



Reproductive Justice, Jewish Ethics, & Family Planning: Post-Roe Realities

Thursday evenings, April 20 and 27 and May 4, 2023, 7:30-9 PM ([Click here to register](#))

SESSION TWO (April 27) —ASSISTED REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGIES POST-ROE

- How is Dobbs v. Jackson affecting, and how might it yet affect, fertility treatment and tools such as in vitro fertilization (IVF) and associated technologies?
- What ethical issues already pertain in this arena, and how does Dobbs complicate them?
- How may/do these threats disproportionately impact certain potential parents?
- How does this impact LGBTQ+ individuals/couples, specifically, seeking to grow their families through IVF, gamete donation and/or surrogacy? How else may Dobbs affect LGBTQ+ families

Helpful Resources

Just the Facts: A.R.T. Primer

- [Assisted Reproductive Technology: A Guide for Patients \(with Glossary\)](#)

Ethical/Jewish Ethical/Halakhic Considerations

- [Fertility Technology in Jewish Law](#) (from Kveller)
- [Are You My Surrogate?](#) (Hadassah); [Judaism and Surrogate Motherhood](#) (My Jewish Learning)
- Secular Ethics and A.R.T. elements: [Uneasy about the Ethics of Egg Donation](#) (The Atlantic)
 - [Sperm Donor Diversity](#) (CBS); [Sperm Donor Anonymity/Regulation](#) (The Hill)
- [Must Jewish Medical Ethics Regarding Infertility Be Viewed Solely Through a Gendered \(Halakhic\) Lens?](#) By Ira Bedzow and Lila Kagedan

Post-Roe Realities

- [Op-Ed: How IVF Could Be Derailed by Abortion Restrictions](#) (L.A. Times)
- [Fetal Personhood Laws—The Next Frontier](#) (Time magazine)
- [“I Don’t Feel Safe”: Abortion Bans and Fertility Treatments](#) (Health Deep Dive)
- [Religious Clergy Fighting for Abortion Rights](#) (Mother Jones: Jewish IVF Case Highlighted)
- [Guttmacher Institute—Our Latest Resources](#) (Incredible resource on all things post-Roe)

Dobbs, A.R.T. and LGBTQ+ Families

- [Dobbs v. Jackson: What LGBTQ+ Families Need to Know](#)
- [Williams Institute-UCLA School of Law](#) (relevant research)
- [Equality Federation](#) (LGBTQ+ “advocacy accelerator”)

SPEAKER BIOS

Cantor Sarah Myerson is an Advisory Board member of the National Council of Jewish Women's [Rabbis for Repro](#). In addition to teaching about Jewish [halachic](#) and ethical perspectives on reproduction, she also speaks from her own experience as a Jewish person who has struggled with infertility, pregnancy loss, abortion, and assisted reproductive technologies. Sarah proudly serves the community of Kane Street Synagogue in Brooklyn, New York.

Sarah was commissioned by the Cantors Assembly in 2018, and invested by the Jewish Theological Seminary of America in 2015, conferred with Diploma of Hazzan and Master of Sacred Music. Previous to Kane Street, she served Bay Ridge Jewish Center in Brooklyn, NY; Temple Sinai, Congregation Beth Ohr, and Beth Shalom Oceanside Jewish Center on Long Island, NY; Congregation Mishkan Tefila in Chestnut Hill, MA; and Kehillat Netzach Israel in Ashkelon, Israel. She received her Bachelor of Music (Composition) degree, honors first class, from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, Australia. Cantor Sarah Myerson continues to write and perform new compositions, especially in Yiddish and Hebrew, and has developed a profile as a musician, speaker, educator and Yiddish dance teacher and leader.

Milan T. Pham is a founding partner of [NicholsonPham, PLLC](#), a boutique law firm located in Durham, NC with a practice centered on emerging issues of family formation and dissolution including surrogacy, assisted reproductive technology and adoption. She is an ART Fellow with the American Academy of Adoption and Assisted Reproduction Attorneys (AAAARTA).

Milan received her JD from UNC Chapel Hill School of Law. She began practicing law here in Maryland and then moved to North Carolina State two decades ago. Milan previously worked for Americans for a Fair Chance, a consortium of six national legal civil rights agencies, in developing the southern strategy to preserve affirmative action, and was director of the Director of the Orange County Human Rights and Relations Department where she focused on housing and employment discrimination related matters. In addition to managing her firm, Milan is a member of the National Family Law Advisory Council of the National Center for Lesbian Rights and serves on the boards of The Pauli Murray Center for History and Social Justice; [Equality NC](#); and Carolina Jews for Justice. In service to her profession, she serves on the Modern Family Committee and the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Committee of the NC Bar Association.

RETURNING AT A LATER DATE: Rabbi Lila Kagedan is a clinical ethicist and educator working in academic, pastoral and clinical settings. She is a faculty member at the Shalom Hartman Institute of North America. She holds degrees and certificates from Midreshet Lindenbaum, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, The University of Toronto, Harvard University, The Medstar Washington Hospital Center and Massachusetts General Hospital and is a Shalom Hartman Institute rabbinic senior fellow. She is also a Hadassah Brandeis Institute-Gender, Culture, Religion and Law Research Associate.

Lila was ordained in 2015 by Yeshivat Maharat where she became the first Orthodox woman to claim the title rabbi and served until recently as the rabbi of the Walnut Street Synagogue in Chelsea, MA. She was also the founder of the Sulam School in Brookline, MA. She continues to serve as a rabbi at various locations in the Massachusetts Jewish community. She is the director of biomedical ethics and humanities and a professor of bioethics in the faculty of medicine and dentistry of New York Medical College and is also an ethicist at Cambridge Health Alliance as well as a clinical ethicist and a chaplain in hospitals and hospice settings nationally and internationally. She serves on the clergy interfaith coalition for the city of Chelsea, MA and serves as the co-chair of the disparities in health working group at the Cambridge Hospital. She is also on the inclusion committee addressing issues of social determinants of health and racial disparities of health at New York Medical College.