Linking siblings and donors
Posted by JR - 2011/03/12 05:05
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With this ﷽new kind of family﷽ it is unusual for children to have such a close biological connection to strangers so close in age to themselves. How does this and the differences in nurture and nature that affect their relationships? How are the extended family, for example, the parents of the donor (the children﷽s grandparents) affected?

Around 60,000 children have already been conceived from the cryobank featured in the film. Should more reliable records of how many children are born to each donor and should there be a limit to how many children they can have?

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Re:Linking siblings and donors
Posted by Dr Allan Pacey - 2011/03/17 03:28
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I am not sure that this kind of family is so new, Donor Insemination has been going on for over 100 years! What has changed is that people have begun to become more open about it.

The dynamics of Donor-assisted families (sperm or egg donation) has been the subject of some academic study and it seems clear the donor-conceived people are very curious about their donor-conceived siblings.

In some countries there are strict limits on the number of times a sperm or egg donor can be used and there are central (national) registers which collate this information.

My understanding is that this does not happen in the US, although there is guidance from professional bodies concerning how many times sperm or egg donors can be used to create families.

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