

# NELFA GUIDELINES

ON ASSISTED REPRODUCTIVE  
TECHNIQUES (ART)

**Proposal by the NELFA Working Group on ART:**

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1. NELFA wants to lead the debate on LGBTIQ\* parenting on European level, and so to participate at the debate on ART, both inside and outside the LGBTIQ\* movement.
2. NELFA defends the right of all LGTBIQ\* community to access and non-discrimination to any kind of Assisted Reproductive Technique (ART), which includes without limitation: donation of gametes, IVF, reciprocal IVF, surrogacy, etc.
3. NELFA considers that ART are not a specific LGBTIQ\* issue; it concerns all kinds of families, individuals and couples.
4. NELFA defends the full legal protection of all children and their families, regardless from the ART used by their parents. NELFA recommends its members to react when hate speech is used against our children and families.
5. NELFA defends that in all ART, egg donors, sperm donors and gestational surrogates should when feasible, be altruistic, with costs being reimbursed to the parties. Any amount of financial compensation should be commensurate with the characteristics

of the donation but it will never be so high as to induce an individual to participate for purely economic reasons nor should it be tied to a specific outcome.

6. NELFA defends that there should be no discrimination against LGBTIQ\* persons when it comes to access to reproductive medicine in the public healthcare system. NELFA believes regulation of ART is the best guarantee of protection for all involved, including LGBTIQ\* and supports the creation of appropriate legislation to regulate reproductive medicine across different European countries.
7. NELFA encourages everybody to use a language that clarifies the differences between surrogacy and motherhood, and more broadly between parents and donors, trying to avoid a wording that could induce confusion or lack of respect. Speakers of different languages should be encouraged to find the best possible wording in their language.
8. NELFA strongly defends an ethical approach to all ART.
9. NELFA accepts a system in which gametes donation could be anonymous or open.
10. NELFA supports a system in which intended parents and surrogates engage in an open relationship, free from any form of coercion.
11. NELFA is in favor of women's right to decide when and under which circumstances, as well as how and with whom, they carry a baby for intended parents.
12. NELFA supports a model in which surrogates, sperm and egg donors are not necessarily within the family circle of intended parents. NELFA supports a model in which genetic links between intended parents and the child are not mandatory
13. NELFA supports a regulatory model of surrogacy based on the autonomy of people to take decisions about their body and pregnancy. NELFA supports a model of surrogacy with parentage established before pregnancy through agreements that are legally enforceable.

14. NELFA supports a model that guarantees that all parties can make informed decisions before any agreement is made and throughout the whole ART process.
  
15. NELFA believes in a system that provides people that are planning to enter a surrogacy agreement with all the necessary information and support that will allow them to take an informed decision. Supporting and safe environment free of any risk of exploitation must be created for all surrogates. Systems, where surrogates have already delivered their own children and have the agreement of the partner/spouse should be considered.
  
16. NELFA supports transparency and the child's right to access as much information as possible about their conception and family history.