

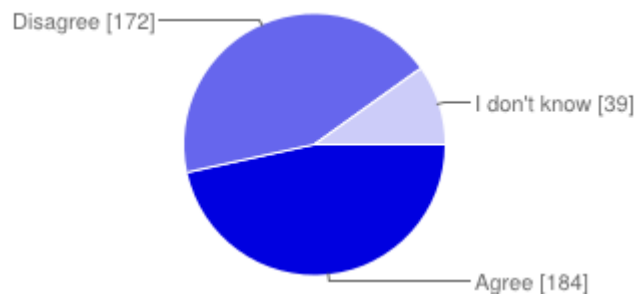


Embryo Protection Act - Reaction

A survey was launched to gauge the opinions of University Students on specific points of the Embryo Protection Act. This was a snapshot survey which was open for the duration of 6 days and received 395 responses, which is around 3% of the current University student population. The survey was circulated via the official University database and also promoted on social media. Three questions were chosen, which revolved on the availability of medically assisted procreation.

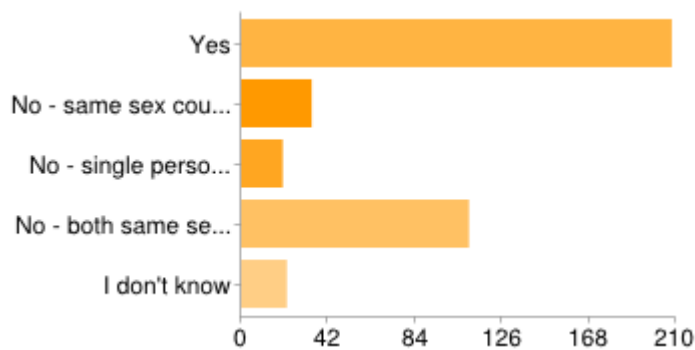
What is your opinion on having the stability of unmarried couples wishing to undergo IVF determined by the Embryo Protection Authority?

The student body is torn between those in favour and those against. A significant proportion (10%) are unsure of their standing.



Sperm and oocyte (egg) donation and surrogacy are not allowed practices. Therefore same sex couples and single persons cannot choose to have a child and nor can infertile couples. Do you agree that only opposite sex couples should be eligible for medically assisted procreation?

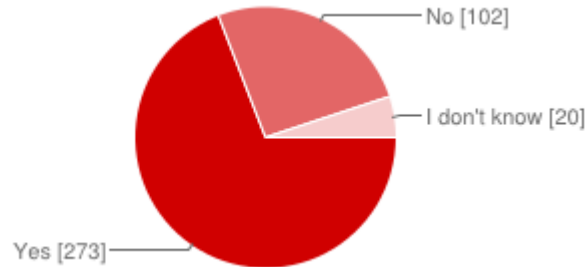
The majority of students taking the survey (53%) agree that IVF should only be available for couples of the opposite sex. 28% believe medically assisted procreation should also be available for both same sex couples and single persons. Further to that amount, 9% believe it should be available for same sex couples while 5% believe it should be available for single persons. Another 6% were unsure of their standing.





Following on the statement above, do you think that sperm/oocyte donation should be available for infertile opposite sex couples?

The vast majority of students (69%) believe that sperm/oocyte donation should be available for infertile opposite sex couples with 26% opposing. Only 5% were unsure of their standing.



A limitation of this survey was that it did not allow for a stand against IVF to be stated, as was pointed out by some students that viewed the survey. Therefore, it cannot be excluded that a proportion of University students are in fact against the principle of IVF.

Marie Claire Gatt
KPS Commissioner

Warren Sammut
KPS Coordinator

info@ksu.org.mt | ksu.org.mt

