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## **Introduction: making and breaking families – reading queer reproductions, stratified reproduction and reproductive justice together**

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## SYMPOSIUM: MAKING FAMILIES

# Introduction: Making and breaking families – reading queer reproductions, stratified reproduction and reproductive justice together

## The project

In February 2016 we convened a workshop at UC Berkeley, *Making Families: Transnational Surrogacy, Queer Kinship, and Reproductive Justice*. We were seeking to bring into direct conversation three theoretical frameworks that have each transformed scholarship and influenced practice around transnational surrogacy and reproduction: 'stratified reproduction', 'reproductive justice', and 'queer reproductions'. Given the different intellectual and activist genealogies of these three fields, our aim in the workshop and in this resulting symposium issue was twofold: firstly, to draw out the explicit and implicit contributions of these three areas to understanding and helping shape the changing landscape of transnational surrogacy and assisted reproductive technology (ART) and secondly, to work through apparent tensions among these three approaches so as to forge intellectual and political solidarities that can strengthen scholarship and influence policy.

For the workshop, we invited a small number of speakers to initiate the inquiry (see [www.makingfamilies.eu](http://www.makingfamilies.eu)). As the issue came into focus, we invited a few of the many other experts in transnational surrogacy and/or one or more of the three fields of stratified reproduction, reproductive justice, and queer reproductions to submit papers so as to deepen the inquiry. The exercise has convinced us that combining insights from queer reproductions, stratified reproduction, and reproductive justice holds out hope for better relations and improved organization and regulation of ART. This symposium issue serves as an opening and an invitation to further scholarship and action.

In what follows, we first craft a route through the literatures on queer reproductions, reproductive justice, and stratified reproduction that highlight their potential for addressing core questions of justice in relation to transnational surrogacy and related reproductive technologies and the making and breaking of families. We then explore the tensions among them and consider how these tensions might be resolved or kept in

productive difference. We introduce the individual papers in this symposium issue. We end with conclusions drawn from this collection of papers that would help develop policies that support LGBTQ+<sup>1</sup> and other non-normative reproducers who are currently medically under-served and/or over-policed in their own reproduction, and/or disproportionately likely to work as donors or surrogates for the reproduction of others.

Two orienting precepts have framed the workshop and symposium issue. First, we approached the project from the ethical perspective that self-identifying as LGBTQ+ or otherwise reproductively non-normative should not place unnecessary and exceptional demands or restrictions upon one's access to ART and other reproductive care and services. The second orienting precept was a commitment to working at a geographic and historical scale where the domestic and transnational hierarchies that fuel and are in turn fuelled by the fertility industry would be visible. Clinic-based and national ART policies and statistics tend not to make cross-border and cross-privilege patterns easily visible. Any policy recommendations from this project should seek to highlight and then reduce the ways in which the fertility industry is animated by and reproduces injustice for some individuals and families, and seek to augment ways in which reproductive rights and justice are served.

## Queer reproductions

The transnational fertility industry emerged within specific politics of race, gender and sexuality, offering the hope of

<sup>1</sup> For the sake of the legibility of the term to interdisciplinary audiences, including academics and policy-makers, we have opted for the term 'LGBTQ+' in this publication, to signify all non-heteronormative sexuality and gender identities (lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans\*, queer and other). It includes individuals who identify as gay men – and we refer to them as such – whose reproductive pathways are discussed in this symposium issue in depth.

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71 relief from the gendered sorrow and stigma of infertility,  
72 bringing new ways of making biologically related families to  
73 single women and lesbian and gay would-be parents. This  
74 process transformed women into the primary patients in IVF  
75 whether or not the reason for a couple's infertility lay in  
76 the woman's body, and in some places igniting abortion was  
77 because of the production and demise of in-vitro human  
78 embryos. From the beginning, feminist, queer, critical race,  
79 and disability justice scholars, and critics of class dynamics,  
80 commodification, and the medicalization of birth, were part  
81 of articulating and shaping the stakes of the fertility industry  
82 (Thompson, 2002).

83 In these wider gender and sexuality politics of the field,  
84 work on LGBTQ+ reproduction arose in distinct subfields.  
85 These include 'LGBTQ+ family studies,' centred in psychol-  
86 ogy and family sociology, and 'queer kinship' and 'queer  
87 reproduction' studies, coming mostly from anthropology,  
88 science and technology studies, and gender and sexuality  
89 studies. Work in LGBTQ+ family studies analysed families  
90 created by parents identifying as LGBTQ+. Approaches  
91 labelled 'queer', on the other hand, often took a critical  
92 perspective toward normative reproductive arrangements  
93 and institutions made visible by LGBTQ+ family making.

#### 94 LGBTQ+ families and queer reproduction

95 In the 1980s and 1990s – the early years of surrogacy and  
96 the fertility industry – LGBTQ+ individuals were widely  
97 stigmatised in regard to family formation, deemed unworthy  
98 to reproduce, unfit for rearing children, and contrary to  
99 the very notions of parenthood and family (Gabb, 2017;  
100 Golombok, 2015). The social organisation and regulation of  
101 ART in that early era consciously and unconsciously reflected  
102 dominant ideas of parental suitability, defining access to  
103 infertility treatment in terms of heterosexual exposure to  
104 unprotected sex without pregnancy, and basing treatment  
105 protocols around heterosexual couples and/or donors or  
106 surrogates standing in for them. LGBTQ+ people resorted  
107 to other ways of having children rather than through ART  
108 (Donovan et al., 2001; Weston, 1991), if they had children at  
109 all.<sup>2</sup> In the 2000s, a gradual shift occurred: lesbian women in  
110 the USA and elsewhere started to have children through  
111 fertility industry-aided donor insemination (Mamo, 2007).  
112 A few years later, gay men began to utilize IVF and enter  
113 commercial surrogacy agreements, with or without donor  
114 eggs (Lewin, 2009). The US federal gay marriage law of 2015  
115 was part of a changing global panorama in which formal  
116 parenting rights were beginning to be granted to LGBTQ+  
117 people. A narrative of reproductive loss and mourning,  
118 which earlier accompanied coming out as gay (Smietana  
119 et al., 2014), gradually gave way to a new procreative  
120 consciousness (Berkowitz, 2007) thanks to which young  
121 lesbian and gay adults started to imagine parenting as one  
122 of their life options (Pralat, 2016).

123 Recently, attention has also been drawn to bisexual  
124 parents. They had largely been made invisible by narratives  
125 that equated their experiences with those of lesbian or gay

126 people, but recent studies carried out in the UK, Canada, 126  
127 Australia and New Zealand suggest that while bisexual 127  
128 parents may have had more options for having biological 128  
129 children than lesbian women or gay men, their family and 129  
130 kinship arrangements were often non-nuclear, multi-parent 130  
131 and shifting (Delvoe and Tasker, 2016; Power et al., 2012; 131  
132 Ross et al., 2012). Due to societal invisibilisation and 132  
133 stigmatization of their fluid identities, many bisexual parents 133  
134 have been found to suffer from significant minority stress. 134

135 Distinctive debates have emerged regarding the repro- 135  
136 ductivity and family and kinship formation by trans people. 136  
137 Gender transition for people who already have children may 137  
138 bear certain similarities to the situation of parents who 138  
139 come out to their children and partners as gay, lesbian or 139  
140 bisexual (Haines et al., 2014; Hines, 2006), but legal and 140  
141 social transphobia, manifested in such things as custody 141  
142 disputes simply because a parent is trans (perhaps especially 142  
143 if the parent is a trans woman), shape trans people's unique 143  
144 family making and breaking circumstances. Trans women of 144  
145 colour, in particular, are subject to high rates of violence 145  
146 and this additional precarity and susceptibility to premature 146  
147 death radically restricts any possibility of family formation 147  
148 (Bailey, 2013).

149 Fertility preservation, especially among children seeking 149  
150 biomedical gender transition, has become a cultural battle- 150  
151 ground. Some have argued that children cannot possibly 151  
152 know their future reproductive identities or desires and have 152  
153 used that to oppose offering surgery or hormones to pre- 153  
154 pubertal trans youth. Advocates for trans youth, on the 154  
155 other hand, have argued that affordable fertility preserva- 155  
156 tion such as gamete freezing should be part of the normal 156  
157 care of trans youth regardless of which procedures they 157  
158 opt for (Halberstam, 2017). As noted by Doris Leibetseder 158  
159 (2017), legal requirement of gender confirmation surgery, 159  
160 still present in several countries, amount to a reproductive 160  
161 injustice for those trans individuals for whom surgery is not 161  
162 desired and/or accessible.

163 Echoing earlier debates about the suitability of interracial 163  
164 couples as parents (Twine, 2010), a shift occurred in 164  
165 many Western countries, in which psychologists debated 165  
166 whether LGBTQ+ parents' children differ from heterosexual 166  
167 parents' children (Gartrell and Bos, 2010; Golombok, 2015; 167  
168 Stotzer et al., 2014). The finding that there were few 168  
169 such differences – that lesbian, gay and trans families 169  
170 enjoyed positive family relationships – was instrumental in 170  
171 safeguarding laws seen as inclusive and supportive for 171  
172 LGBTQ+ families, such as gay marriage and the right to 172  
173 adopt. At the same time, critical queer scholars, including 173  
174 queer scholars of colour, questioned whether normalizing 174  
175 queer families was a desirable goal at all, and if instead 175  
176 we should follow queer family formations and embrace 176  
177 a diversity of family models beyond the classed, raced, 177  
178 patriarchal heteronormative nuclear family (Cohen, 2004; 178  
179 Eng, 2010; Muñoz, 1999; Stacey, 2004; Stacey and Biblarz, 179  
180 2001; Yarbrough et al., 2018).

181 In several states in the USA and in some European 181  
182 countries, LGBTQ+ parents began to shift from mostly co- 182  
183 parenting children from previous heterosexual relationships, 183  
184 and/or multi-parent arrangements between individuals of 184  
185 various gender and sexuality identities, to forming intention- 185  
186 ally LGBTQ+ families on the model of the heterosexual nuclear 186  
187 family (less frequently in the case of bisexual parents, see 187

<sup>2</sup> As still happens today for some couples, and is still dominant in some places, e.g. Eastern and Central Europe, Kulpa and Mizielinska (2011), Mizielinska and Stasinska (2018).



