

A photograph of a pregnant woman's belly, which is the central focus. She is wearing a white t-shirt and has her hands resting on her hips. Overlaid on the belly is a glowing, translucent illustration of a fetus in a curled position, with a wavy line representing the umbilical cord. The background is a soft, light gray gradient.

**IN-VITRO**

**THE QUEST FOR LIFE**

# THE JOURNEY

**“Diverse groups of aspiring parents take an immersive journey as they turn to modern medicine to fulfill their maternal dreams.”**

**As contemporary couples make a conscious decision to start families later in life, the conventional idea of family has changed, however; human biology, female fertility, has yet to adapt. In this new era, traditional pregnancies have become progressively laborious for women, categorically over the age of **34**.**

**In addition; the acceptance of same-sex couples, as part of our current social norms, has opened the door for alternative reproductive practices.**

**The end result? **In-Vitro Fertilization, Surrogacy, and Adoption** have become a vital, inherent part in the continued evolution of the familial zeitgeist.**

**“In giving birth to our babies, we may find that we give birth to new possibilities within ourselves.” ~ Myla Kabat-Zinn**

# CREATING LIFE

Ever since “The Real World: Season 1” aired in February of 1992 I’ve had a passion for reality television. They say “video killed the radio star”, but it was reality TV that killed Music Television. Since then MTV has continued to lead the reality show trend with series like MTV’s True Life, Sixteen and Pregnant, and Catfish (based on the hit movie of the same title) to name a few.

The problem?...

An inherent lack of social consciousness. Rewarding **bad** behavior.

**IN-VITRO: The Quest for Life** breaks that current trend depicting reality the way it should be. Real and honest, with a positive, inspiring message. Family and friends, working together in a supportive, fostering environment.

“Motherhood is the biggest gamble in the world. It is the glorious life force. It’s huge and scary... it’s an act of infinite optimism.” ~ Gilda Radner

# MEDICAL MARVELS

**In vitro fertilization (IVF) is a complex series of procedures used to help with fertility or prevent genetic problems and assist with the conception of a child.**

**During IVF, mature eggs are collected (retrieved) from ovaries and fertilized by sperm in a lab. Then the fertilized egg (embryo) or eggs (embryos) are transferred to a uterus. One full cycle of IVF takes about three weeks. Sometimes these steps are split into different parts and the process can take longer.**

**IVF is the most effective form of assisted reproductive technology. The procedure can be done using a couple's own eggs and sperm. Or IVF may involve eggs, sperm or embryos from a known or anonymous donor. In some cases, a gestational carrier — someone who has an embryo implanted in the uterus — might be used.**

**EXCERPT - MAYO CLINIC**  
[mayoclinic.org](http://mayoclinic.org)

**“The difficulty of IVF or of any fertility issues is the hope and the shattered hope, the dream that it might happen this time and then it doesn't happen.” – Brooke Shields**

# DREAM MAKERS

Choosing a fertility clinic isn't an easy or straightforward process. When deciding which clinic to pursue, couples should consider:

- **Location:** Many intended parents travel for their IVF treatment, however; choosing a clinic that's not within driving distance will add to overall financial cost.
- **Services:** Whether serving same-sex couples searching for egg donation or simply hoping to access fertility testing, make sure that the fertility clinic selected can suit both present and long-term fertility needs.
- **Cost:** Select a fertility clinic that caters to both financial needs and comforts with a variety of pricing packages, discounts, payment plans, and guidance.
- **Doctors:** Treatment can be emotionally challenging. To get a better sense of fertility doctors at each clinic, read testimonials and reviews from past patients about their experiences.
- **Facilities:** Some fertility clinics don't have their own facilities to perform ultrasounds, egg retrievals, egg freezing, screening, or other critical services. Make sure to ask about this, as this can add additional time and resources to your journey.
- **Success rates:** Clinics should openly communicate their success rates, if they don't, that's a good indicator that it might not be the best clinic, however; Some cutting-edge clinics are willing to take on more challenging cases, and their success rates suffer as a result.

