

## Lead discoverer of 'three-parent baby' method breaks 13 year silence—affirms technique's safety

When scientists announced in 2003 they had used a pioneering technique for the first time to create so-called 'three-parent babies', there was international outrage with accusations that they were "playing God".

But[,]...as UK regulators [consider whether it is medically safe to licence its use](#) in order to prevent women with devastating inherited diseases from passing them on to their children[,] the researchers have finally published an academic paper detailing their work in which they insist it is safe.

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According to some opponents, the procedure is tantamount to genetic modification of humans.—

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[Dr. Zhang] felt that opponents of its use were treating [fetuses] in a different way to people who were sick. "This person needs to be treated or cured – no one would have a problem with that. Why should it be different with a [fetus] to a patient in a hospital?" [he] said. "I think the immediate benefit of this technique is thousands of couples can have a baby of their own without this disease. You basically cure the disease."

**The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis. Read full, original post: [Scientists break —13-year silence to insist 'three-parent baby' technique is safe](#)**