188 [Delvoye and Tasker, 2016](#)). These new families were first  
 189 created by lesbian or gay couples or singles through adoption,  
 190 and later increasingly through medicalized assisted reproduc-  
 191 tion ([Epstein, 2018](#); [Mamo, 2007](#); [Smietana, 2016](#)). For gay  
 192 men, surrogacy offered the opportunity to have genetically  
 193 related children. In addition to any benefits of genetic  
 194 relatedness to children gay men would share with heterosex-  
 195 ual and lesbian parents, genetic relatedness offered gay men a  
 196 bulwark against gender discrimination in adoption and custody  
 197 in many legal systems ([Goodfellow, 2015](#); [Murphy, 2015](#)).  
 198 While gender norms have helped lesbian mothers draw on  
 199 dominant scripts of femininity when fighting for parental  
 Q5 Q4 rights (e.g. [Lewin, 1993](#); [Kantsa and Chalkidou, 2014](#)), the  
 201 same norms have sometimes intensified opposition to gay  
 202 fatherhood. In most jurisdictions where only altruistic surro-  
 203 gacy is legal – such as in the UK and parts of New Zealand,  
 204 Australia and Canada – contracts between resident individuals  
 205 are possible regardless of sexual identity or civil status.  
 206 However, in many other countries where some form of  
 207 commercial surrogacy is currently legal, it has remained  
 208 more restricted for gay men than for heterosexual intended  
 209 parents (e.g. in Russia, India, Portugal). In many of the  
 210 countries that legalized gay marriage or partnership, mother-  
 211 hood for women in lesbian couples may be more supported  
 212 legally and socially than fatherhood in gay couples ([Imaz,  
 213 2017](#)). In some countries such as China or Singapore, LGBTQ+  
 214 family rights are not recognized and yet some gay men seek to  
 215 have and raise genetically related offspring conceived through  
 216 surrogacy abroad ([Wang and Shan, 2017](#)).

217 In the USA, LGBTQ+ affirmative psychological research and  
 218 the rise of the global LGBTQ+ rights movement ([Paternotte,  
 219 2015](#)) combined with the consumer-orientation and state-by-  
 220 state regulation of the fertility industry to make California  
 221 in particular an important but expensive destination for gay  
 222 surrogacy ([Thompson, 2016](#)). Gay men and heterosexual  
 223 intended parents who could afford the expense of travel and  
 224 commercial surrogacy abroad started commissioning surro-  
 225 gacy in those states in the USA where it is legal, and in other  
 226 shifting locations such as India, Mexico, and Thailand before  
 227 transnational surrogacy bans came into force ([Schurr, 2018](#);  
 228 [Twine, 2015](#)). Currently, the only stable surrogacy market  
 229 available to intended parents of any nationality – as well as of  
 230 any sexuality and civil status, including gay men – exists in  
 231 some states in the USA, notably California.

232 The neoliberal form of the transnational fertility industry  
 233 in the USA, as well as its use of imaginaries of middle-class  
 234 gay couples with genetically related children resembling  
 235 the dominant nuclear family model, have been subject to  
 236 critique from queer scholars. [Lisa Duggan \(2002: 179\)](#) coined  
 237 the term 'homonormativity' to condemn 'a politics that does  
 238 not contest dominant heteronormative assumptions and  
 239 institutions, but upholds and sustains them, while promising  
 240 the possibility of a demobilized gay constituency and  
 241 a privatized, depoliticized gay culture anchored in domes-  
 242 ticity and consumption'. [Jasbir Puar \(2007, 2013\)](#) warned  
 243 against 'homonationalism' through which gay people with  
 244 race, class, and citizenship privilege are included in a system  
 245 of liberal gay-friendly laws, and thus become complicit in  
 246 the exclusion of others without the same privilege. And [Paola  
 247 Bacchetta and Jin Haritaworn \(2011: 134\)](#) drew attention to  
 248 the 'homotransnationalism' characteristic of the transna-  
 249 tional circulation of discourse that equates the global North

with being queer friendly, including for queer family forma- 250  
 tion, while the rest of the world is described in the global 251  
 North in 'neocolonial, orientalist, sexist, and queerphobic' 252  
 ways that appear to foreclose queer reproductions. 253

254 Despite queer critique of neoliberal forms of family  
 255 and marriage, and arguments for a distinctive and non-  
 256 normative queer existence, scholars researching LGBTQ+  
 257 would-be parents and families continue to find genuine  
 258 longing for children, families, and home. [Ellen Lewin \(2009\)](#)  
 259 found this longing in her ethnographic account of diverse  
 260 gay fathers in the USA and thus argued that some queer  
 261 scholarship may have been perceived as an ideological  
 262 imposition on gay people who wish to form families. [Joshua  
 263 Gamson \(2015\)](#) has drawn attention to the double ethical  
 264 burden for LGBTQ+ families of managing queer critiques in  
 265 addition to the ever-present fear of the marginalization of  
 266 their kinship ties with their children posed by normative  
 267 social institutions and perceptions of proper family. [Aaron  
 268 Goodfellow \(2015\)](#) refers to gay father families carrying this  
 269 burden as 'suffering kinship' for the sake of 'precarious  
 270 kinship'. This work justifying one's reproductive choices  
 271 against accusations of selfishness or exploitation is a form  
 272 of what [Katharine Dow \(2016\)](#) has called 'ethical labour'.  
 273 She developed the concept in the context of her work  
 274 with environmental charity workers who grappled with the  
 275 ethical entanglements of their human reproductive desires  
 276 in an overpopulated world. [Joanna Mizielska and Agata  
 277 Stasinska \(2018: 997\)](#) remind us that in countries character-  
 278 ized by homophobia and a lack of rights, LGBTQ+ people  
 279 who create couples and families cannot be properly called  
 280 'homonormative' even if they are affluent and otherwise  
 281 privileged, as their mere existence constitutes a subversive  
 282 and dangerous act.

## Queer kinship 283

284 Kinship, alongside family and reproduction, has been a  
 285 distinctive angle from which LGBTQ+ family making has  
 286 been studied, in particular in anthropology, cultural studies,  
 287 and interdisciplinary studies of reproduction. In conversation  
 288 with [David Schneider's \(1968\)](#) definition of Euro-American  
 289 kinship as 'diffuse, enduring solidarity' rooted in biogenetic  
 290 ties, in her work on gay kinship ideologies of the 1980s and  
 291 1990s in the USA, [Kath Weston \(1991, 1995\)](#) showed that  
 292 as gay people sought legitimacy for their chosen and often  
 293 non-biogenetic families and kinship ties, they claimed those  
 294 families satisfied the common definitions of kinship as they  
 295 provided endurance and solidarity. Weston argued that it is  
 296 thus misleading to speak of 'gay kinship' as a freestanding  
 297 paradigm, even though queer families were frequently of  
 298 necessity chosen rather than biologically reproduced. [Sara  
 299 Ahmed \(2017\)](#) reminds us that queer kinship (like feminist,  
 300 racialized, and migrant experience of family) characteristically  
 301 involves the necessity of risking 'lives, homes, relationships',  
 302 and having to endure kinship loss.

303 In the early days of ART, feminist scholars approached  
 304 kinship as a technology through which social and natural human  
 305 life is organized ([Franklin, 2013](#); [Franklin and McKinnon, 2001](#);  
 306 [Haraway, 1997](#); [Strathern, 1992](#)). Ethnographic study of ART  
 307 demonstrated that biology shapes kinship but that kinship  
 308 also shapes biology ([Franklin, 2002](#); [Thompson, 2005](#)), and that  
 309 Q7

309 in the contemporary era biology and its meanings and uses  
 310 are changing, relative, moldable and 'queer' (Carsten, 2004;  
 311 Franklin, 2014). Cori Hayden (1995) showed that although  
 312 lesbian mothers in the USA reaffirmed biological ties as a  
 313 symbol of kinship, their practices of family creation challenged  
 314 the dominant assumption that biological kinship is natural  
 315 and self-evident. Judith Butler (2002) posed the question as to  
 316 whether kinship is 'always already heterosexual', proposing  
 317 that once we stop seeing kinship as determined by and a mere  
 318 reflection of underlying heterosexual human biology, we  
 319 can stop asking whether same-sex couples with children are  
 320 'natural'. These scholars noted that if there is nothing in  
 321 biology itself that makes queer kinship unnatural, condemning  
 322 other kinds of non-normative reproduction because they are  
 323 seen as too abundant or too unnatural is also not sustainable.

324 In Kim TallBear's analysis of the 'compulsory settler  
 325 sex, family and nation' (2018: 151), she argues that 'the  
 326 aspirational ideal of middle-class nuclear family, including  
 327 (hetero)normative coupledom with its compulsory biological  
 328 reproduction' has been imposed on Indigenous peoples'  
 329 extended family structures that historically included what  
 330 today would be called consensual non-monogamy, as well as  
 331 on their relationships to non-human species and the land.  
 332 TallBear argues that this imposition serves the patriarchal  
 333 heteronormative, and increasingly also homonormative,  
 334 imperial state, and turns a decolonial lens toward normative  
 335 marriage and family formations. This resonates with related  
 336 critiques of the suppression of earlier forms of family and  
 337 marriage in Europe and the USA documented by queer and  
 338 feminist scholars (Federici, 2004; Franklin, 2018; Stacey,  
 339 2004), as well as with contemporary critiques of normative  
 340 coupledom as a privileged principle of organizing LGBTQ+  
 341 families (Gabb, 2017).

342 So-called 'new' and 'critical' kinship studies (Kroløkke  
 343 et al., 2017; Riggs and Peel, 2016) and studies of 'queer  
 344 kinship' (Dahl and Gunnarsson Payne, 2014; Mizielinska  
 345 et al., 2018) also developed as a critique of capitalist  
 346 heteronormative, biogenetic and Euro-centric kinship models,  
 347 and affirmed queer families and their rights. Damien Riggs  
 348 and Elisabeth Peel introduced the term 'Western human  
 349 kinship', echoing appeals for inter-species kinship instead of  
 350 deady human exceptionalism, and a call to 'make kin, not  
 351 population' (Clarke and Haraway, 2018; Haraway, 1997).  
 352 Charlotte Kroløkke et al. (2017) developed the concept of (im)  
 353 mobilities to analyse the unequal resources that shape the  
 354 forms and possibilities of kinship (see also Thompson, 2011).  
 355 Ulrika Dahl and Jenny Gunnarsson Payne (2014) argued for  
 356 broad and inclusive definitions of queer kinship that move  
 357 beyond same-sex rights and identitarian concerns and instead  
 358 urge us to attend to the ways in which webs of people care for  
 359 each other and for one another's children.

