Activity

Discussion on ethical and social issues about abortion, artificial insemination and IVF

**Abortion**
1. What is life? In what stage of foetal development does life begin?
2. For what reasons that abortion becomes the choice of some mothers?
3. Why do some people perceive abortion as immoral?
4. Under what situations does abortion become a correct choice?
5. Should the rights of decision of the mother rule over the rights to live of the foetus?
6. Should the government bear the power to forbid abortions?

**Artificial insemination**
1. Why do people seek artificial insemination?
2. Why do some people perceive artificial insemination as ethically unacceptable?
3. Would the issues be different if the sperms of artificial insemination are from the woman’s husband, an identified donor, and an unidentified donor?
4. What is the responsibility of the involved individuals over the life of the foetus?
5. Should women have the right to choose the donor? How much information should be allowed to give for unidentified donors?
6. What kind of people should receive artificial insemination?

**In vitro fertilization (IVF)**
1. Why do people seek IVF?
2. Why do some people perceive IVF as ethically unacceptable?
3. If IVF is accepted to help people with infertility, what about IVF for stem cell research?
4. How and in what extent should the government control the use of IVF technology?
5. Artificial Reproductive Technologies (ART) such as IVF lead to a greater chance of multiple births. What are the possible social problems of multiple births?

- **Group Discussion**

Form groups of four or five. Discuss the ethical and social issues of the above topics starting with the questions given. Each student should speak out his / her own ideas, listen to others’ ideas, and try to come up with agreements.

- **Debate**

Split the class into two opposing teams. One team is the “abortion supporters” and the other is the “anti-abortion supporters”. Students in each team share their ideas about the issue, and formulate their major arguments. Four students from each group are selected to represent their team, and the teacher will supervise a formal debate. The debate can also be carried out for the topics of artificial insemination and in vitro fertilization.