

Acceptance of Egg Donation in Germany

Tabea Naujoks & Anne-Kristin Kuhnt

Background

- Family forms are diversifying, and LGBTQI* families are increasingly visible in Germany.
- Medically assisted reproduction expands pathways to parenthood, but access is shaped by regulation and norms. Egg donation remains prohibited in Germany, making public support for reform highly policy-relevant.

Research Question

- Do public acceptance levels of egg donation for female same-sex couples using the ROPA method differ from general acceptance levels? How are these attitudes shaped by sociodemographic factors?

What is ROPA?

- ROPA** method (**R**eception of **O**ocytes from **P**artner) for female couples in which one partner provides the oocytes (donor, egg provider, or genetic mother) and the other receives the embryo and gestates (gestational/birth mother)



ROPA



vs. Egg donation for different sex couples

Study

- Online Access Panel, N=1,037, fielded in November 2025, respondents aged 18-60

Measurement

"Some women cannot become pregnant with their own eggs. In other countries, there is the option of egg donation in such cases. This means they receive an egg from another woman. In Germany, egg donation is currently not permitted. What do you think about the following statement: **Egg donation should be permitted.**"

For lesbian couples, there is the possibility in other countries that both women are involved in the conception of the child. One woman donates her egg and the other woman gives birth to the child. In Germany, this medical procedure is currently not permitted. What do you think about the following statement: **Egg donation should be permitted within lesbian partnerships.**

Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither/nor	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree	No answer
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Fig. 1 Acceptance of Egg Donation

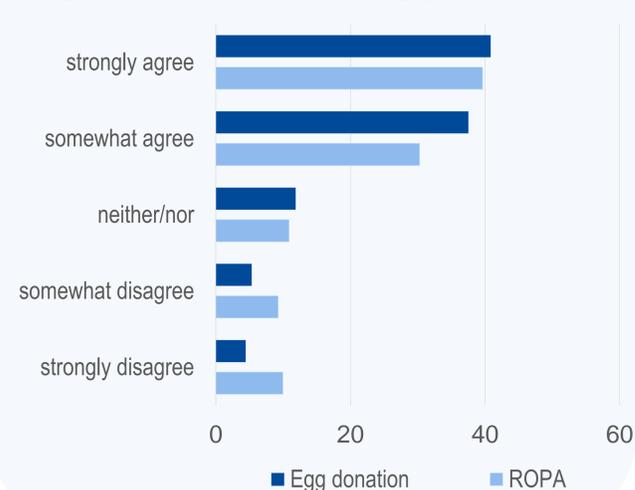
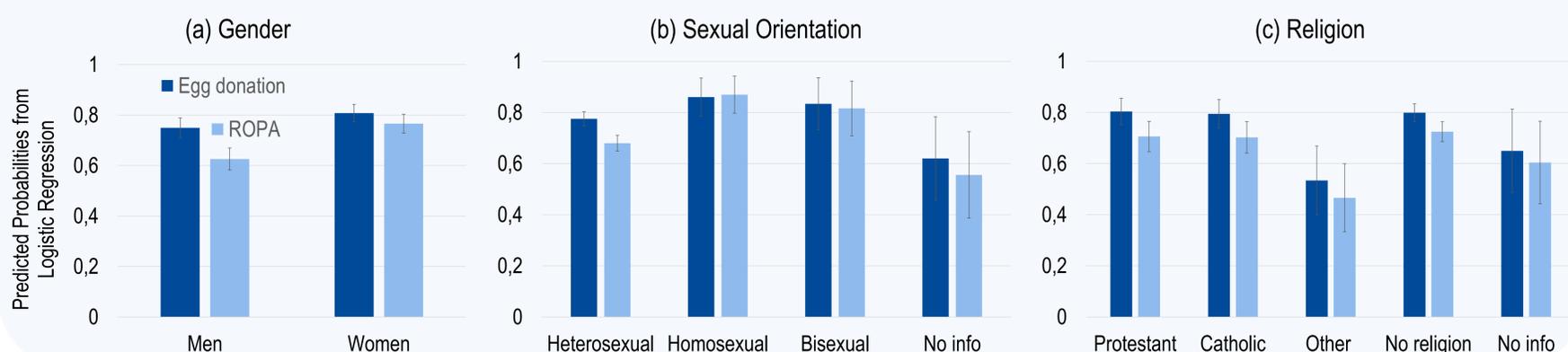


Fig. 2 Predicted Probabilities of Support for Egg Donation Legalization by Sociodemographic Factors



Conclusion

- There is broad overall support for legalizing egg donation in Germany, although acceptance of ROPA is comparatively lower.
- Women tend to be more supportive, although acceptance differs based on sexual orientation and religion in our sample.