360 Recent ethnographic and qualitative studies of queer  
 361 reproduction using ART have revealed new kinds of related-  
 362 ness emerging between LGBTQ+ parents and donors or  
 363 surrogates who helped them. Many maintained relationships  
 364 that neither corresponded to traditional kin roles nor were  
 365 estranged (Blake et al., 2016; Courduriès, 2016; Jadva  
 366 and Imrie, 2014; Mamo, 2007; Mohr, 2015; Nordqvist, 2012;  
 367 Smietana, 2017). Research has also brought to light  
 368 previously unnamed kinship forms, such as the 'affinity  
 369 ties' identified by Laura Mamo (2007: 205) in which donors,  
 370 surrogates and intended gay and lesbian parents choose one

another for biological relationship not so much by physical  
 371 resemblance as by a sense of affinity based on such things  
 372 as shared interests, background, and values. As Mamo  
 373 points out, the concept of affinity ties complicates the  
 374 distinctions made in gay and lesbian kinship theories  
 375 between ties created by blood and ties created by choice  
 376 or love. Relationships between LGBTQ+ parents and people  
 377 who help them to reproduce also complicate the distinctions  
 378 made in anthropological theories of 'gift relationships'  
 379 based on reciprocity, as opposed to 'commodity relation-  
 380 ships' based on commercial exchange: recent research shows  
 381 that potential or actual use of reproductive technologies,  
 382 including surrogacy, is often approached simultaneously both  
 383 as a gift and a commodity relationship between users and  
 384 providers (Berend, 2016; Dow, 2016; Jacobson, 2016; Mohr,  
 385 2015; Smietana, 2017; Thompson, 2014). 386

### Reproductive justice 387

388 The reproductive justice movement was formed by women  
 389 of colour in the USA in 1994 in the aftermath of the  
 390 *International Conference on Population and Development*  
 391 *in Cairo*. Its explicit goal was to represent the needs of  
 392 women of colour and other marginalized women and trans  
 393 people by centering their voices, and thus uplifting the  
 394 most marginalized families and communities. The flagship  
 395 reproductive justice organization, *SisterSong: Women of*  
 396 *Color Reproductive Justice Collective*, defines reproductive  
 397 justice as, 'the human right to maintain personal bodily  
 398 autonomy, have children, not have children and parent the  
 399 children we have in safe and sustainable communities'  
 400 (SisterSong; Ross, 2006).

401 Reproductive justice expands the narrow focus on  
 402 contraceptive and abortion access and fertility services of  
 403 white middle-class reproductive rights movements, and  
 404 incorporates families' rights to be able to raise their children  
 405 free from economic and state violence (Price, 2010).  
 406 The shift from reproductive rights to reproductive justice  
 407 includes pivoting away from the idea of increasing repro-  
 408 ductive choice and toward increased reproductive access  
 409 and human rights. Reproductive justice scholar and curator,  
 410 and contributor to this symposium issue and to the *Making*  
 411 *Families* workshop, Zakiya Luna, argues that reproductive  
 412 justice comprises analytic framework, movement, praxis  
 413 (theory and practice) and vision of the world (Luna and  
 414 Luker, 2013).

415 Reproductive justice is both an activist movement and  
 416 a movement very much in dialogue with Black, Indigenous,  
 417 and other women of colour and queer of colour feminist  
 418 scholarship. In 1977 the Black Lesbian feminist Combahee  
 419 River Collective released the *Combahee River Collective*  
 420 *Statement*. This now legendary manifesto articulated their  
 421 commitment 'to struggling against racial, sexual, heterosexual,  
 422 and class oppression', and 'the development of integrated  
 423 analysis and practice based upon the fact that the major  
 424 systems of oppression are interlocking', setting in motion the  
 425 powerful analytic and activist trajectory combining different  
 426 axes of power and a focus on violence against women of  
 427 colour that Kimberlé Crenshaw would label 'intersectionality'  
 428 (Crenshaw, 1991). One year after the *Combahee River*  
 429 *Collective Statement* manifesto was published, Louise Brown, 429

430 the first 'test-tube' baby, was born in Oldham, England. The  
 431 following decades witnessed the rapid development and  
 432 emergence of a global fertility industry including reproductive  
 433 labourers in an increasingly competitive global marketplace.  
 434 Feminist and critical race scholars identified a number of  
 435 ethical, moral and legal problems that are especially visible  
 436 from a reproductive justice – rather than a reproductive  
 437 choice – vantage point. These include the human rights of  
 438 reproductive labourers and access to treatment for those  
 439 without economic means and otherwise marginalized (e.g.  
 440 Ainsworth, 2014; Almeling, 2011; Inhorn, 2003; Mohapatra,  
 441 2012; Nahman, 2006; Thompson, 2005; Twine, 2015).

442 Scholars, policymakers, reproductive justice activists and  
 443 healthcare providers face a number of competing challenges  
 444 when considering how to respond to the concerns of would-  
 445 be parents and reproductive service providers (surrogates  
 446 and gamete providers). The fertility industry is a global  
 447 profit-making industry that developed without any transna-  
 448 tional or legally mandated bioethical guidelines in place.  
 449 The fertility industry provides 'services' without systemat-  
 450 ically providing ongoing or long-term mental health or  
 451 medical care to service providers or recipients. This industry  
 452 also fails to serve a large proportion of the world's infertile  
 453 population due to normative, regulatory and price barriers.

454 The significant long-term effects on the psychological,  
 455 emotional, or physical health of women and men partici-  
 456 pating in this industry as surrogates or donating their genetic  
 457 material remain unknown. There is a particular need for  
 458 more long-term research on the reproductive 'after-life' of  
 459 gestational surrogates and ovum donors. The first-ever  
 460 longitudinal studies to be carried out examine the psycho-  
 461 logical well-being of altruistic surrogates and their families,  
 462 as well as children born through surrogacy in the UK  
 463 (Golombok, 2015; Jadva et al., 2015). This field of research  
 464 will fill an important empirical gap in the literature as  
 465 the global surrogacy industry continues to grow. When the  
 466 reproductive service work is undertaken in circumstances  
 467 of migratory and/or economic precarity, the chances of  
 468 reproductive service providers' voices being heard and/or  
 469 their having access to quality healthcare diminishes. For  
 470 example, surrogates in India were found to experience high  
 471 levels of depression, with regard to low social support during  
 472 pregnancy, hiding surrogacy and criticism over it (Lamba  
 473 et al., 2018).

474 Studies of transnational and forced adoption show that  
 475 the logics of race, class, and nation have been central to de-  
 476 kinning children and parents from one another for far longer  
 477 than ART has been available (Choy, 2009; Gordon, 2001;  
 478 Howell, 2006; Marre and Briggs, 2009). Not surprisingly, then,  
 479 feminist and critical race scholars have found continuing neo-  
 480 and post-colonial echoes in the ways in which caste, class,  
 481 racial and ethnic hierarchies still structure the delivery and  
 482 marketing of ART (Andreassen, 2017; Davda, 2018; Homanen,  
 483 2018; Inhorn and Fakih, 2006; Quiroga, 2007; Russell, 2015;  
 484 Thompson, 2005, 2009, 2011; Twine, 2015). For example, poor  
 485 women, and women who are the direct descendants of  
 486 formerly enslaved or colonized people in the USA, continue  
 487 to face barriers to fertility. Dorothy Roberts' work has  
 488 uncovered the racial and class anti-natalism and de-kinning  
 489 that confronts Black women, children, and families in  
 490 contemporary USA, especially in its confrontation with family  
 491 services, drug policy, and the criminal legal system in what

Michelle Alexander has called the 'new Jim Crow' (Alexander, 492  
 2010; Roberts, 1997, 2002). Khiara Bridges has documented 493  
 the denial of a right to privacy and over-surveillance of poor 494  
 women of colour during pregnancy and birth even though they 495  
 are highly likely to be medically underserved (Bridges, 2008, 496  
 2017). Poor women of colour are not perceived or defined as 497  
 a 'market' for fertility services because they do not possess 498  
 the financial resources to purchase these services and these 499  
 services are typically not included (in the North American 500  
 context) as part of mandated reproductive healthcare 501  
 coverage. Similar exclusion from fertility markets happens 502  
 to those men who represent subordinated or marginalized 503  
 masculinities by virtue of their class, race, citizenship or other 504  
 positionalities (Connell, 2005). 505

The debate surrounding the use of ART and the transna- 506  
 tional fertility industry includes an analysis of the ideologies 507  
 and ongoing state practices that render some women and 508  
 men as more 'fit' or 'unfit' for parenthood, which France 509  
 Winddance Twine (2017) has called "'the fertility continuum'". 510  
 In the twentieth century the logics of eugenics were 511  
 mainstream – endorsed and taught at universities. These 512  
 logics, which privileged and supported the reproductive 513  
 liberty of some, while restricting that of others, continues to 514  
 have an afterlife in the fertility industry. The situation today is 515  
 more complicated because economically privileged people 516  
 of all racial, ethnic, religious and national origins can 517  
 participate in this industry. However, those most likely to 518  
 possess the financial resources to purchase ART services 519  
 remain over-determined by the racial, class and opportunity 520  
 structures established over the previous centuries of slavery, 521  
 genocide and colonization. 522

Borders, prisons, occupation, and militarized zones all 523  
 function as racialized reproductive technologies calling for 524  
 decolonial and demilitarizing responses (Kanaaneh, 2002; 525  
 Nahman, 2011; Sufirin et al., 2015; Vertommen, 2015). 526  
 Capitalism and the way that childbirth continues to be 527  
 commodified interacts with these migratory, military, and 528  
 carceral patterns. Women who give birth under poverty and/ 529  
 or who do not have control over their reproductive lives may 530  
 be fertile but not able to care for their children, and they 531  
 can also be economically coerced into entering the fertility 532  
 industry as reproductive service providers in exchange 533  
 for migration or precarity. Ironically, based on the same 534  
 inequality, in the USA only a certain class of women may be 535  
 perceived as respectable and trustworthy enough to be 536  
 recruited for surrogacy, often lower middle-class white 537  
 women of Protestant backgrounds (Smietana, 2017), and in 538  
 the Indian former surrogacy industry, surrogates needed 539  
 to have at least some social and economic capital to 540  
 be recruited (Rudrappa, 2015). The discourses of 'choice' 541  
 and 'altruism' thus need qualification and turn out to 542  
 overlap with the structural inequality built upon centuries of 543  
 racism, colonialism, neocolonialism, militarism, and capitalism 544  
 (Thompson, 2011; Twine and Gardener, 2013). 545

