



Media Announcement

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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KANSAS CITY, MO, January 27, 2014: KCPT's THE LOCAL SHOW presents BIRTHING PAINS, an hour-long live special that tracks a \$5 billion industry that is pushing the frontiers of medicine, infertility.

Thursday, January 30 at 7pm on KCPT

Over seven million American women suffer from infertility. This amounts to 12 percent of the entire reproductive-age population from the ages of 15 to 44. Collectively this year, they will spend \$5 billion on infertility treatments. Yet, much of that medical care is not covered by insurance. Like most states, Kansas and Missouri doesn't require health insurers to provide infertility procedures and neither does the new Affordable Care Act.

So how much would YOU spend for the chance to have a child?

Would you invest \$100,000 of your life-savings with a 50 to 75% chance of losing your money and receiving zero return?

KCPT tracks the issue through the eyes of three couples. Filmmaker Sharon Liese chronicles their stories as they go about making one of the most personal decisions of their lives. We join the women as they undergo treatment and later in the recovery room as they make peace with their choices. We also meet with a young husband and wife from Tonganoxie who are adamant that their family is complete and will do anything to prevent another baby.

Birthing Pains looks at both sides of a multi-billion dollar industry that provokes medical, societal and ethical questions. On Thursday, January 30 at 7pm in a special hour-long, live edition of THE LOCAL SHOW, we also bring together doctors and an ethicist to answer your questions:

Sasha Krieg, MD
KU Center for Advanced Reproductive Medicine

Dan L. Gehlbach, MD
Midwest Reproductive Center

John Lantos, MD
Children's Mercy Bioethics Center

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