

ARTICLES SECTION

"Canada's History of Violence," Pascual Restrepo, *The New York Times*, October 11, 2015

"From Caution to Creation," Ilyana Romanovsky, *Huffpost Healthy Living*, October 11, 2015
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/ilyana-romanovsky/from-caution-to-creation_b_8209562.html

"American Surrogate Mom Dies," The Center for Bioethics and Culture Network (CBC), *News Release*, October 12, 2015

This is the first known American women to die from a surrogate pregnancy. Other surrogates have died around the world, including an Indian woman acting as a surrogate for a U.S. couple.

Group Calls for Congressional Hearings on Baby Farming Business

"Women Didn't Get this Far to be Treated Like Breeding Animals"

San Francisco--Oct. 12...Congressional hearings are urgently needed to investigate the exploding U.S. baby-farming business that left another paid surrogate mother dead this month -- this time an American woman -- the Center for Bioethics and Culture Network (CBCN) today said. An Idaho woman named Brooke, who has served as a surrogate three times, according to [reports](#), died October 8 carrying twins, reportedly for a Spanish couple. Surrogate pregnancy is illegal in Spain and other European countries. The European Parliament called surrogacy and egg sales an "extreme form of exploitation of women" in an official resolution. "American women are being paid to put themselves at significant physical risk every day in this country to produce babies for others," said Jennifer Lahl, R.N., M.A., President of

the CBCN, which believes surrogacy should be outlawed in the U.S. "These mostly low income women are injected with powerful hormones and other drugs to maximize chances of pregnancy, virtually without government oversight. Women didn't get this far to be treated like breeding animals."

The already booming baby-farming business in the U.S. is exploding following the U.S. Supreme Court decision legalizing same-sex marriage nationwide, as married gay couples look to have families. And celebrities and wealthy American women are increasingly using surrogates to carry their own children, not by necessity but for vanity -- to avoid the body changes that come with pregnancy.

"I never thought I'd see the day when women were being openly marketed for their uteri," Ms. Lahl said. "Members of Congress profess to care about women's needs. Well, let's see if they mean it."

Time Magazine lists pregnancy as one of the "Top Ten Chores to Outsource" in America.

"The Myth of the 'Autistic Shooter,'" Andrew Solomon, *The New York Times*, October 12, 2015

<http://nyti.ms/1VNeSky>

"Restraint and Seclusion in BC Schools Must be Banned," *Inclusion BC*, News Release, October 12, 2015

InclusionBC issued the following news release:

Two years after a shocking report revealed the widespread use of restraint and seclusion in BC schools, the BC Government has failed to fulfill their promise to protect students with special needs.

Inclusion BC continues to hear from families whose children are being restrained and secluded in schools and is calling for a ban on its use through legislation and a targeted plan of action to prevent the serious and egregious harm done to students.

Responding to the initial report, called "Stop Hurting Kids: Restraint and Seclusion in BC Schools," BC Premier Christy Clark promised in November 2013 to conduct an investigation into the issue. The BC Ministry of Education began developing guidelines in early 2014 to guide the development of policies at a district level. Those guidelines have yet to

be been finalized and there are still no requirements from the Ministry for school districts to track and report on the use of seclusion rooms.

The lack of a strong leadership position calling for an end to these practices is indicative of a resounding lack of commitment to keeping the most vulnerable students safe. "Clearly we are in desperate need of a strong position by our Ministry of Education. Even definitions of what is a time out, a quiet room or a de-escalation room varies greatly as does the use of such rooms," states Faith Bodnar, Inclusion BC Executive Director.

The BC Minister of Education stated this week that the draft guidelines are meant to ensure that teachers are "appropriately using these rooms... for safety purposes." The recent CTV news report of a seven year-old Salmon Arm student with Down syndrome being locked in a room for misbehaving shows that these rooms are not being used appropriately or for safety purposes and voluntary guidelines will not prevent this in the future. While the guidelines have not been officially distributed to schools, one school district has used wording from the guidelines in a policy that sanctioned and rationalized the use of restraints and seclusion, further reinforcing the need for strict regulations and not voluntary guidelines.

Bodnar adds, "These are not safety rooms or quiet rooms. They are being used systematically to punish and isolate children and will continue to be used this way until legislation is enacted to ban the practice. These rooms and aversive practices must not be part of the routine behaviour management strategies in our schools. We know how to do better. We have the evidence, we have the research. This is about lack of leadership and a failure to do what's necessary to protect vulnerable students in BC."

“Epigenetic Algorithm Predicts Male Sexual Orientation at Up to 70% Accuracy,” News Release, *American Society of Human Genetics*

Findings reported at ASHG 2015 Annual Meeting

An algorithm using epigenetic information from just nine regions of the human genome can predict the sexual orientation of males with up to 70 percent accuracy, according to research presented at the American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG) 2015 Annual Meeting in Baltimore.