In the *Convention on the Prevention and Punishment* 546  
*of the Crime of Genocide* (United Nations, 1948), two of 547  
 the five definitions of genocide address the immediate 548  
 concerns of reproductive justice, namely, 'imposing mea- 549  
 sures intended to prevent births within the group', and 550  
 'forcibly transferring children of the group to another group'. 551  
 Indigenous women, in particular, have articulated their 552  
 fight for reproductive rights and justice in terms of genocide 553



554 and neo-colonial appropriation, and called for decolonial  
 555 reproductive studies (Ralstin-Lewis, 2005; TallBear, 2018;  
 556 Vega, 2016). Women and men with disabilities continue to  
 557 resist their own extinction and assert their reproductive,  
 558 sexual and family rights even as they face an ongoing history  
 559 of sterilization and the widespread use of reproductive  
 560 technologies to screen against and deselect disability (Asch,  
 561 1989; Asch and Wasserman, 2014; Berne et al., 2015). Forced  
 562 sterilization, especially of Black and Latina mothers, also has  
 563 a long history and was still occurring in California prisons as  
 564 recently as 2013 (Davis, 2003; Gutierrez and Fuentes, 2009;  
 Q8 Stern et al., 2017). Dorothy Roberts and Sujatha Jesudason  
 566 (2013), as well as France Winddance Twine (2017), have called  
 567 for movement intersectionality around race, gender, and  
 568 disability in the context of the rise of reproductive and genetic  
 569 technologies. Laura Mamo and Eli Alston-Stepnitz (2014)  
 570 adopted Sonja Mackenzie's (2013) concept of 'structural  
 571 intimacies' to bring queer reproduction and reproductive  
 572 justice necessarily under the same lens.

573 The reproductive justice movement advocates for the  
 574 most marginalized families and makes visible the most  
 575 historically violent and discriminatory family making and/  
 576 or breaking practices. Yet it is a powerful force for hope,  
 577 resistance, and other ways of doing and imagining family. In  
 578 the lives of the most vulnerable, alternative forms of family  
 579 flourish, including multi-generational and mixed biological  
 580 and non-biological families and patterns of care and support.  
 581 And in the collective struggle against poverty, racism,  
 582 sexism, ableism, and other forms of violence it promises  
 583 true progress for everyone on earth toward a less genocidal  
 584 world and more flourishing future for our families. Work such  
 Q9 as Noël Sturgeon' (2010) idea of planetary environmental  
 586 reproductive justice makes clear that the revolution that the  
 587 reproductive justice movement and women of colour have  
 588 brought about in framing reproductive liberty is life-giving,  
 589 not only for humans but also for the planet.

## 590 Stratified reproduction

591 The concept of stratified reproduction was developed by  
 592 the anthropologist Shellee Colen to describe the economic  
 593 forces and affective conditions surrounding West Indian  
 594 childcare workers in New York leaving behind their own  
 595 families to take care of wealthy New Yorkers' families so as  
 596 to provide for their own families back home (Colen, 1995).  
 597 The concept was taken up in the landmark 1995 collection,  
 598 *Conceiving the New World Order: the Global Politics of*  
 599 *Reproduction*, edited by Faye Ginsburg and Rayna Rapp, in  
 600 which Colen's, 1995 paper appeared. Ginsburg and Rapp define  
 601 stratified reproduction as the local and global circumstances  
 602 whereby 'some categories of people are empowered to nurture  
 603 and reproduce, while others are disempowered'. The concept  
 604 captures the transnational hierarchies that are the legacy of  
 605 colonial, imperial and diasporic 'non-flat world' routes along  
 606 which gendered and racialized reproductive and productive  
 Q10 labour moves (Thompson, 2011; Twine 2011, 2015; Twine and  
 608 Gardener, 2013; Franklin, 2011; Nakano Glenn, 2010; Ginsburg  
 609 and Rapp, 1995).

610 Stratified reproduction has much in common with repro-  
 611 ductive justice, with which it overlaps in drawing attention  
 612 to the persistence of historical patterns of inequality and

613 discrimination in the valuing of some but not other  
 614 reproductions. The two frameworks differ in a number of  
 615 ways, however. Stratified reproduction is primarily an analytic  
 616 and descriptive concept whereas reproductive justice names  
 617 both an activist movement and an analytic framework.  
 618 Stratified reproduction references patterns of movement by  
 619 some to undertake reproductive and care work for others that  
 620 are enabled by global patterns of inequality. This displace-  
 621 ment follows the paths of elite and non-elite labour, capital,  
 622 power, and conquest. Reproductive justice, on the other  
 623 hand, started as an organization of women of colour in the USA  
 624 and is first and foremost a movement rooted in community.  
 625 Stratified reproduction is mostly about relative resource  
 626 poverty and socioeconomic gradients that fuel working class  
 627 labour migration. Reproductive justice is more concerned with  
 628 reproductive abjection, societal discrimination, and state  
 629 institutions that use race as a technology to tear apart rather  
 630 than support some kinds of families. Despite these differ-  
 631 ences, however, work within both frameworks emphasizes the  
 632 connections between domestic hierarchies within the modern  
 633 nation state based on race, class, gender, indigeneity, and  
 634 transnational hierarchies among nations. Laura Briggs' (2017)  
 635 idea that 'all politics is reproductive politics' captures the way  
 636 these interact to saturate the political space.

637 Postcolonial, critical race and indigenous approaches  
 638 transgress the system of delimiting reproduction by nation  
 639 states, as do studies of refugee and migrant fertility  
 640 (Tremayne, 2001). Powerful nations have long managed the  
 641 reproduction of human citizens and resident non-humans in  
 642 the interests of the empire and interstate commerce  
 643 (Franklin, 2007). Nation state interests in their population  
 644 often stem from and result in what Charis Thompson (2005,  
 645 2011) has called 'selective pronatalism', where policies  
 646 that differentially restrict access to either contraception or  
 647 procreation reflect historical imaginaries fuelled by settler  
 648 colonial, colonial, or imperial ambitions and/or religious, class,  
 649 ability, and race supremacy. In the case of LGBTQ+ people, the  
 650 'homonationalism' (Puar, 2007) and 'homotransnationalism'  
 651 (Bacchetta and Haritaworn, 2015) discussed above refer to  
 652 nationalist and global patterns of support for the reproduction  
 653 of others who can either afford private reproductive services  
 654 or whose family making abjection in their own country  
 655 can be cast as representing civilizational superiority. Daphna  
 656 Birenbaum-Carmeli (2004) developed the concept of the  
 657 'muting (of) state interest', to describe the ways in which  
 658 the Israeli state hides its interest in enlarging the state's  
 659 Jewish population by cloaking its liberal but selectively  
 660 pronatalist IVF policies in the privatized language of women's  
 661 anguish and a discourse of a self-regulating sector that  
 662 manifests national technical prowess.

663 Stratified reproduction is evident in transnational surrogacy  
 664 and cross-border reproductive travel, which often exacerbates  
 665 global divides (Deomampo, 2016; Rudrappa, 2015). Trudie  
 666 Gerrits (2018) used the framework of stratified reproduction to  
 667 describe those who travel to Ghana from nearby African  
 668 nations and the reproductive return of Ghanaian citizens living  
 669 abroad to access reproductive technologies in Ghanaian  
 670 fertility clinics. She finds that familiarity and communication  
 671 is vital in these elite movements, but also that the ready  
 672 supply of appropriate and 'bioavailable' (Cohen, 2007) local  
 673 individuals working as surrogates and gamete donors draws  
 674 the diaspora home and powers Ghana's regional reproductive

675 tourism. Zeynep Gurtin (2016) has described a system that  
 676 she calls 'patriarchal pronatalism', where Turkey's combina-  
 677 tion of Islam, secularism, the confines of marriage, and  
 678 prohibitions on travelling abroad to access procedures  
 679 forbidden at home have extended the reach of the state's  
 680 patriarchal power but in a pronatalist IVF boom. Marcia Inhorn  
 681 has documented the rise of regional cross-border reproduc-  
 682 tive travel 'reprohubs', in the Gulf States to which both  
 683 'repro-VIPs' seeking treatment, and 'repro-migrant' repro-  
 684 ductive workers travel (Inhorn, 2015).

685 In some countries in the global south, transnational  
 686 stratified reproduction that reflects prior colonial or imperial  
 687 relations also reflects local and national meanings that  
 688 value reproduction differently and that at least partially  
 689 resist previous relations of power, and everywhere cultural  
 690 specificity modulates transnational dynamics (Franklin and  
 691 Inhorn, 2016; Merleau-Ponty, 2017). Aditya Bharadwaj's  
 692 (2008) concept of 'bio-crossings' evident in Indian assisted  
 693 procreation and stem-cell therapy captures this combination  
 694 of being part of the frontier of international biomedicine and  
 695 yet being distinctively Indian and resisting colonial meanings  
 696 and valuations. Andrea Whittaker's term 'culture mediums'  
 697 likewise demonstrates the ways in which different cultures  
 698 both mediate and are mediated by ART, making specific  
 699 patterns, practices and meanings recur in one place that  
 700 would be unlikely elsewhere (Whittaker, 2015). Gonzalez  
 701 Santos and colleagues documented the different reporting of  
 702 a procedure of mitochondrial donation involving personnel  
 703 from, and travel to or from, Mexico, the UK and the US, and  
 704 found that accounts in each country differed in ways that  
 705 made sense in terms of 'cultural (un)feasibility' (Gonzalez-  
 706 Santos et al., 2018). Likewise, Lucy van de Wiel found  
 707 differences in how the British and Dutch news media report  
 708 egg freezing and reproductive ageing (Van de Wiel, 2014).

