

# THE ASSISTED REPRODUCTION – AN ANTHROPOLOGICAL APPROACH

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The attempts to make sense of the new reproductive techniques (NRTs) create fundamental ethical, legal and social issues for society in general and clinicians in particular. The fact was outlined and approached in both cultural and medical anthropology studies. In this study we approach the problem raised by the new reproductive technologies to a sample of 1902 subjects from urban area in Romania. We analyze the variability by gender, age groups, place of residence, instruction level regarding perception and degree of agreement, opinion about the appropriate age and marital status of those who may appeal to the assisted reproduction. The statistical data are analyzed using SPSS statistical package program, we employ the Pearson Chi-Square test, nonparametric Kruskal-Wallis Test and the Cluster Analysis regarding the agreement with NRTs

## ARGUMENT

The Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) or the New Reproductive Technologies – (NRTs), replace a missing chain link of the normal reproductive mechanism offering a chance to the infertile persons, wishing to have children. The ethical norms and taboos of the sexuality, the dilemmas regarding moral status of the embryo or the foetus, the conflict of interest between the participants to the reproductive process – gametes donors, the host mother – all generated debates, polemics at least between physicians, anthropologists, geneticians, clerics, jurists and politicians.

The attempt to make sense of the new reproductive techniques (NRTs) creates fundamental ethical, legal and social issues for society in general and clinicians in particular. The fact was outlined and approached in both, the cultural and medical anthropology studies. Such studies accomplished in Europe, Australia, New Zealand and North America (Harris, Holm, 1998; Simpson 2001: 54–57).

In the last 20 years, such issues have been addressed to the authorities, councils and committees, now in place to monitor, regulate and advise on matters concerning the new reproductive and genetic technologies (NRGTs). The rapid development and growth of these technologies is characteristic, especially to the industrialized countries, but due to the ease technology and NRGTs information