



## Christian Voices for Life

### Weekly Pro-Life

Education

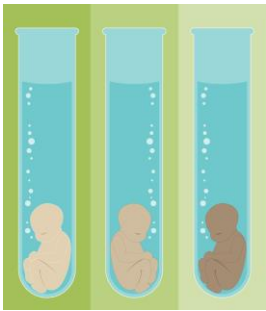
Prayer

Action

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## In-Vitro Fertilization, Donor Eggs, Gestational Carriers

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**Education:** Couples suffering from infertility are often led to the practice of In vitro fertilization (IVF) in order to achieve pregnancy. IVF is the joining of a woman's egg and a man's sperm in a laboratory dish. Embryos are later transferred to the mother's uterus, or frozen for possible future use. IVF has become big business, with over 300,000 cycles begun in 2019 in the United States, with almost 84,000 children born as a result. (1) After stimulating the ovaries to produce multiple eggs, some eggs may be frozen, and some fertilized to produce embryos. One or more embryos may be soon transferred to the mother's uterus, but others are frozen, or possibly discarded. It is

much more common now (77% of transfers) to transfer only one embryo, rather than 2 or more, to eliminate the possibility of multiple births. More and more cycles are done in recent years purely to "bank" frozen eggs or embryos, with no immediate plans to begin a pregnancy. The success rate falls steadily with the age of the mother using her own eggs, so the use of donor eggs from younger women has increased steadily, with over 20,000 transfers in 2019 made using embryos from donor eggs. The use of gestational carriers, or surrogate mothers has also increased with over 9,000 transfers (5.4%), being made to women not intending to parent the child.

IVF does not restore normal function of conception of a child, but replaces it with a process that treats children as a desired product to be manufactured, rather than a gift from God and a result of the parents' physical expression of love. An alternative solution to infertility is NaPro Technology, which works with the natural reproductive system. NaPro Technology is safer and less expensive than IVF. A short video is available (2) to explain how it works.

1. *2019 Report on Assisted Reproductive Technology* available at <https://www.cdc.gov/art/reports/2019/fertility-clinic.html>
2. *NaProTechnology: New Hope in Infertility*, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yIaZGW028y8&t=25s>



**Prayer:** Dear Lord, please have mercy on married couples who seek the gift of a child. Bless them with that gift, if it is your will. Help them to find doctors who will work with them to correct the problem rather than selling them a plan for IVF. If they are not able to conceive, help them to accept your plan and consider adoption as a way to accept children into their family. Help them to trust in You to give them the children You want them to have. Help everyone to understand the harm of treating children as commodities to be manufactured, and introducing third parties into the process of creating a child.



**Action:** If you know couples who are infertile, let them know that you are praying for them. Ask them if they have heard of NaPro Technology and encourage them to find a doctor who uses it, from [www.fertilitycare.org](http://www.fertilitycare.org). If they are considering IVF, give them information about it, and encourage them to prayerfully seek to know God's will for their family. Ask them if they have considered adoption and encourage them to investigate the possibility.