709 Nations also engage in selection and deselection that  
 710 stratify reproduction. Selecting for and against certain  
 711 characteristics in children has increasingly been medicalized  
 712 and normalized in individualistic, wealthy competitive  
 713 liberal democracies where prenatal testing followed by  
 714 'therapeutic abortion' for increasingly minor anomalies has  
 715 become routine. Likewise in wealthy welfare states like  
 716 Iceland, for example, Down syndrome has been virtually  
 717 eliminated. Disability rights and justice scholar and activist  
 718 Marsha Saxton has been arguing for several decades against  
 719 the use of reproductive technologies as deselection tools  
 720 (Saxton, 1984, 2006). She notes the irony of a situation where  
 721 disabled people's progress in achieving disability rights and  
 722 biomedical progress in fighting serious diseases have collided  
 723 with the rise in reproductive screening and sorting technol-  
 724 ogies that allow parents to deselect – and increasingly select –  
 725 certain characteristics. Marit Melhuus (2012) coined the  
 726 phrase 'the sorting society', to describe Norway's reluctance,  
 727 given its history, to approve reproductive technology proce-  
 728 dures that might take the country to a new eugenic phase.  
 729 Q12 Ayo Wahlberg's and Tine Gammeltoft's (2018) edited book,  
 730 *Selective Reproduction in the 21st Century*, however, dem-  
 731 onstrates the rise globally of biomedical reproductive proce-  
 732 dures that are normalizing biomedical deselection.

733 Critical race, queer of colour, and disability justice scholars  
 734 have also intervened in drawing attention to the stratified  
 735 effects upon reproduction and family security of transnational  
 736 and regional hierarchies of toxic exposure (Chen, 2012;

Lamoreux, 2016; Agard-Jones, 2013; Murphy, 2017; Sturgeon, 737  
 2010). This work emphasizes the fundamental importance of Q13  
 environmental injustice to reproductive justice. Toxic expo- 739  
 sure produces disability that is then reproductively discrimi- 740  
 nated against, and frequently causes infertility, producing 741  
 the need for ART and forcing those disproportionately exposed 742  
 to keep falling under the genocidal logic of disability anti- 743  
 natalisms (Heffernan, 2017; Kafer, 2013). This work captures 744  
 the importance of living in good relation with other species 745  
 and with earth and planetary systems for the sake of the long- 746  
 term sustainability of all reproductions. 747

748 Stratified reproduction has always also referred to the  
 749 affective ways in which displaced and undervalued reproduc-  
 750 tion and family is made bearable and the inequality masked.  
 751 The literature on ART captures some of the psychological  
 752 aspects that lead to and stem from stratified reproduction.  
 753 Mwenza Blell and colleagues refer to the changing family  
 754 aesthetics of being caught between Pakistani and UK meanings  
 755 of family and reproduction living in communities in the  
 756 North of England while undergoing infertility treatment  
 757 (Hampshire et al., 2012). Blell (2018) shows how belonging  
 758 to a subordinated masculinity such as British Pakistani  
 759 may make patients particularly vulnerable during infertility  
 760 treatment. The concept of 'obligatory effort,' was coined to  
 761 describe the way that normative social pressure to reproduce  
 762 to show one's fitness can get turned into a personal obligation  
 763 to try everything even when trying is not accompanied by a  
 764 neoliberal understanding of choice or control (Teman et al.,  
 765 2016). Sebastian Mohr (2014) found that it is not exactly  
 766 accurate to speak of motivation when explaining why some  
 767 Danish men become sperm donors; rather, their answers  
 768 speak to patterns of stratified reproduction that go far  
 769 beyond individual motivation even while being carried out  
 770 through the will and action of individuals. Thompson's (2005)  
 771 concepts of 'strategic naturalization' and 'anticipatory  
 772 socionaturalisation', and Berkowitz' (2007) concept of 'pro-  
 773 creative consciousness' both name active strategies by the  
 774 infertile or assumed non-reproductive to counter stigma  
 775 and bring themselves into reproductivity. Marcin Smietana  
 776 describes the 'affective de-commodifying and economic  
 777 de-kinning' efforts that gay men use to have good relations  
 778 during commercial surrogacy, and Ingvill Stuvøy explores  
 779 the metaphors that re-domesticate reproduction and family  
 780 making that have become commodified during transnational  
 781 surrogacy (Smietana, 2017; Stuvøy, 2018).

782 In the current moment, ART is becoming part of platform  
 783 capitalism and what Sarah Franklin has called the 'transbiology'  
 784 era is emerging (Franklin, 2006). Developments in the  
 785 platforming of reproductive technologies risk masking and  
 786 inuring us, as distributed technological systems are inclined to  
 787 do, to the inequalities that sustain stratified reproduction.  
 788 Paying renewed attention now to patterns of stratified  
 789 reproduction will remind those of us involved in activism, policy  
 790 and scholarship for better reproductive futures to work to  
 791 reduce the family violence of displaced care and reproductive  
 792 labour migration.

## 793 The tensions

794 We began with two concerns: self-identifying as LGBTQ+  
 795 should not place exceptional demands or restrictions upon



one's access to reproductive care and services, any more than one's class, race, gender, nation, disability, religion, infertility, or relationship status should. The literatures we have highlighted draw attention to how the so-called Euro-American kinship structures and nuclear heterosexual families are privileged over other family forms with respect to the structure of and access to reproductive services in many parts of the world. Second, these literatures remind us that the fertility industry cannot be understood without paying careful attention to the racial ideologies, heteronormativity, gender logics, and European neo-colonial practices that continue to structure the experiences of fertility and childbirth for women and men of diverse backgrounds. A primary goal of the *Making Families* conference and this symposium issue is to build upon these literatures while also moving beyond the binary mode of seeing ART as increasing the reproductive choice of LGBTQ+ intended parents while compromising the health of reproductive labourers and those unable to access the technologies for reasons of economic, national, racial and other kinds of stratification. To achieve our goal, we brought the subfields of queer reproductions, reproductive justice, and stratified reproduction into critical dialogue around the practices and use of ART, bringing attention to the tensions between these subfields.

As documented in the previous sections, each of these subfields highlights particular constituents and concerns and each works against specific patterns of discrimination in relation to reproductive care and services. If one focuses on access to parenthood for those who cannot reproduce biologically any other way, or if one focuses on reproductive labourers, or if one focuses on those who are chronically medically under-served and over-surveilled, different barriers to making families and different critiques of ART tend to get foregrounded. A focus on reproducers using ART – LGBTQ+, single, infertile – reveals a continuing struggle to access affordable treatment and to overcome gender- and sexuality-based stigma and discrimination that makes women feel their gender identity requires marriage and children, while LGBTQ+ individuals must battle the opposite.

A focus on reproductive labourers highlights the systemic conditions that turn surrogacy and gamete donation into commercial work or services that are sought or endured. These conditions include family, friendship, and compassion-based altruism, which is not always without economic and other kinds of reward, but which can also be exploitative. All too often, surrogacy fulfils an economic need to provide resources to enable families to secure access to other resources such as education or housing. Surrogacy provides one avenue to manage economic insecurity, and this pattern stretches from low-income to middle-income surrogates. Surrogacy is often undertaken because it is a form of gendered work that facilitates a woman's ability to care for her own children at home. Women with partners in the military or migrant labour such that the woman's reproductive capacity is taken as evidence of patriarchal family, may perceive surrogacy as a way to earn money while being single parents to their own children.

For sperm and egg donors, matching, health, and eugenic logics make some gametes desirable and/or saleable and thus provide a way to support migration or fund travel and overseas work experience and education. Temporary

mismatches between one's class and presumed reproductive fitness on the one hand, and one's economic situation on the other, such as young elite USA university students facing student debt, are also exploited by recruiters of donor gametes. Each of these patterns brings up issues – from recruitment through the future existence of children who may try to contact surrogates and genetic parents – that raise concerns with activists. In general, the level of social, political, and economic disenfranchisement of the reproductive labourer is taken to be an indicator of the level of exploitation involved, and this has underwritten bans by several countries in the Global South on international surrogacy.

Focusing on the medically underserved and over-surveilled puts the spotlight on those for whom infertility may be common, and among whom many may also be LGBTQ+, but for whom having and keeping one's own children, and being able to access any kind of reproductive service is not guaranteed and so is the most urgent matter. In many countries, those in the most precarious positions are also the most likely to be incarcerated, the least likely to have educational opportunity and upward mobility, and the most likely to have their children removed by the state. In conflict zones, during forced and economic migration, in prison, and so-called 'failed states', children are often separated from their natal families. The legacies of colonialism, slavery, and civilizational conflict sedimented into property regimes and laws mean that correlations between race, ethnicity, religion, and poverty co-exist intergenerationally in many places. The most important issues around reproductive services become battling health and other enduring inequalities and averting death and kinship theft. One's identification as fertile or not or LGBTQ+ or not is less important than being subject to systematic disenfranchisement, de-kinning, and premature death.

The reality of access to reproductive services, especially for gay men, exaggerates the difference in these positions. With commercial surrogacy being available only in some states in the USA for gay men, gay surrogacy by necessity operates in a realm of affluence, privacy, cross-border mobility, and consumer choice that seems to separate it from the concerns of advocates of domestic and transnational reproductive justice. It is thus not surprising that increasing the reproductive choice of LGBTQ+ intended parents has come to seem to be at the expense of reproductive labourers and to be mute as regards those unable to access the technologies for reasons of economic, national, racial and other kinds of stratification. In fact, though, the majority of infertile and/or LGBTQ+ individuals are not privileged, and many are not only economically insecure themselves but much more vulnerable because of their LGBTQ+ and/or infertile status. Even among those gay men who do access commercial surrogacy, an assumption of wealth and privilege masks the ways in which many far-from-affluent would-be parents, including gay fathers, mortgage other aspects of their lives and lean on family and friends to make ART affordable. This apparent binary also makes invisible the ways in which LGBTQ+ reproduction and family making, even when relatively elite, is still stigmatized and subject to violence and denial. And it masks the common cause, demonstrated in some of the papers in this symposium issue, that some reproductive labourers and gay fathers make. Overall, advocates for LGBTQ+ family making

920 have every reason to make common cause with those who  
921 focus on the wellbeing of reproductive labourers and the  
922 underserved.

923 There is an urgent need to counter patterns that  
924 reproduce normative family ideals. It our hope that this  
925 symposium issue will produce a greater awareness of the  
926 different kinds of family making and/or breaking and  
927 encourage cross-movement advocacy.

