

UNCOVERING THE FRAUD: A SENSE OF “TAINTED” IDENTITY

Insemination fraud is the deliberate substitution of the sperm sample chosen by the parents with that of another donor (or the doctor's) during artificial insemination.

People born of insemination fraud may experience feelings of shame, guilt, and discomfort when they discover the circumstances of their conception because it involves deception, an unethical act committed against their parents:



EMBODYING THE FRAUD

Many people feel ashamed and guilty because they feel they are **reminding** their parents of the fraud.

On the one hand, they perceive insemination fraud as an **attack on their parents' agency** and their intended parental project.

On the other hand, the gesture is described as an invasion of their mother's privacy, or even as a **sexual assault**. Because they are in some way the result of this gesture, this can "taint" their identity.



QUESTIONABLE GENES

Because of their genetic tie to the perpetrator, people conceived with the doctor's sperm may feel a **deep sense of unease**.

Some people wonder if this tie predisposes them to commit an immoral act.



QUESTIONING THE LEGITIMACY OF THEIR EXISTENCE

Because they perceive insemination fraud as an **ethically reprehensible act**, some people may come to believe that their **existence** should never have occurred in the first place.

Amber, a 62-years-old person born of insemination fraud (donor-donor), pictures their conception as an unethical experiment conducted in secret:

I went into the idea that I came to life through a backdoor with a false ID. (...) So I felt like I was snuck into a backdoor, and then the backdoor became a medical experiment thinking about myself. A dirty secret that was unethical at the time.

For many people born of insemination fraud, this fraud taints their identity: they feel that they are the embodiment of this act, or that they have an illegitimate existence, or wonder if they too could commit immoral acts.

