



Human Reproduction Study Group Annual Conference

Monday 18th May 2026

Trinity House Chapel and Boardroom, De Montfort University, Leicester

9:15-9:45	Conference registration	
9:45-10	Welcome	
10-11	<p>Keynote-Professor Charlotte Faircloth and Dr Rachel Arkell (UCL)</p> <p><i>Fifty Years of 'Becoming a Mother': reflections on motherhood research over half a century</i></p> <p>Chair: Cathy Herbrand</p>	
11-11:10	Break (tea and coffee)	
	<p>Stream A</p> <p>Reproductive Timing and the making of parenthood</p> <p>Chair: Jess Turner</p>	<p>Stream B</p> <p>Abortion, Loss and Testing</p> <p>Chair: Chloe Romanis</p>
11:10-11:30	<p>Spreadsheet ethnography, queer biology, and gestational age assessment in the UK</p> <p><i>Marcin Smietana & Giulia Zanini</i></p>	<p>Accessibility and equity of abortion in the era of telemedicine: neoliberal market logics and a feminist ethics of care?</p> <p><i>Rebecca Blaylock</i></p>
11:30-11:50	<p>Before pregnancy, at work: anticipation, fertility treatment and working women's pathways into motherhood</p> <p><i>Patrizia Kokot-Blamey</i></p>	<p>Pills, Procedures, and Reproductive Governance: Analysing the Moral, Affective, and Epistemic Logics of Abortion Method Choice.</p> <p><i>Aideen O'Shaughnessy</i></p>
11:50-12:10	<p>Between evidence and promotion: The digital marketing of PGT-A in UK and Italian fertility care</p> <p><i>Manuela Perrotta</i></p>	<p>'I Play to Honour and Remember': father's accounts of navigating perinatal loss through the medium of football.</p> <p><i>Kerry Jones</i></p>

12:10-12:30	The marriage package: affect, misogyny, and women's encounters with family ideals in contemporary China <i>Chen Zhu</i>	Understanding Women's Experiences of Hormone Fertility Testing <i>Chanelle Scott</i>
12:30-1:20	Lunch and poster viewing	
	Stream A Assisted Reproductive Technologies (Two) Chair: Christina Weis	Stream B Emotion Chair: Sara Bamdad
1:20-1:40	International Surrogacy, Transgressive Caregiving and the Lived Politics of Citizenship at Birth <i>Kate Tonkiss</i>	Voluntary sterilisation in Austria: childfree women's meanings beyond contraception <i>Vanessa Bock</i>
1:40-2:00	Parental perspectives on artificial placenta technology: Foregrounding embodied and temporal experiences of prematurity <i>Chloe Romanis and Victoria Adkins</i>	Layers of Loss: A Sociological Perspective on 'Reproductive Loss' in the Context of Fertility Treatment <i>Nina Jakoby</i>
2:00-2:20	An Intersectional Study of Chinese Women's Assisted Reproduction and the Making of Assisted Hun-Xue-Er <i>Yiyun Bai</i>	Autoethnographic narratives in reproductive research <i>Chantelle Taylor</i>
2:20-2:40	"Genetically compatible": expanded carrier screening and the universalisation of preconception genetic risk <i>Cathy Herbrand et al</i>	Early pregnancy endings as a workplace issue: stigma and the dynamics of disclosure <i>Ilaria Boncori et al</i>
2:40-2:50	Break and poster viewing	
2:50-3:20	Short film screening and discussion Women in stirrups: the dark side of midwifery <i>Anna Bosanquet</i>	

	Stream A Assisted Reproductive Technologies (One) Chair: Kylie Baldwin	Stream B Birth Chair: Marcin Smietana
3:20- 3:40	Genes are genes, but family is family - Adolescents' experiences of being conceived with identity-release oocyte donation <i>Groundstroem et al.</i>	Birth partners' experiences of understanding and negotiating their roles <i>Christina Weis and Zaheera Essat</i>
3:40- 4:00	How do parents following identity-release sperm donation feel about their child's opportunity to access donor information – findings of the Swedish Study on Gamete Donation <i>Lampic et al.</i>	Freebirth in the UK, USA & Australia: A Narrative Review & Cross-Country Analysis <i>Zeynep Gurtin & Emily Arnold</i>
4:00- 4:20	Fertile Economies: Egg Donor Compensation and Reproductive Labour in the UK Bioeconomy <i>Jess Turner et al.</i>	The unintended consequences of place of birth policy for preterm babies. <i>Julie Roberts et al.</i>
4:20- 4:40	Unpicking the stitch: cervical cerclage as a reproductive technology <i>Aimee Middlemiss</i>	Exploring obstetric violence through racialized migrant women's stories of childbirth in Ireland <i>Dyuti Chakravaty</i>
4:40- 5:00	Closing notes and departure	

An informal self-funded early dinner and social will follow the conference and is open to all delegates and speakers.

The city of Leicester is located an hour from London and is easily accessible by both rail and road and is well served by East Midlands and Birmingham airport.

For more information about the event please contact K.L.Baldwin@lboro.ac.uk

Registration Fees: Student/Concessionary BSA member £30 / Student/Concessionary Non BSA member £35 BSA member £40 / Non-BSA member £45

Register [here](#)