## 928 The contributions

929 In this section, we summarize the articles included in this  
930 symposium issue, and we discuss (i) how they draw on  
931 and contribute to scholarship on transnational surrogacy,  
932 stratified reproduction, queer reproduction, and reproduc-  
933 tive justice, so as in turn to help understand and shape ART  
934 today; and (ii) how the articles in this issue help work  
935 through the tensions among transnational surrogacy, queer  
936 kinship and reproductive justice, so as to help forge  
937 intellectual and political solidarities with which to attend  
938 to the life, death and migratory stakes of surrogacy and  
939 reproductive technologies today. Following the Editorial and  
940 this Introduction, the issue includes three commentaries in a  
941 section headed 'Queering Kinship 2.0' and eleven original  
942 research articles divided into five thematic sections:  
943 'Autonomy and Justice', 'Circulations', 'Framings', 'Markets'  
944 and 'Belonging'.

## 945 Queering Kinship 2.0

946 'Queering Kinship 2.0' presents the contributions from three  
947 sociologists renowned for their research and publications  
948 on LGBTQ+ families, who were all present at the *Making*  
949 *Families* workshop: Judith Stacey, Joshua Gamson and  
950 Laura Mamo. This opening section provides a transcribed  
951 and lightly edited version of the commentary that Judith  
952 Stacey delivered at the end of the symposium day, 'Queer  
953 reproductive justice?' (Stacey, 2018, this issue). The com-  
954 mentary revisits Stacey's own role in feminist and queer  
955 studies and politics in the USA in the early 1970s and asks  
956 what has been lost and gained in the interim. As early  
957 critiques of mainstream family institutions gradually turned  
958 into a mainstreaming pro-family shift in feminist and gay  
959 narratives, Stacey found herself in an ambivalent position of  
960 defending gay and lesbian families in the gay marriage  
961 campaign, despite identifying as a feminist and queer  
962 sociologist who had previously criticized the very institutions  
963 of marriage and family. Stacey further notes that despite  
964 some early engagements between queer and reproductive  
965 justice scholars and activists, conversations between the  
966 current celebratory queer family discourse (which now  
967 includes surrogacy) and reproductive justice advocates  
968 have become scarce. She suggests that an exploration of  
969 the relationships between gay parents and reproductive  
970 labourers who help them could offer avenues for conversa-  
971 tions between queer kinship and reproductive justice, and  
972 for building new solidarities.

973 Joshua Gamson, in his commentary 'Kindred spirits?'  
974 (Gamson, 2018, this issue), sees hope in relationships,  
975 conversations and solidarities between different partici-  
976 pants of reproductive arrangements as a way towards family

justice. He points to an ethical surrogacy framework elabo- 977  
rated jointly by gay parents and women who help them as 978  
surrogates and donors, and he calls for open adoption and 979  
ongoing relationships between adoptive parents and birth 980  
families (also see [Marre and Briggs, 2009](#)). Building solidarities 981  
of this kind, Gamson argues, may be a way out of inequities 982  
that continue to shape family making. In his account, 983  
equitable access to and support for self-determination is the 984  
shared goal through which family justice can be sought. 985

In the final commentary, 'Queering reproduction in 986  
transnational bioeconomies' (Mamo, 2018, this issue), Laura 987  
Mamo sets out a project of transnational queer reproductive 988  
justice. For Mamo, queer reproductive justice involves 989  
accountability on the part of everyone who participates in 990  
ART toward intended parents and reproductive labourers 991  
alike. To be accountable, she argues, is to understand the 992  
inequities in the global bioeconomy of assisted reproduction. 993  
This does not necessarily mean opting out of ART but it does 994  
mean finding ways of making the increasingly neoliberal 995  
logics of reproduction visible and counteracting them with an 996  
ethic of care and with policies that support non-normative 997  
kinship configurations and all their participants. 998

## Autonomy and Justice

In the section on 'Autonomy and Justice', established scholars 1000  
of reproductive justice and ART discuss the implications of 1001  
reproductive justice for queer family formation, focusing on 1002  
the different conditions needed for autonomy depending on 1003  
one's economic and other kinds of structural positioning. The 1004  
section includes Camisha Russell's article, 'Rights-holders or 1005  
refugees? Do gay men need reproductive justice?' (Russell, 1006  
2018, this issue). Russell explores gay surrogacy's relationship 1007  
to reproductive rights and reproductive justice. Russell 1008  
reminds readers that the reproductive justice movement 1009  
emphasizes the inadequacy of the language of reproductive 1010  
choice for many women of colour in the USA, given that racial 1011  
and economic discrimination greatly affects their ability to 1012  
decide freely whether or not to have children and to keep 1013  
them and raise them in safe and healthy environments. As 1014  
Russell argues, however, this is not necessarily the case for 1015  
those gay men who are wealthy and mobile enough to pursue 1016  
surrogacy. Therefore, she argues that despite shared histor- 1017  
ical experiences of discrimination and stigmatization in 1018  
relation to reproduction, the situation for many women of 1019  
colour in the USA and that of gay men pursuing surrogacy is not 1020  
parallel, and the latter is not strictly a matter of reproductive 1021  
justice. In addition, the language of justice or of any duty 1022  
on society's part would imply a problematic 'duty' on the part 1023  
of women to serve as egg donors or surrogates. Barriers to 1024  
adoption or to gay parenthood based on a belief in gay men's 1025  
unfitness as parents could be perceived as reproductive 1026  
injustice, as could the situation facing economically precar- 1027  
ious gay would-be fathers who cannot afford surrogacy, but 1028  
Russell argues that free-market rights rather than reproduc- 1029  
tive justice are at stake in gay surrogacy itself. Russell 1030  
proposes expanding the concept of procreative liberty to 1031  
fight together for marginalized family forms and reproductive 1032  
justice. 1033

Zakiya Luna's article 'Reproductive justice and queering 1034  
family' (Luna, 2018, this issue) centres the possibilities of 1035

1036 coalitions between families that are in some way disruptive  
 1037 and therefore queer in the sense of being non-normative,  
 1038 such as single-mother families, queer-parent families,  
 1039 families of colour, and economically disadvantaged families.  
 1040 Through a media analysis, Luna juxtaposes stories of assisted  
 1041 reproduction used or refused by woman-of-colour celebrities  
 1042 with stories about infertility in blogs written by economi-  
 1043 cally disadvantaged women of colour. Of the two wealthy  
 1044 celebrity narratives she examines, one features a choice  
 1045 to use ART and the other actively refuses it, referring to  
 1046 the importance of being able to love and live happily in  
 1047 homes that do not contain one's own children. Both challenge  
 1048 norms of appropriate family, one by speaking openly  
 1049 about the range of people who she included in the idea of  
 1050 family and the other by speaking openly about resisting the  
 1051 imperatives to pursue technology just because a person can.  
 1052 Luna argues, however, that both were speaking from the  
 1053 relatively safe position of socially-sanctioned heterosexual  
 1054 marriage and financial independence of celebrity. She  
 1055 reminds us that LGBTQ+, unmarried people, and poor people  
 1056 remain under social surveillance for their reproduction and  
 1057 their choices regarding marriage, and that it is important to  
 1058 remember what one economically disadvantaged blogger  
 1059 wrote, that the stigma around non-traditional families does  
 1060 not go away with access to ART. Luna suggests forming  
 1061 coalitions between different kinds of disruptive families  
 1062 as a way forward to break down the multiple economic,  
 1063 regulatory, and discriminatory barriers to thriving as different  
 1064 kinds of families.

1065 Jenny Gunnarsson Payne's article, 'Autonomy in altruistic  
 1066 surrogacy, conflicting kinship grammars, and intentional  
 1067 **Q19** multileneal kinship', (Gunnarsson Payne, 2018, this issue)  
 1068 also highlights the crucial importance of dialogue and  
 1069 collaboration between gay men and women who undertake  
 1070 surrogacy, arguing for the need to share custody to protect  
 1071 autonomy where necessary. She analyses two reports commis-  
 1072 sioned by the Swedish government to evaluate the possibility  
 1073 of legalizing altruistic surrogacy in Sweden. Although one  
 1074 report came out in favour of surrogacy and the other against  
 1075 it, both reports used the same argument of women's bodily  
 1076 autonomy and self-determination. Gunnarsson Payne proposes  
 1077 that any queer and feminist version of surrogacy should  
 1078 include the surrogate mother's right to change her mind  
 1079 alongside the intended parents' rights to have children. To  
 1080 avert the nuclear family-based custody disputes that this  
 1081 could potentially engender, Gunnarsson Payne suggests that  
 1082 surrogacy contracts should always include the possibility of  
 1083 queer kinship, with custody shared between the surrogate  
 1084 mother and the commissioning parents, should the surrogate  
 1085 choose it at any point of the process. She proposes a  
 1086 queerfeminist legalization of surrogacy where the linear  
 1087 nuclear conflict between the kinship grammar of gestation  
 1088 and the kinship grammar of parental intent is solved by  
 1089 acknowledging multileneal parental kinship constellations.

