

written by an expert on the topic under discussion, provides empirical data presented in professional but understandable language. An excellent feature of the text is the summarizing commentary that concludes each section.

Chapters one and two provide a thorough introduction to aggressive disorders in girls. Chapters three and four, through the description of longitudinal empirical studies, discuss physical aggression demonstrated by girls. Chapters five and six focus on social environment in the context of aggression in young girls and the variables associated with aggression in relationship development. Chapters seven and eight, through a description of qualitative and quantitative studies and their outcomes, address treatment methodologies. Chapters nine and ten look at risk factors in the design of treatment initiatives identified through longitudinal studies, with heavy emphasis placed on society and family and the impact of aberrant maternal behaviours. The relational aspect of female development and the treatment of female aggression differ significantly from male development and the treatment of male aggression.

The Development and Treatment of Girlhood Aggression offers practical research and content on a topic in need of further study. A valuable resource, it should encourage research and treatment in this field. The book will be useful in graduate courses in psychology, social work, and related fields of study.

A Donor Insemination Guide: Written by and for Lesbian Women

Marie Mohler and Lacy Frazer.
San Francisco: Harrington Park Press, 2002.

Reviewed by Lori Ross

In *A Donor Insemination Guide*, Marie Mohler and Lacy Frazer draw on their personal experiences conceiving their two sons to develop a practical, hands-on guide for lesbians on the path to parenthood. The authors offer concise, straightforward information about all aspects of the donor insemination process.

Being so deeply grounded in the authors' own experience is both this book's greatest advantage, and its greatest disadvantage. Having successfully conceived twice using donor insemination, Mohler and Frazer are experts on the topic. This comes across throughout the book: they highlight information they found helpful or wish they had known as they were going through the process—information that other lesbians may find difficult to access elsewhere. The book is both practical and encouraging of queer women who are exploring

the possibility of donor insemination.

The disadvantage of basing the book so completely on their own experiences is felt, however, in the authors' discussion of the "known versus unknown donor" question. Although at one point in their journey the authors attempted insemination using a known donor, they decided to use unknown donors for both of their children. As a result, they are strongly biased in favour of unknown donors and emphasize the potential complications—to the exclusion of potential benefits—associated with known donors. Important topics related to the use of known donors are not covered in the book, such as how to find, choose, and negotiate with potential known donors. There is also little discussion of the potential for creating alternative families beyond the two-parent model. The four interviews included in chapter seven, for example, are with committed couples who opt for insemination with an unknown donor via a sperm bank. The racial identity of neither the authors nor the interview subjects is mentioned, and important race-related issues (for example, the difficulties in accessing sperm from a donor who shares your heritage) are not addressed here.

Despite these limitations, this is a useful book that I recommend to other lesbians who are considering donor insemination, and especially those who intend to use an unknown donor. In particular, the introductory chapters on sperm, cycle monitoring, and insemination contain practical and accessible information that will help queer women successfully navigate the fertility system.

The Ultimate Guide to Pregnancy for Lesbians

Rachel Pepper.

San Francisco: Cleis Press, 2005.

Reviewed by Chloë Brushwood Rose

As a recently pregnant and new lesbian mother, I was interested to read the revised edition of Rachel Pepper's *The Ultimate Guide to Pregnancy for Lesbians* to see what kind of advice and insight I might have missed along my own strange journey toward parenthood. In many ways, this book is geared toward women like me—I am a lesbian who was economically privileged enough to secure good legal advice, buy sperm, and save \$5,000 to cover the cost of conception and childbirth that Pepper recommends. While Pepper addresses women in a variety of personal situations—single, coupled, members of alternative families—the first few chapters of the "ultimate guide" are not especially useful to poor or working-class lesbians or for queer women and lesbians who find themselves pregnant unexpectedly (more than one might think).