



University of Cyprus
Department of Law

The **Department of Law** at the **University of Cyprus** kindly invites you to a research seminar on

The invention of the extended family of choice: the rise and fall (to date) of posthumous grandparenthood in Israel

Wednesday, 19 October 2022 at 18:00-19:15

by Dr. Zvi Triger

Chair: Professor Nikitas Hatzimihail

Abstract

Parents in various countries have contemplated having grandchildren from their deceased sons' sperm; however, posthumous grandparenthood (PHG) has been permitted as a matter of policy only in Israel, leading to a significant body of litigation. Using document analysis of all published court cases involving PHG in Israel, this article is the first to explore this turbulent sociolegal debate, framing the rulings within family theory. In this context, we introduce a new notion, the "extended family of choice," created by parents after the death of a son in order to have grandchildren. We argue that PHG disrupts existing theoretical notions of the family, which are based largely on three continuums: traditional/postmodern; collective/individual; and nuclear/extended. Our findings demonstrate that Israeli courts have permitted parents to be extremely proactive and creative in pursuing PHG, the only limitations being an objection by the surviving partner, or the absence of one living biological parent.

Speaker Bio

Prof. Zvi Triger teaches at the Haim Striks Faculty of Law. He is an expert on family law and contract law. His research looks at the relationship between law and culture and focuses on gender equality, LGBTQ rights, parenting, and assisted reproductive technologies.

Practical Details

Language: The seminar will be conducted in English

Registration: Please register for the Zoom meeting following [this link](#).