"To our knowledge, this is the first example of a predictive model for sexual orientation based on molecular markers," said Tuck C. Ngun, PhD, first author on the study and a postdoctoral

researcher at the David Geffen School of Medicine of the University of California, Los Angeles.

Beyond the genetic information contained in DNA, the researchers examined patterns of DNA methylation - a molecular modification to DNA that affects when and how strongly a gene is expressed - across the genome in pairs of identical male twins. While identical twins have exactly the same genetic sequence, environmental factors lead to differences in how their DNA is methylated. Thus, by studying twins, the researchers could control for genetic differences and tease out the effect of methylation. In all, the study involved 37 pairs of twins in which one twin was homosexual and the other was heterosexual, and 10 pairs in which both twins were homosexual.

"A challenge was that because we studied twins, their DNA methylation patterns were highly correlated," Dr. Ngun explained. Even after some initial analysis, the researchers were left with over 400,000 data points to sort through. "The high correlation and large data set made it difficult to identify differences between twins, determine which ones were relevant to sexual orientation, and determine which of those could be used predictively," he added.

To sort through this data set, Dr. Ngun and his colleagues devised a machine learning algorithm called FuzzyForest. They found that methylation patterns in nine small regions, scattered across the genome, could be used to predict study participants' sexual orientation with 70 percent accuracy.

"Previous studies had identified broader regions of chromosomes that were involved in sexual orientation, but we were able to define these areas down to the base pair level with our approach," Dr. Ngun said. He noted that it will take additional research to explain how DNA methylation in those regions may be related to sexual orientation. The researchers are currently testing the algorithm's accuracy in a more general population of men.

"Sexual attraction is such a fundamental part of life, but it's not something we know a lot about at the genetic and molecular level. I hope that this research helps us understand ourselves better and why we are the way we are," Dr. Ngun said.

"The Science of Gratitude: As we age, our brains get better at feeling thankful," Wendy Leung, *The Globe and Mail*, October 11, 2015
<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/authors/wency-leung>

"UNESCO's Statement on CRISPR/Cas9 highlights the need for public engagement," Silvia Camporesi and Lara Marks, *BioNews* 823: 12/10/2015
http://www.bionews.org.uk/page.asp?obj_id=575076&PPID=575069&sid=357

"A Plan to Curb Pill Abuse Falls Short at Pharmacies," Alan Schwarz, *The New York Times*, October 10, 2015
<http://nyti.ms/1VLiGTD>

"Native Lives Matter, Too," Lydia Millet, OP/ED, *The New York Times*, October 13, 2015
<http://nyti.ms/1Qn6CAZ>

"Trial in Wisconsin Weighs Gun Dealer Obligations," Erik Eckholm, *The New York Times*, October 12, 2015
<http://nyti.ms/1QkySV2>

"Anorexia May Be Habit, Not Resolve, Study Finds," Erica Goode, *The New York Times*, October 13, 2015
<http://nyti.ms/1VO75mM>

"Criticized in Print, Consultant Takes On Defiant Foe," Barry Meier, *The New York Times*, October 11, 2015
<http://nyti.ms/1LeBuAc>

"The Myth of the 'Autistic Shooter'" Andrew Solomon, OP/ED, *The New York Times*, October 12, 2015
<http://nyti.ms/1VNeSky>

“The Chains of Mental Illness in West Africa,” Benedict Carey, *The New York Times*, October 12, 2015
<http://nyti.ms/1jX9BG6>

“Insurance Dropouts Present A Challenge for Health Law,” Abby Goodnough, *The New York Times*, October 12, 2015
<http://nyti.ms/1jXRS1o>

“Delays as Death-Penalty States Scramble for Execution Drugs,” Manny Fernandez, *The New York Times*, October 9, 2015
<http://nyti.ms/1jQ6csB>

“F.D.A. Approval of OxyContin Use for Children Continues to Draw Scrutiny,” Catherine Saint Louis, *The New York Times*, October 9, 2015
<http://nyti.ms/1QbVOFQ>

“A Modest Release of Prisoners,” Editorial Board, *The New York Times*, October 8, 2015
<http://nyti.ms/1L7eB1G>

“Let’s Modernize Our Pollution Laws,” Gregg Easterbrook, *The New York Times*, October 6, 2015
<http://nyti.ms/1jMQFtx>

“The Pope’s Subversive Message,” Arthur C. Brooks, OP/ED, *The New York Times*, October 6, 2015
<http://nyti.ms/1Q9L9vg>

