://jlb.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2015/10/28/jlb.lsv045.full.pdf?keytype=ref&ijkey=R1RUEPvvSoHwIFf>

**2015 Facts, Views & Vision in OB/GYN (the Scientific Journal of the Flemish Society of Obstetrics, Gynaecology & Reproductive Health):** *Sperm Donors Describe the Experience of Contact with their Donor-Conceived Offspring*. Margaret Nelson, Rosanna Hertz, and Wendy Kramer

**2013** Chapter published in the book "Visions of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Family: Transforming Structures and Identities": **Making Sense of Donors and Donor Siblings: A Comparison of the Perceptions of Donor-Conceived Offspring in Lesbian-Parent and Heterosexual-Parent Families**. Margaret Nelson, Rosanna Hertz and Wendy Kramer

**2013 Reproductive BioMedicine Online:** *A Survey of 1700 Recipients of Donor Sperm: the views of women who formed their families using donor spermatozoa*. Neroli Sawyer, Eric Blyth, Wendy Kramer, and Lucy Frith.

**2013 Advances in Reproductive Sciences: Genetic and Health Issues Emerging from Sperm Donation: The Experiences and Views of Donors**. Ken Daniels and Wendy Kramer.

**2013 The Journal of Family Issues, A New Path to Grandparenthood: Parents of Egg and Sperm Donors**. Authors: Diane Beeson, Patricia Jennings, Wendy Kramer

**2013 Social Science and Medicine: *Donor-Conceived Offspring Conceive of the Donor: The Relevance of Age, Awareness, and Family Form***. Rosanna Hertz (Wellesley College), Margaret K. Nelson (Middlebury College), Wendy Kramer

**2012 Reproductive BioMedicine Online: *Semen donors who are open to contact with their offspring: issues and implications for them and their families***. Authors: Ken Daniels, Wendy Kramer, and Maria Perez-y-Perez.

**2012 Reproductive BioMedicine Online: *Perspectives, experiences, and choices of parents of children conceived following oocyte donation***. Authors: Eric Blyth, Wendy Kramer, and Jennifer Schneider.

**2012 Asia Pacific Journal of Reproduction: *Donor type and parental disclosure following oocyte donation***. Authors: John Stephenson, Eric Blyth, Wendy Kramer, and Jennifer Schneider

**2012 Reproductive BioMedicine Online: *Forming a family with sperm donation: a survey of 244 non-biological parents***. Authors: Lucy Frith, Neroli Sawyer, and Wendy Kramer.

**2011 Human Reproduction: *Offspring searching for their sperm donors: how family type shapes the process***. Authors: Diane Beeson, Wendy Kramer, and Patricia K. Jennings.

**2010 Human Reproduction: *Sperm and oocyte donors' experiences of anonymous donation and subsequent contact with their donor offspring***. \* Authors: Tabitha Freeman, Vasanti Jadva, Wendy Kramer, Susan Golombok.

**2010 Reproductive BioMedicine Online: *Experiences of offspring searching for and contacting their donor siblings and donor***. \* Authors: Vasanti Jadva, Tabitha Freeman, Wendy Kramer, Susan Golombok. This paper was nominated for the 2011 Robert G. Edwards Prize Paper Award.

**2009 Human Reproduction: *The experiences of adolescents and adults conceived by sperm donation: comparisons by age of disclosure and family type***. \* Authors: Vasanti Jadva, Tabitha Freeman, Wendy Kramer, Susan Golombok.

**2009 Human Reproduction: *Gamete donation: parents' experiences of searching for their child's donor siblings and donor***. \* Authors: Tabitha Freeman, Vasanti Jadva, Wendy Kramer, Susan Golombok

**2009 Human Reproduction: *US oocyte donors: a retrospective study of medical and psychosocial issues***. Authors: Wendy Kramer; Jennifer Schneider and Natalie Schultz

\*Partnership with the Family Centre, University of Cambridge, UK