“It is the most powerful creation to have life growing inside of you.  
There is no bigger gift.” — Beyoncé

# MODERN FAMILIES

The family dynamic has changed in this country and continues to evolve, as it should. We, as a collective, are becoming more inclusive and tolerant day by day, which is why representation is so important. To keep that momentum, **In-Vitro: The Quest for Life** as well as any **spin-off series** will reflect diversity with a cast that includes;

- **1 traditional cisgender couple**
- **1 racially diverse couple**
- **1 couple or single female over the age of 40**
- **1 same sex couple**

“Whether your pregnancy was meticulously planned, medically coaxed, or happened by surprise, one thing is certain, your life will never be the same.” ~ Catherine Jones

# WEEK TO WEEK

**IN-VITRO, THE QUEST FOR LIFE** is an unscripted, **1 hr**, episodic reality series via the **Family and Cultural** genre. Following our aspiring parents for a **10 to 12-episode** arch as they embark on their journey to parenthood.

**Week 1** we'll be introduced to our perspective couples, potential donors, the nature of their relationships, and their reproductive challenges.

Throughout each additional episode, we will continue their quest as they continue to face the challenges of;

1. The search for the right clinical fit.
2. Cost analysis, success rates, and the risks.
3. Doctors visits, procedural and follow-up appointments.
4. Current pregnancy diagnosis and any additional treatments.
5. Candid interviews family, friends, and support groups.

**...Capturing all the drama, heartbreak, and joy in-between.**

“Biology is the least of what makes someone a mother.”

~ Oprah Winfrey

# THE REALITY

**Success rates vary from patient to patient based on several factors to include, but not limited to:**

- 1. Overall, for women starting IVF, 33% have a baby as a result of their first cycle, increasing to 54-77% by the eighth cycle.**
- 2. For women ages 35 and under 50% of IVF procedures in resulted in a live birth.**
- 3. For women ages 42 and older only, 3.9% of the egg transfers resulted in a birth.**
- 4. The CDC reports that the success rates of IVF are increasing in every age group as the techniques are refined and doctors become more experienced.**

## **Financial Factors:**

- 1. Cost varies depending on where you live, the number of medications you're required to take, the number of IVF cycles you undergo, and the amount your insurance company will pay toward the procedure.**
- 2. The average cost of an IVF cycle in the U.S. costs \$12,000 to \$17,000.**

*“Let choice whisper in your ear and love murmur in your heart. Be ready. Here comes life.”*

*~ Maya Angelou*



# A LIFE AFTER

**Pregnancy and the birthing process are just the beginning. Parenthood is a never-ending endeavour. As my mother always told me “You will always be my little boy, no matter how old you get.”**

**For those families who find success throughout the process of IVF, we will continue to follow that journey with, **Life After: In-Vitro**. Parenting is a tough and sometimes unforgiving, unappreciated job filled with worry, stress, and sleepless nights, but above all, **LOVE**. Our audience will want to continue to experience and learn from our budding families but...**

**The stats are clear and concise. Sadly not everyone who embarks on this quest will find the success they were hoping for, so...**

“Making the decision to have a child is momentous. It is to decide forever to have your heart go walking around outside your body.” ~ Elizabeth Stone

# WHAT NEXT

For those couples who are unlucky in their **Quest for Life**, the search doesn't have to end with IVF. There are other options, and we will take on the task of continuing the trek with those who are willing and wanting, either through surrogacy, or adoption.

## **SURROGACY: The Quest for Life**

- A continuation with those couples whose IVF treatments were unsuccessful and new cast members interested in surrogacy.
  1. The cost of surrogacy can range from **\$25,000** upwards to **\$150,000**.
  2. The process of finding a surrogate and forming a relationship.
  3. With a surrogate found... What next?

## **ADOPTION: The Quest for Life**

- A continuation with those couples who choose an alternative to IVF and surrogacy via adoption.
  1. The cost of adoption can range from **\$12,000** upwards to **\$25,000**.
  2. The process of finding an agency, adoption, and forming a paternal bond.

“The amazing thing about becoming a parent is that you will never again be your own first priority.” ~ Olivia Wilde

# FINAL DIAGNOSIS

**IN-VITRO: The Quest for Life**, as well as any **subsequent series**, will open up a dialog to the polarizing sacrifices, both emotional and financial, that many families make daily in the ever-changing landscape of our current and unforeseeable world.

With a rich, diverse cast of interesting characters with compelling stories, this series appeals to nearly every demographic. Furthermore, an optimistic, family-friendly message of hope and love sets this series apart from many of the reality shows on television and streaming services today that focus on negativity and manufactured drama in the name of ratings.

“A grand adventure is about to begin.”

~ Winnie the Pooh



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