“Reassurances End in Flint After Months Of Concern,” Monica Davey, *The New York Times*, October 8, 2015
<http://nyti.ms/1L7GeHV>

“Deforestation and Drought,” Jim Robbins, *The New York Times*, October 11, 2015
<http://nyti.ms/1VJT618>

“Will You Ever Be Able to Upload Your Brain?” Kenneth D. Miller, *The New York Times*, October 11, 2015
<http://nyti.ms/1jW09Tw>

“Refugees at Our Door,” Sonia Nazario, *The New York Times*,
October 11, 2015

<http://nyti.ms/1LclgGQ>

“Should We Bank Our Own Stool?”, Moises Velasquez Manoff, *The New York Times*, October 11, 2015

<http://nyti.ms/1Qeg7Td>

“Canadian Violence, From the Prairie to the N.H.L.” Pascual Restrepo, *The New York Times*, October 11, 2015

<http://nyti.ms/1VJT3CA>

“Found on Facebook: Empathy,” Teddy Wayne, *The New York Times*, October 11, 2015

<http://nyti.ms/1jSCALk>

“A Mission to Heal Minds,” Benedict Carey, *The New York Times*,
October 13, 2015

<http://nyti.ms/1QiTyN2>

“In Diagnosis, Fiendish Elusiveness,” Danielle Ofri, *The New York Times*,
October 13, 2015

<http://well.blogs.nytimes.com/2015/10/08/getting-the-diagnosis-wrong/>

“What You Say To Someone Who’s Grieving vs. What They Hear,”
Lara Parker, et al... *BuzzFeed*, October 9, 2015

The complete article -- including 15 examples -- is online at:

[<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A_bit.ly_KenPopeSpeakingWithSomeoneWholsGrieving&d=AwlFAG&c=-dg2m7zWuuDZ0MUcV7Sdqw&r=ilr9yRq05BE0lknXXToR0bu60thZm25aK9E7YMCr0mo&m=4XBzNVAOhl_pborMhMlf05vPXeKHVpyYHMXnyKP88U4&s=Dmm5QuzdUZ_jRv8sS1gy_ppD37g3QEicp9qzZF6T6Mc&e=>](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A_bit.ly_KenPopeSpeakingWithSomeoneWholsGrieving&d=AwlFAG&c=-dg2m7zWuuDZ0MUcV7Sdqw&r=ilr9yRq05BE0lknXXToR0bu60thZm25aK9E7YMCr0mo&m=4XBzNVAOhl_pborMhMlf05vPXeKHVpyYHMXnyKP88U4&s=Dmm5QuzdUZ_jRv8sS1gy_ppD37g3QEicp9qzZF6T6Mc&e=>)

Medecins Sans Frontieres (Doctors Without Borders) held a live
Town Hall Meeting/Webcast in Seattle, Washington this past Tuesday

on the topic “Global Sexual Violence: Breaking the Cycle.” If this was taped, you should try to get the link to the recording. It’s worth the extra effort!

The Canadian Psychological Association has some new Fact Sheets: Autism Spectrum Disorder; Suicide; PTSD; Substance Abuse; Chronic Pain; Pain in Children with Cognitive Impairments who are Nonverbal; Learning Disabilities in Children; and Pre-employment Personality Assessment in Personnel Selection. The CPA webpage is providing links to these Fact Sheets at:
https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A_bit.ly_bNKENPope&d=AwlFAg&c=-dg2m7zWuuDZ0MUcV7Sdqw&r=ilr9yRq05BE0lknXXToR0bu60thZm25aK9E7YMCr0mo&m=hjQgfQUEvteLXznIF7dGgK5xk0eY1BW_TYx96WwcJiA&s=M9agB1Uh9H7t3OU3mCElrVAXpbZ4oKYixyjeNmiyJtk&e=>

New Resources on Compassion in Clinical Training & Practice: 92 Cities and Ecerpts of Studies from 2012-2015.

Here is an updated a web page of references for therapists, counselors, and other clinicians who are interested in the recent research, theory, and related literature on compassion.

Although there is a massive literature on compassion, the focus here is mainly on compassion in clinical training and practice, and in other clinical contexts.

This literature addresses such issues as:

- *attempts to nurture clinicians' compassion
- *compassion fatigue
- *battlefield compassion & post-traumatic growth
- *the role of self-compassion in clinicians, clients, & treatment
- *effects of compassion meditation

It focuses on recent works (i.e., published in 2012-2015).

