

Patient's Autonomy and Infertilization

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Abstract

Reproduction is a natural inclination in human beings. Having a child has become more important for human beings, as they see their eternity and survival in child bearing. However, one may temporarily or permanently remove his natural ability to reproduce. Despite the indirect intervention of governments to enforce family planning policies through taking specific measures, there are many cases in which individuals wish to make themselves infertile due to medical, psychological, cultural, economic or social reasons.

Voluntarily reducing or removing fertility potential may be done through various methods. It could be done through a mutually legal consent in a contract with a physician or an unnamed contract between couples or stated as in implied conditions included in marriage or employment contracts. A number of questions may be raised in this regard: Can human beings make themselves infertile and destroy this divine ability, or could this right be regulated? Or how can we integrate autonomy in reproduction and family planning policies?

In fact, no one is legally allowed to completely remove one's freedom to reproduction. However, a partial / a conditional permission for removal is legally possible. After all, it is necessary to clarify and distinguish between general and partial willful removal of one's reproduction capability, according to the criteria of age and duration of removal. Finally, the aforesaid clarification and distinctions are not always an easy task to make.

Keywords: Autonomy, Complete, Family planning, Fertility, Natural rights, Partial, Population growth control, Removal.

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