## 1090 Circulations

1091 The section on 'Circulations' foregrounds understanding the  
 1092 ways in which race and migration are produced within  
 1093 the structural and institutional materialities of discrimina-  
 1094 tion and inequality so that race and migration themselves

become technologies of family making and breaking. In her 1095  
 article, 'Making mothers in jail: Carceral reproduction of 1096  
 normative motherhood', Carolyn Sufrin (Sufrin, 2018, this 1097  
 issue) analyzes the lived experiences of reproductive (in) 1098  
 justice of incarcerated women. The mass incarceration of 1099  
 people of colour in the USA is a reproductive technology 1100  
 itself, she argues. Birthing mothers and their children born 1101  
 in prison are de-kinned in various ways, turning incarcerated 1102  
 women into unconsenting gestational carriers for the state, 1103  
 which both takes over their children and yet does not 1104  
 acknowledge or support their families. The rarity of a case 1105  
 of an inmate undergoing IVF in jail stands in contrast to the 1106  
 ways in which incarcerated women are not normally 1107  
 encouraged to reproduce. Sufrin argues instead that what is 1108  
 reproduced within the prison through its official courses for 1109  
 inmates are assumptions of heteronormative reproduction, 1110  
 and white middle-class family values and normative mother- 1111  
 hood. Given that these norms do not take into account the 1112  
 structural reality and options shaping these women's lives 1113  
 outside of the jail, they further serve to undermine family 1114  
 beyond prison. Sufrin's ethnography is an acute reminder of 1115  
 mass incarceration as reproductive injustice and makes 1116  
 explicit the need for rights to keep and raise one's children 1117  
 in healthy and safe environments in addition to rights to have 1118  
 or not have children. 1119

1120 Michal Nahman's article, 'Migrant Extractability: Centring  
 1121 the voices of egg providers in cross-border reproduction',  
 (Nahman, 2018, this issue) focuses on egg donors or providers, 1122  
 who she conceptualizes as being at the beginning of a value 1123  
 chain of reproduction. Spain performs about 50% of egg 1124  
 donations in Europe, out of which 25% are carried out by 1125  
 migrant women, and Nahman's paper is based on ethnographic 1126  
 interviews with migrant egg providers in Spain. Nahman 1127  
 argues that it is crucial to take into account the perspectives 1128  
 of providers of eggs in discussions on surrogacy. Egg providers 1129  
 are often ignored in debates on justice in surrogacy because of 1130  
 a focus on the physicality and long-term nature of the work 1131  
 of surrogates, because of donor anonymity procedures, and 1132  
 because donors are often assumed to be higher status than 1133  
 surrogates – eggs tend to be selected for embodying the 1134  
 eugenic markers of race and class privilege. Nahman shows, 1135  
 however, that in Spanish egg donation three intersecting 1136  
 inequalities act upon egg providers to make them extractable 1137  
 and thus to become both workers and commodities: their 1138  
 migrant status, their precarious working contracts, and what 1139  
 Nahman calls their postcolonial white race. The interviewed 1140  
 egg providers are classified as white for the purposes of ART, 1141  
 making their eggs suitable for whitening projects of repro- 1142  
 ductive choice, but they come from Eastern and post- 1143  
 communist countries at the margins of Europe. The global 1144  
 circulation of eggs sheds light on the ways race and migration 1145  
 continue to shape one another and do so through stratifying 1146  
 reproduction and making and breaking families. 1147

## 1148 Framings

1149 In the section on 'Framings', surrogacy is situated within  
 broader narrative and material processes. In her article, 'Land, 1150  
 Women, and Techno-Pastoralism in Southern Karnataka, 1151  
 India', Sharmila Rudrappa (Rudrappa, 2018, this issue) draws 1152  
 parallels between the treatment of working-class women's 1153



bodies in Indian surrogacy and the treatment of land in the agriculture of the Indian state of Karnataka. Rudrappa argues that Indian women in surrogacy dormitories become not-mothers and not-workers through the absolute alienation of their wombs rather than the alienation of their labour. Rudrappa documents a necroeconomy dating back to the 1875–76 famine, the subsequent construction of a dam, birth-control clinics, population-control programmes and the agricultural interventions of the Green Revolution, up to today's regenerative medicine and stem cell manufacturing in which both agricultural and poor women's bodily labour have long been intertwined as raw materials for bio-capital development. Rudrappa argues for changing the necropolitical patterns according to which poor women's body parts and bodily processes, and the land, are turned into pure exploitable natural resources. Surrogate mothers and the land both need to be acknowledged as, and granted the protections of, labour and agency unto themselves to break this framing.

Ingvill Stuvøy in her article, 'Troublesome reproduction: Surrogacy under scrutiny', (Stuvøy, 2018, this issue) draws out the multiple scholarly framings within which surrogacy has been situated. Stuvøy finds that scholars' framings depend upon whom of the different people taking part in surrogacy they focus. When the focus is on surrogacy as a way of becoming parents, scholars tend to problematize who can afford it, because surrogacy is typically only available for the relatively wealthy, as a matter of consumer choice. Scholars who focus on commercial surrogacy as a way to have babies tend to trouble the commodification of women's bodies and of babies represented by their incorporation into the market. Scholars who centre those who provide reproductive assistance trouble the exploitation of the women gestating and birthing the children. Stuvøy suggests bringing these frames together to find ways to promote and protect the rights and well-being of reproductive assisters, those seeking help making families, and each of their families and children simultaneously. She proposes moving away from understanding surrogacy as a substitution or a transaction within a commissioning couple's reproduction, and instead understanding it as a relational being-together that makes visible the fact that reproduction is always a collaborative and relational endeavour that neo-liberal logics misrepresent.

Although Kim TallBear's paper from the workshop, 'Looking for love and relations in many languages', is not included in this symposium issue due to time pressure, she consented to including a description of it in this introduction. Her paper addressed the critical and solo polyamory she practices as a form of decolonizing relations. She explained that she has come to understand the idea of 'Indigenizing' sexuality as paradoxical and not her project. Rather, TallBear argued that critical nonmonogamy has taught her more fluidity between different categories of relationships, i.e. between 'friend' and 'lover', and is a step toward disaggregating sexuality and sex back into good relations. Via this form of polyamory, she has begun to be able to de-fetishize sex, making it one important form of relating but not a necessarily privileged form of relating. This reframing of sexuality away from settler colonial, patriarchal, property-based forms of family making and breaking is a powerful way to begin anew to form good relations in and around reproduction.

## Markets

1216

In the section on 'Markets', the focus shifts towards the perspectives of gay men who seek surrogacy through the commercial surrogacy market in the USA, which is currently their only stable surrogacy market. Heather Jacobson in her article, 'The recruitment of gay men as surrogacy clients in the infertility industry in the USA', (Jacobson, 2018, Q23 this issue) combines a quantitative and qualitative analysis of infertility clinic and surrogacy agency websites in the USA so as to gauge whether the surrogacy industry there is encouraging or discouraging gay men as surrogacy consumers. The relevance of this analysis is underscored by other research that shows how websites are a primary source of information for gay men seeking parenthood. Not surprisingly, she finds in her analysis of 547 websites that clinics and agencies that explicitly address gay men are concentrated in the states and regions where commercial surrogacy for gay men is not illegal or politically contested. She finds most of the sites rely on heterosexist assumptions and do not directly advertise to men in general, and especially not to gay men. Jacobson suggests that limited online information and the geographic clustering of surrogacy agencies and infertility clinics, in addition to the cost of surrogacy, further limits the market to intended gay fathers of higher socio-economic status who can access information and who live in or can travel to information- and surrogacy-rich areas. The unintended consequences of this niche market may be undermining solidarity between wealthier and less affluent gay men, as well as discouraging gay men's procreative consciousness in general.

Marcin Smietana's qualitative research study, 'Procreative consciousness in a global market? Gay men's paths to surrogacy in the USA,' (Smietana, 2018, this issue) documents the emergence of gay men's procreative consciousness and their reproductive decision-making in order to pursue transnational or domestic surrogacy in the USA. Smietana finds that there are several phases through which the awareness of being reproductive subjects emerges among his interviewees, including several barriers that need to be surmounted. Despite recent accounts of supposed 'gayby booms', gay men do not typically experience the same societal pressure to reproduce that women and straight men often refer to as adding to the burden of infertility. Rather, they have to fight against the opposite in developing a sense of their own procreative consciousness as potential parents. The possibility of being a genetic parent is also a major hurdle, given the current need to work with surrogates and egg donors to bring about genetic parenthood for gay men (recent scientific breakthroughs involving same-sex mammalian sexual reproduction are still far from the human clinic). Smietana focuses in particular on how his interviewees come to think of themselves as potential biological parents who then have no choice but to become part of a global surrogacy market about which they might be distinctly ambivalent. He finds a high level of consciousness among these gay men not only of their own efforts to claim reproductive rights but also of the rights and well-being of those who help them as surrogates and donors. Similarly, he finds that donors and surrogates often find extra meaning in helping gay men who have no other access to biological parenthood and who are frequently discriminated against in adoption. The global market and the recognition of stratified

1277 reproductive labour is not antithetical to, but rather an  
1278 integral part of how this mutual concern and consciousness is  
1279 articulated by all parties. Smietana argues that, despite the  
1280 challenges of the market, there is much to be learned from  
1281 how gay men, surrogates and egg donors navigate these  
1282 relations that is of relevance to efforts to take into account  
1283 the rights of and justice for all parties concerned.

## 1284 Belonging

1285 The last section, 'Belonging', foregrounds gay men's belong-  
1286 ing in families and the nation. Damien Riggs' article, 'Making  
1287 matter matter: Meanings accorded to genetic material  
1288 Q25 among Australian gay men', (Riggs, 2018, this issue), draws  
1289 on his previous work with Australian gay men to explore  
1290 meanings accorded to genetic relatedness. Riggs identifies  
1291 four ways in which Australian gay men strategically natural-  
1292 ize genetic relatedness: claiming kinship as sperm donors,  
1293 negotiating being the 'bio-dad' or the 'non-bio-dad' in gay  
1294 couples in surrogacy arrangements, minimizing kinship with  
1295 genetically related women who act as egg donors, and  
1296 controlling the flow of information to children about their  
1297 genetic relations. Overall, Riggs finds Australian gay men  
1298 imbue genetic matter with kinship in ways that align with  
1299 their family-building objectives and with state requirements  
1300 for reproductive citizenship. Riggs argues that the fight  
1301 for gay men's state-sanctioned biological parenthood risks  
1302 turning the woman working with gay fathers into mere  
1303 service providers. Riggs argues for the need to recentre all  
1304 parties in genetic and non-genetic relatedness, without  
1305 necessarily arguing that all parties are kin. Kinship always  
1306 involves the strategic and active making and unmaking of  
1307 relatedness. Matter matters in conferring kinship, but not in  
1308 a simple essentialist way. Recognizing the contributions of  
1309 surrogates and egg donors to gay father reproduction need  
1310 not confer kinship or threaten the very legitimacy of their  
1311 family formations.

1312 Jérôme Courduriès' article, 'At the nation's doorstep: The  
1313 Q26 fate of children in France born via surrogacy', (Courduriès,  
1314 2018, this issue) examines the limits of reproductive  
1315 citizenship in France. Drawing on his ethnographic research  
1316 with French gay fathers through transnational surrogacy,  
1317 and legal and archival analysis, Courduriès explores the  
1318 tangible legal consequences of the French state's rejection  
1319 of surrogacy and of children born to French nationals  
1320 through this method abroad. Some surrogacy-born children  
1321 live in France with American or Canadian passports granted  
1322 in those countries through *jus soli*, while those born in  
1323 Russia or India remain stateless and require a special  
1324 consular permit. Courduriès' interviewees – both gay and  
1325 heterosexual – managed to live successfully with their  
1326 foreign-born children in France, but because they couldn't  
1327 include their children in the French civil register or obtain  
1328 French nationality for them, many administrative tasks  
1329 were much more burdensome. Most importantly, the refusal  
1330 to admit surrogacy-born children to the French national  
1331 community despite intentional and genetic parenthood,  
1332 means that inheritance and other kinship rights are not  
1333 recognized. Courduriès documents these families' struggles  
1334 for legal and social recognition, including arguing for the  
1335 need to queer kinship against Republic-sanctioned civil norms.

