



HELPING BUILD FAMILIES SINCE 1995

CIRCLE PRESS KIT

CIRCLESURROGACY.COM



OUR STORY

John Weltman founded a surrogate parenting agency in 1995. He incorporated the agency in 2001 as Circle Surrogacy. Today Circle is the largest surrogacy parenting agency in the world with a staff of roughly 50 employees across the U.S. and abroad, including extensive legal and social work teams.

Our vision of surrogacy is unique. We believe in a relationship-based model, which focuses on a careful matching process in order to facilitate open communication between surrogates and intended parents during and after the surrogacy process. This philosophy is guided by studies showing that it's best for the child. Research (www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3210890/) has shown that children who are told how they came into the world have more favorable outcomes in terms of understanding themselves and their identity. Moreover, we believe that having a relationship with the surrogate allows parents to easily incorporate her into their children's birth story.

For intended parents, we control costs, secure legal parentage, and ensure the family returns home safely. We are able to control costs with unique offerings such as our fixed fee program and our partnerships with top fertility clinics. Through our partnerships we are able to offer unlimited matching and IVF procedures. We stand by our intended parents until they have a baby. This has given us what we believe to be the highest success rate in surrogacy, which has allowed us to become the fastest-growing agency in the world.

With surrogates, we guide and support them throughout the process. We also connect them with former and current surrogates. Additionally, we help them cultivate a strong relationship with their intended parents. Our program works to create a meaningful and rewarding experience that will last a lifetime.

Circle is recognized worldwide for its expertise in surrogacy, egg donation, and assisted reproductive technology law. Our staff members have been called upon by a variety of media outlets: *The New York Times*, *CNN*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Reuters*, *Good Morning America*, *BBC Radio*, *China Central Television*, *Sydney Morning Herald*, *Irish Times*, and more.

Through our extensive experience, we are able to provide legal service, support and guidance to our diverse community of intended parents including the LGBT community, individuals with HIV, and parents from throughout the United States as well as over 70 countries including France, China, U.K., Sweden, Norway, Ireland, Australia, and beyond.



OUR FOUNDER: JOHN WELTMAN

John Weltman is a dad through surrogacy to two sons with his husband Cliff Atkins. He is also an expert in the field of Assisted Reproductive Technology Law and the founder of Circle Surrogacy and Circle Egg Donation.

He attended Yale University, Oxford University, and the University of Virginia for his B.A., M.A., and J.D. After finishing his law degree, he began practicing law all over the world. He is admitted in Massachusetts, New York, and California. He was the first to establish the right of couples to get insurance coverage for gestational surrogacy in Massachusetts. He has obtained countless pre-birth orders, step-parent and second-parent adoptions for both same-sex and straight couples as well as individuals. He has also worked closely with lawyers and parents from over 70 countries to obtain legal recognition of their children in their home countries.



John takes great pride in trying to make a positive impact on the domestic and international surrogacy process. He truly knows what it feels like to think you will never have children of your own. He is passionate about the caring hearts of the surrogates and egg donors, because he knows how wonderful it is for a child to know how he or she came into this world, and to meet all of those amazing people who made his or her existence possible. He genuinely believe that miracles can be expected through surrogacy.



Past Features



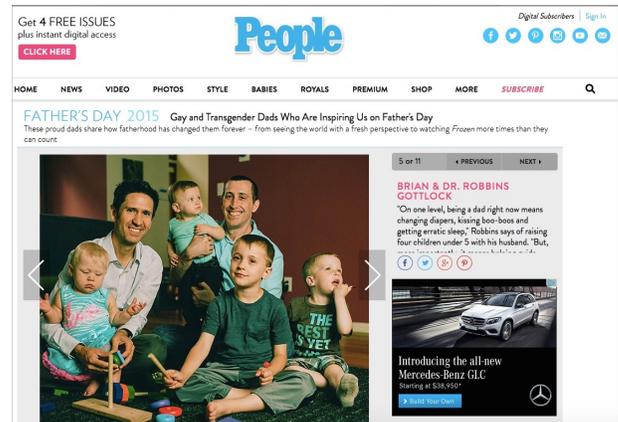
New York Times - Founder John Weltman was interviewed for the short documentary *Baby M and the Question of Surrogacy*.



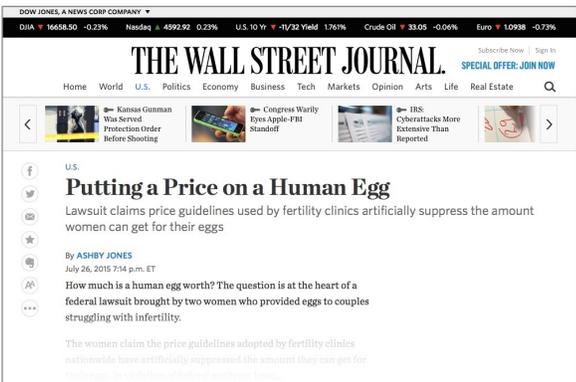
CNN Money - John Weltman interviewed about Chinese couples coming to the United States for surrogacy.



Good Morning America - Circle Lawyer and four-time egg donor was interviewed on ABC News.



People - Circle Surrogacy Intended Parents were featured in People Magazine.



The Wall Street Journal - Circle Lawyer and four-time egg donor was interviewed about the compensation for egg donors.

Circle has been called on by many outlets including:

- Reuters
- BBC World Service
- New York Times Retro Report
- Huff Post Live
- The Atlantic
- Irish Times
- The Advocate Magazine
- NPR News
- and more. Find a full list of past clips at circlesurrogacy.com/press

Facts and Figures

- Over **20 years** of experience helping intended parents from around the world
- Over **1,100 babies** born through Circle Surrogacy since 1995
- Largest and fastest-growing surrogate parenting agency in the world
- **50%** of intended parents are members of the LGBT community
- One of the most **internationally-focused** agencies, with a majority of current intended parents residing outside the United States, primarily from France, the UK, China, and Scandinavia
- Over **530 egg donors** currently signed up to help intended parents
- Team of nearly **50 employees** across several states and countries.
- **Relationship-based** surrogacy model that encourages open and honest communication among all parties
- Pioneered unlimited matching and fixed-fee surrogacy programs
- Encourage **known egg donation**, allowing parents to keep informed, and children to get to know the woman who helped bring them into the world



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