

NGO Statement to the CEDAW Committee Wunschkind eV

Our basic demand is: discrimination-free access to reproductive health care.

Procreation belongs to the basic biological needs for human life like nutrition, mobility and communication. Fertility disorders hence constitute a major biological deficit.

The right to establish a family is cemented in article 16 (1e) CEDAW, as well as other laws and conventions against discrimination in the context of family formation.

A reproductive disability along with the distinct wish to have own children creates special distress, especially for women. Reproductive treatment can in case of success cure the illness and ease the side-effects.

We know that there is no right as such to have own children. But there is a right to protect reproductive ability and a right to have access to reproductive health assistance without discrimination. Both basic human rights are systematically disregarded by the German state. The reproductive ability is not adequately protected. Several Prohibitions, legal deficits and reimbursement policy discriminatively deny childless couples access to medical care.

Without any scientific or statistic proof, German legislators argue that some family-constellations (Family foundation through egg donation, embryo donation or families of lesbian couples) do not fulfil ethic criteria which would enhance the child's well-being, in spite the fact that a lot of scientific studies proof the contrary. This point is basically founded upon so-called Christian "experts" and clearly violates people with other faith or conviction.

We hope that in future, couples wishing to establish a family receive respect, acceptance and support, without any form of discrimination from their home country, the Federal Republic of Germany.

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