

**DIALOGUES IN RESEARCH ETHICS****Dialogue 6****Sex, Fecundity and Reproduction:  
Scientific, Social and Ethical Challenges**

**Germaine M. Buck, Ph.D.**  
*National Institutes of Health*

**12 Noon, Friday, March 30, 2001**  
**Rosenstiel Building 6018 (Pharmacology Conference Room)**

—————> Lunch will be provided <—————

**Assessment of human fecundity, or the biologic capacity for reproduction, requires prospective inquiry using a variety of data collection instruments and the collection of a variety of biologic specimens. This research raises a number of under-addressed ethical issues: Must both partners be regarded as subjects? Is it advisable to assume paternity? How should subjects be counseled about intercourse, menstruation, contraception — and how truthful should investigators regard reports from subjects and their partners on these matters?**

Dr. Buck is Chief of the Epidemiology Branch, Division of Epidemiology, Statistics & Prevention Research, at the National Institute of Child Health & Human Development.

*Dialogues in Research Ethics is a series of monthly conferences. For more information, phone 305-243-5723, write to Campus Box M-825 or send E-mail to [ethics@miami.edu](mailto:ethics@miami.edu)*

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