Paradoxically, surrogacy families also advocate for the norma- 1336  
tive nuclear ideal of genetically related family that excludes 1337  
and stigmatizes so many, because it would grant citizenship 1338  
to foreign-born surrogacy children with at least one French- 1339  
national parent. 1340

## Conclusions 1341

In this symposium issue, we have argued that the use of 1342  
transnational surrogacy and related ART requires an analyt- 1343  
ical approach that draws upon the scholarship in the fields 1344  
of queer reproductions, stratified reproduction, and repro- 1345  
ductive justice (see Table 1). This approach stems from a 1346  
fundamental orientation in these three fields that pays close 1347  
attention to the ways in which some families are broken up 1348  
or forbidden from forming at all because of the privileging of 1349  
some families and not others. This approach demands that 1350  
we move towards the inclusion of non-normative family 1351  
forms and their flourishing. It also highlights the significance 1352  
of the making and breaking of families, which is central to 1353  
contemporary socio-political dynamics that reproduce (or 1354  
sustain) hierarchies of race, class, nation, (hetero)sexuality, 1355  
and disability. It requires scholars, public policy makers, 1356  
healthcare providers and others to reimagine a collective 1357  
procreative consciousness where LGBTQ+, those who work 1358  
as assistive reproducers, and other non-normative repro- 1359  
ducers (the infertile, the poor, the racially and religiously 1360  
minoritized, the precarious migrant, those with disabilities, 1361  
those not in nuclear families, the incarcerated) have 1362  
access to reproductive justice and other rights that work 1363  
in the local, national, and transnational contexts of their 1364  
own identities and lives. And it also calls for an awareness 1365  
of the environmental and inter-species embeddedness of 1366  
reproduction without which inequality, toxic exposure, and 1367  
biodiversity and climate crisis will likely exacerbate the very 1368  
hierarchies that support some families and not others. 1369

This introduction and the papers provide several argu- 1370  
ments and findings that offer new concepts and alternatives 1371  
that enable us to rethink, reframe and develop new policies 1372  
around family making. Prison, especially in the USA, and 1373  
non-elite migration emerged as built on race as a technology 1374  
and on family breaking and separation. Those working 1375  
as surrogates or egg donors displayed a wide range of 1376  
positionalities, ranging from collaboration for different but 1377  
compatible ends with shared values about the process, 1378  
to instrumentalization for migration or marginal income, to 1379  
exploitation depending on the national and transnational 1380  
context and conditions of autonomy and precarity. Wealth, 1381  
celebrity, and other forms of privilege continue to link 1382  
reproductive technologies, including surrogacy, to class 1383  
privilege and consumer choice. Thus, class status produces 1384  
completely different meanings and experiences of ART. 1385  
Reproductive loss and refusal continue to feature strongly in 1386  
LGBTQ+ and heterosexual interactions with ART in ways that 1387  
mirror or push against gender, sexual, and family norms. 1388  
Making families that include children begins with adoption, 1389  
conception, or co-parenting but does not end there. It 1390  
continues to be the case that the risks of not being able to 1391  
keep and raise children up to and after birth free from 1392  
economic and state violence and discrimination are extremely 1393  
unevenly distributed. 1394

**Table 1** A summary of the concerns that each of the subfields of reproductive justice, queer reproductions, and stratified reproduction bring to the fore and the perspectives engendered by thinking about them together. It should be read first diagonally, top left to bottom right (in bold), and then at the intersections.

|                                | Reproductive Justice   | Stratified Reproduction   | Queer Reproductions   |
|--------------------------------|--|---|---|
| <b>Policy/Framing</b>          |  |   |   |
| <b>Reproductive Justice</b>    | <b>Access to life-saving care and services, and the right to keep and raise one's children free from poverty and state violence needed</b>                   | Internal divisions within society interact with the global divisions driving cross-border reproductive care and services  | LGBTQ+ persons' care and services must include rights for donors and surrogates alongside LGBTQ+ rights                               |
| <b>Stratified Reproduction</b> | Reproductive services and rights needed for those on low incomes, people with disabilities, by region, race, ethnicity, religion, within and between nations | <b>No group should be more likely to provide reproductive care and services for others (due, for example, to poverty or migration) than to receive the same care and services</b> | LGBTQ+ cross-border reproducers have surrogates, donors, and children who cross borders who need better protection                    |
| <b>Queer Reproductions</b>     | Low income and precarious LGBTQ+ persons must not be excluded from LGBTQ+ reproductive care and services   | LGBTQ+ need for reproductive care and services drives border crossing for them and for others doing reproductive work with them   | <b>Identifying as LGBTQ+ should not place exceptional demands or restrictions upon one's access to reproductive care and services</b> |

In the papers, LGBTQ+ reproducers find themselves working in multiple registers, for their own reproductive consciousness and for good ethical commercial and/or interpersonal relationship with reproductive assisters. The only stable destination for gay fathers to access surrogacy has become commercial surrogacy in California, the largest state in the USA. This is possible because in the USA where regulations apply primarily to publicly funded activities, the private sector ironically protects reproductive privacy. This means that many gay would-be fathers who lack the economic resources cannot access surrogacy and biological parenthood. Those who can access surrogacy then find themselves participating in a system that undermines solidarity and normalizes elite gay parenthood through consumer culture rather than system change. Gay would-be fathers working with surrogates thus often find themselves, in the face of critique and their own political beliefs, performing ethical work to dissociate their desire for family from their solidarity with LGBTQ+ community while simultaneously continuing to battle homophobia in society at large. Access to LGBTQ+ family making remains a huge problem worldwide, and in many jurisdictions gay fathers continue to fight for their own and their children's basic citizenship rights and recognition.

Many of the contributors to this symposium issue identified positive aspects and/or argued for strategies to make things better. For example, the struggle for gay fathers to achieve family and state legitimacy through biological parenthood often requires downplaying the contribution of surrogates and egg donors to family making, but the papers show that other kinds of connection and care also occur that are hopeful. In commercial surrogacy, for it to go well, good pay and working conditions require surrogates, donors, and the commissioning parent(s)-to-be interacting in ways that are based on gratitude and respect from the would-be parents for the reproductive assisters, and that help separate the intended parents from those doing an important paid job. In practice, when things do go well, genuine connections are made. Interactions also often include things that make these particular corporeal jobs meaningful, such as agreeing to share positive information about the donor and surrogate with the children, keeping in contact in the future, and showing monetary and affective support of the surrogate's and donor's own family making and -keeping projects.

Furthermore, surrogates and donors working with gay men often explicitly value collaborating in the work of making gay men's reproduction possible in a homophobic society. Altruistic surrogacy is usually undertaken in welfare states that support gender and sexual equity, although many of these same states use family formation differentially in immigration according to racializing logics and religious affiliation. Where sexual orientation and gender identity does not preclude citizenship, and thus where resembling the patriarchal nuclear family is not a requirement of state recognition, LGBTQ+ families can be at the forefront of moving beyond the restrictions of nuclear family. In place of cognatic linear descent models of kinship, wider networks of carers and more kinds of parents can perhaps be recognized, more accurately reflecting the complex webs of care that families require.

Reproductive, family, and planetary loss haunts these pages but there is also qualified hope. Several of the papers



1457 argued for advocates for justice for LGBTQ+ and other non-  
 1458 normative families to come together to fight collectively for  
 1459 the rights of non-normative families. Experiences of family  
 1460 breaking and non-recognition are shared across different  
 1461 groups, even though the particular kinds of de-kinning and  
 1462 the level and kind of exclusion, violence, discrimination and  
 1463 stigma varies. There is hope in the idea of a shared struggle  
 1464 to combat the hierarchies, laws and norms that continue  
 1465 to render many forms of family illegible and unprotected.  
 1466 Joining forces with reproductive justice activists to push  
 1467 for policies that explicitly address access to proceptive  
 1468 and contraceptive technologies and to family thriving,  
 1469 recognition, safety, and support over the long haul would  
 1470 strengthen movement-specific efforts to fight for justice.  
 1471 Likewise, this symposium issue suggests the importance of  
 1472 working with groups who advocate prison abolition or reform,  
 1473 migration reform, LGBTQ+ justice, and disability justice.

1474 This symposium issue and this introduction also suggest  
 1475 there is hope in working together to protect other species  
 1476 and the environment for their own sakes but also to halt  
 1477 climate and toxic exposure injustice and growing inequality.  
 1478 This suggests being in solidarity with those who work to  
 1479 change how humans live and who advocate non-genocidal,  
 1480 anti-racist human population reduction based on properly  
 1481 valuing non-, differently, or less biologically reproductive  
 1482 human family formations.

1483 Given the current speed with which ART and the  
 1484 associated global fertility industry are developing, perhaps  
 1485 the most important lesson of this symposium issue has been  
 1486 making visible the scale, speed of change and dilemmas  
 1487 in this industry. Egg freezing, the global consolidation of the  
 1488 industry, platforming of the drug, equipment and clinical  
 1489 aspects of ART, and the economic behemoth that it has  
 1490 become deserve sustained scholarly attention. In particular,  
 1491 developments in the science and industry may render  
 1492 surrogacy and gamete donation obsolete in the not-too-  
 1493 distant future, and platforming and economies of scale may  
 1494 allow for certain price reductions and more flexible supply  
 1495 chains with more points of service delivery. But this growth  
 1496 will also make it more and more difficult to see inside the  
 1497 'black box to notice who benefits and who does not. As  
 1498 scholars such as Ruha Benjamin and Safiya Noble have  
 1499 argued, technologies bake oppression into the infrastructure  
 1500 and the materiality and sociality of the normal (Benjamin,  
 1501 2016; Noble, 2018). Making families from the perspective  
 1502 of queer reproductions, reproductive justice, and stratified  
 1503 reproduction first requires making these processes, problems,  
 1504 and hope visible.

## Q27 Uncited references

1506 Ross and Solinger, 2017  
 1507 SurrogART project, n.d

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