

## Alternative Reproduction Families

A simple form of this family consists of a gay male couple and a lesbian couple. We are interested in a family that uses alternative means to achieve reproduction. The numbers are the same for every family of four: \$1480 a month for housing, and \$880 a month for food. This pays for a nice home and good food, with little, if any, left over.

[Author's Note: This was written when the baby tax was \$50,000, instead of the \$10,000 currently anticipated.]

The reason our two couples got together beyond friendship was the desire to have children. The goal was two children, a year apart, or a total of one hundred thousand dollars in two future-baby funds. The plan was that all four of them would work until the funds were raised. Then one from each couple would stay home during the pregnancies and afterward to raise the children, while the other two continued to work.

Our couples formed the union at the age of 19 when they were in college. They were Big Jeff, Little Jeff, Skeeter, and Cynth. Skeeter left school early and got a job at a bowling alley. Cynth continued on to get her degree. After two years of college, Big Jeff went on to nursing school, and Little Jeff went to radiology school for two years to become a radiological technician. After a few years he hopes to become a VOS certified radiologist. Cynth will become a materials engineer.

Skeeter makes \$12,000 a year while the others are at school. They use this money to live comfortably over and above the distributions.

At age 22, they are all in the workforce. Big Jeff starts out at \$15,000 a year. Little Jeff starts at \$16,000. Cynth starts out at \$25,000 per year. Skeeter still makes \$12,000. Very comfortable living takes half their salaries. That leaves \$34,000 in the future-baby fund after year 1. After year 2, the fund has \$64,000. In year 3, Big Jeff negotiates a raise to \$25,000 per year. Cynth is making \$40,000 per year. Little Jeff passes the exam and is certified as a VOS radiologist (The VOS indicates he did not go to medical school, but has the knowledge to diagnose MRIs, X-Rays, and CT Scans.) Because of medical deregulation, Little Jeff need only show proficiency in diagnosis from test results, even though he did not attend medical school. Little Jeff's salary jumps to \$40,000 per year. In year three, the fund receives \$53,000 and totals \$117,000, more than enough for two children.

But here's the rub. Who will be the biological father? Our two couples are pioneers and plan to use the latest genetic technique so that Big Jeff, Little Jeff and Skeeter can be the fathers of Cynth's child and Big Jeff, Little Jeff and Cynth can be the fathers of Skeeter's child.

Sperm has 23 chromosomes. The Y chromosome must come from Big Jeff or Little Jeff; however the other 22 chromosomes can come from any of them. The technique allows women to be biological fathers, and allows a child to have up to 23 fathers. Genetic testing is an aid in deciding who will contribute which chromosome.

Unfortunately, the technique is quite expensive, costing \$40,000 to combine the chromosomes from 3 fathers. So our family needs an additional \$63,000 to have the children.

In year 4, Little Jeff completes several night courses and gets a certificate to perform VOS radiology procedures. His salary jumps to \$60,000 per year. Big Jeff becomes a surgical nurse and gets a salary of \$26,000 per year. Cynth is now bringing in \$45,000 per year. Using less than half their salaries, our foursome is now able to fund the last \$63,000.

At Age 25, Big Jeff, Little Jeff, Skeeter and Cynth are ready for their first child. The plan is for Skeeter and Big Jeff to stay home and raise the children, while Little Jeff and Cynth continue to work. However, Cynth is going to be the mother. She will work part-time during the pregnancy. Skeeter will continue to work until the Cynth's eight month. Then the two of them will stay at home. Three months after the first child is born, Skeeter will become pregnant with the second child. When Cynth is done breast-feeding she will return to work and Big Jeff will join the very pregnant Skeeter at home to be a full-time stay-at-home dad.

After Cynth returns to work and Big Jeff stays at home, the family will have a combined income of \$105,000 per year. With the two new additions to the family, the housing distribution has grown to \$2,220 per month and the food distribution to \$1,320 per month. Our family of 4, now 6, spent the first 3 years with some sacrifice. With no more future-baby accounts to fund, they are relatively wealthy and can buy a nice automobile, a new house, nice clothing, great vacations, and send the kids to the best schools.

Big Jeff brings in some extra income by home schooling the kids and two neighbor kids in K-6. Skeeter has become a master chef operating with that hefty \$1,320 a month food budget. Little Jeff has finally completed all the educational and residency requirements to become a full-fledged radiologist making \$110,000 a year. Cynth is an experienced materials engineer making \$65,000 a year. At age 32, they decide to sacrifice the good life for a year and have one more child. They will use frozen sperm of the fathers, Big Jeff, Little Jeff and Skeeter, and a frozen egg of Cynth.

Cynth and Skeeter have a friend, Jan, who is 28 and wants to be the surrogate mother. Jan meets Big Jeff and Little Jeff and they all get along fabulously, so it is decided that Jan will join the family. Jan would like to join the other three in being a biological father as well as the birth mother however it is not yet scientifically possible to add chromosomes to frozen sperm. It turns out it is possible to fuse Jan's egg with Cynth's frozen egg, so Cynth and Jan become joint biological mothers as Big Jeff, Little Jeff and Skeeter are the biological fathers, and Jan is the birth mother.

For the three designer children, Andromeda, Perseus, and Venus, the sky is the limit.