



- ✚ **Are you a parent (of any nationality and sexual identity) through surrogacy carried out in the US?**
- ✚ **Are you a surrogate working in the US to help such parents have a family?**
- ✚ **Are you an egg donor in such an arrangement?**
- ✚ **Are you an agency or clinic practitioner coordinating it?**

My name is Marcin Smietana and I am a postdoctoral researcher at the University of California, Berkeley (Department of Gender and Women's Studies), working with my faculty advisor, Professor Charis Thompson.

In partnership with the University of Cambridge (UK), we are carrying out a study of surrogacy. For further information please visit www.surrogarts.eu.

If you are in one of the above categories and you are in the surrogacy process in the US (initial arrangements, pregnancy, or postpartum) or you have completed it, we would like to invite you to take part in this study. Please contact Marcin at marcin.smietana@berkeley.edu or +1-510-969-0707.

What would we ask you to do?

If you agree to participate in this research, I will conduct an interview with you at a time and location of your choice. It will last between one and two hours and it will involve questions about your motivations and paths to surrogacy as well as your experience of the process.

Why take part?

It is hoped that this research will contribute to articulating the rights, interests and aspirations of all parties involved in surrogacy, and to counteracting social prejudice and legal barriers to family formation.

What will happen after the research?

All the data will be confidential and securely stored, and your name or other data will never be made public. The anonymous research findings will be reported to the European Commission and state departments. They will also be presented at conferences and in publications, where surrogacy as a form of family formation has often been neglected until recently.

The project has received funding from the European Commission under a Marie Curie IOF Programme (FP7, Grant Agreement 629341) and it has been approved by the UC Berkeley Committee for Protection of Human Subjects (CPHS# 2014-10-6793).

