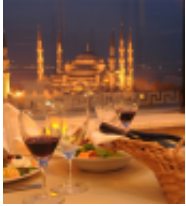




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Sperm donation scandal raises concerns over sperm donors

06 September, 2011 | 14:54

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Greedy Sperm Banks and Siblings from Sperm Donation

## A sperm donation scandal revealed recently has increased growing concern over sperm donors and their infants in the USA.

New York Times and Science Times report that Ryan Kramer, the son of a sperm donor, found out that he has more than 150 half-siblings - they are all the children of the same sperm donor. He seems not to be the sole example, as many young people are finding a bitter truth that they have several or even dozens of half siblings in the world due to the increasing number of children born through artificial insemination and sperm donation.

### Sperm Donor: "I am/can be your father "

"It's wild when we see them all together - they all look alike," said Cynthia Daily, the concerned mother of Kramer. As more women choose to have children on their own, the demand for sperm donors has surged recently. Now, there is growing concern among parents, donors and medical experts about potential negative consequences of having so many children fathered by the same sperm donors, including the possibility that genes for rare diseases could be spread more widely through the population. Some experts are even calling attention to the increased odds of accidental incest between half sisters and half brothers, who often live close to one another and could have sexual intercourse unbeknownst to each other.

### Greedy Sperm Banks and Siblings from Sperm Donation

Critics draw attention to the fact that fertility clinics and sperm banks are earning huge profits by allowing too many mothers to receive sperms and too many children to be conceived with sperm from the same popular donors, and that families considering to have children via sperm donation should be given

more info on the health status of donors and the children conceived with their sperm. Tighter regulations and limits on the number of children conceived using the same donor's sperm is the one of the legal issues the families think to be taken care of along with re-examination of the anonymity that cloaks many donors should be.

And this trend of sperm donation will lead to great risks, doctors warn: One threat is that rare genetic diseases could be spread more widely, and secondly the children of the same sperm donor could meet and, unbeknown to them, commit incest, medical experts warned.

### Sperm Donation : Beware of accidental incest

"My daughter knows her donor's number for this very reason," says the mother of a teenager conceived via sperm donation in California who asked that her name be withheld to protect her daughter's privacy. "She's been in school with numerous kids who were born through donors. She's had crushes on boys who are donor children. They are practically her brothers, oh my goodness! It's become part of sex education for her." she adds very concernedly.



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1. [Dr. Anwar Ul Haque](#) - 01 January 2012



indeed very serious ethical, social and health issue. The issue needs to be seriously taken by all.

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