

Submitter: Victoria Hill  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB163  
Name: Victoria Hill, LCSW  
Topic: SB163 - Relating to Parentage. Supports  
Testimony:  
March 31, 2025  
Dear Chair Prozanski, Vice Chair Thatcher, and distinguished Members of the Committee,

My name is Victoria Hill and I support SB163. I am the product of fertility fraud. I discovered that I was donor conceived when I was 35 years old through commercial DNA testing.

After receiving the results from my DNA kit, I learned that I had many other half siblings, by this I was confused. I confronted my mother with the information and she told me that I was donor conceived but what she had been told was to never tell the child and that she would never truly know if my dad, that I had grown up with, was my father or the donor was my biological dad. She was told to go home and continue to try to make children with my dad and that they would also use a Yale resident who resembled my dad as a donor. My mother sought out fertility treatment from this doctor for approximately 7 years, having multiple pregnancies and ultimately 2 children. This doctor, that she worked so closely with was Dr. Burton Caldwell.

Through this DNA test discovery, I learned that this man, Dr. Caldwell was in fact my biological father as he switched out the chosen donor sperm for his own. It is my assumption, that having no technology to freeze sperm at the time, that Dr. Caldwell, prepared my mother for insemination, went into another room, ejaculated into a cup and then while under a state of arousal, inserted specimen into my mother without her consent. I view this as a form of sexual assault among other things, as the line between medical touch and sexual touch is then blurred and without her knowledge while she was in an incredibly vulnerable and trusting state.

After learning this information, I confronted Dr. Caldwell who very readily admitted to donating for many years and showed no remorse or concern for what he had done. This was not the end for me as every year, more half siblings pop up and we have to ruin their view of whatever was told to them, if anything. This is the gift that keeps

giving as we connect with more half siblings and cousins. Our children will have to do the same. As of now, my children have 41 first cousins that I know of in our close surrounding area.

However my story, only gets more interesting.

In May, 2023, after a high school reunion my friends and high school boyfriend got to connecting about the last few years and I told them this story. My high school boyfriend looked stressed as he admitted that his mother also recently told him that he and his twin brother, another good friend of mine, were conceived through fertility treatment as well. We were scared and in disbelief of the possibility but sure enough, they tested and confirmed, they are my brothers. I was intimate and in a relationship with brother and very much could have seen myself marrying this man and having children had we not gone to different colleges and allowed life to take us in different directions. We were incredibly close growing up, he was my best friend first and then intimate partner later. This news is devastating to our past and now our future.

Many cryobanks right now are putting clauses into contracts that prohibit parents from completing commercial DNA tests and claim they are trying to keep donors anonymous. The problem that this causes is that the burden will ultimately fall on the child. This delays and/or blocks any kind of justice that currently exists in the system. Measures like SB163 ensure a donor conceived person could access information about their donor's identity if they desire.

Thank you for listening and hopefully appreciating the importance of this legislation.  
Victoria Hill