The web page currently provides citations and excerpts for 92 articles. Other web pages offer other resources (e.g., caregiver resources; assistive technologies for people with disabilities;

resources for troops & veterans, their families, & those who provide services to them; informed consent; meta-analyses of psychological interventions; hospices & nursing homes). The web page of references on compassion in clinical training and practice is at:
https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A_bit.ly_KenPopeCompassion&d=AwlFAg&c=-dg2m7zWuuDZ0MUcV7Sdqw&r=ilr9yRq05BE0lknXXToR0bu60thZm25aK9E7YMCr0mo&m=Xirlu5D721uj50XQh5o1A93YUGcxiO--C4g-UO0z9RI&s=ZeBGwc6lJFX4pibj2HMwolAPZJg-XSubYInuojkRx3l&e=

“Planned Parenthood Changes Fetal Tissue Policy,” Tamar Lewin, *The New York Times*, October 14, 2015
<http://nyti.ms/1Ljdyf8>

“In Courts, Running Out the Clock on Obama Immigration Plan,” Michael D. Shear and Julia Preston, *The New York Times*, October 14, 2015
<http://nyti.ms/1Qq2K2n>

“A World Awash in Desperate Refugees,” Letters to the Editor, *The New York Times*, October 14, 2015
<http://nyti.ms/1LjZxhl>

“Cruel Punishments at the Court,” Editorial Board, *The New York Times*, October 14, 2015
<http://nyti.ms/1k3tdsg>

“America’s Child-Marriage Problem,” Fraidy Reiss, OP/ED, *The New York Times*, October 14, 2015
<http://www.nytimes.com/2015/10/14/opinion/americas-child-marriage-problem.html>

“Grand Canyon Waters, at the Abyss,” Mark Udall, OP/ED, *The New York Times*, October 14, 2015
<http://nyti.ms/1QqWdV6>

More information on Of Note:

Sierra Club Job Opportunity: Sierra Club is starting the hiring process for the next Associate Attorney in the LCP program. Please see attached for more information.

White River Environmental Law Writing Competition: Vermont Journal of Environmental Law's second annual White River Environmental Law Writing Competition is open to law students who are interested in environmental law.

Applicants are invited to submit original essays addressing any relevant topic in the fields of environmental law, natural resource law, energy law, environmental justice, land use law, animal law, and agricultural law. The winner of the competition receives a \$1,000 cash prize and an offer of publication in the journal. [More information here.](#)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY: Women's Health Research at Yale



- Annual Pilot Project Awards
These awards offer up to \$35,000 in funding over the course of one or two years for research designed to meet a clear need in advancing women's health, and have a clearly described path to direct clinical or public health utility. Proposals in clinical, health services, and prevention research, as well as basic science research demonstrating a translational goal are considered.
- Wendy U. & Thomas C. Naratil Pioneer Award
This award offers up to \$50,000 in funding over the course of one or two years for initiating new, highly inventive research, or achieving a major breakthrough in ongoing research where funding is needed to achieve its aims.

[Further Details](#)

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellows

Application Deadline: November 12, 2015 (3 p.m.)

The [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellows program](#) provides an outstanding opportunity for exceptional midcareer health professionals and behavioral and social scientists with an interest in health and health care policy.

Fellows participate in the policy process at the federal level and use that leadership experience to improve health, health care, and health policy. Up to seven awards of up to \$165,000 each will be made in 2016.



FUNDING OPPORTUNITY: Creative and Novel Ideas in HIV Research Awards program (CNIHR)

The purpose of the current round of the [Creative and Novel Ideas in HIV Research Awards program \(CNIHR\)](#) is to create a mechanism via



the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH) Centers for AIDS Research (CFARs) to fund developmental projects to bring insight and new ideas from other disciplines to HIV research. Available Awards will be funded for 1-2 years, up to \$150,000 (direct costs) per year plus applicable indirect costs. Ten to twelve grants are anticipated to be announced in conjunction with the 21st International AIDS Conference, which will be held in Durban, South Africa from July 17-22, 2016.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY: Applications Open for Global Health Equity Scholars Fellowships

Application Deadline: November 2, 2015

The GHES program provides 11-month research training fellowship opportunities in global health at top-ranked, NIH-funded centers in low and middle income countries (LMIC). For more information on eligibility, specific aspects of the fellowship award, and an application, please visit the [YSPH GHES website](#).

REMINDER: New Human Data Sharing Policy (HDS Policy)

To emphasize the importance of sharing human data, the Intramural Research Program (IRP) issued a new [Human Data Sharing Policy \(HDS Policy\)](#) at the end of July. The HDS Policy applies to all research projects with human data initiated on or after October 1, 2015.

CALL FOR CASE STUDIES: Council for Big Data, Ethics, and Society

The Council for Big Data, Ethics, and Society is seeking researchers, practitioners, and educators to provide case studies based on real-world examples that examine complex issues of data ethics. Submissions will be distributed via the Council's website in addition to Data & Society and the National Online Ethics Center. [Further Details](#).