In modern times, responsibility for contraception has fallen largely to women: they have many forms of contraceptive modalities, including foams, gels, pills, injections, intrauterine devices, implants, and many others. In contrast, men have three options for fertility control: the condom, the vasectomy, and withdrawal—that’s all, guys. This lecture explores the science and medical realities, as well as the social and practical implications, of new forms of male contraception: the male pill, male injections, vas blockage for males, and other new technologies now in development.

Remodeling contraception paradigms and the power of arithmetic can demonstrate how modern male contraception could be available now. Who should bear responsibility for contraception, if there are reliable long-acting methods available for both male and female? What effect might this have on male/female social roles?