

REPRODUTOPIA: STUDYING LAY ETHICAL PERSPECTIVES ON FUTURE REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGIES

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BACKGROUND

- **Future Reproductive Technologies (FRT)** are innovations such as the artificial womb and gene editing
- Their impact on society remains **uncertain and ambiguous**
- There is a need for **inclusivity and reflection** in the societal discussion on FRT
- **Lay people's ethical perspectives** on FRT are important for responsible innovation

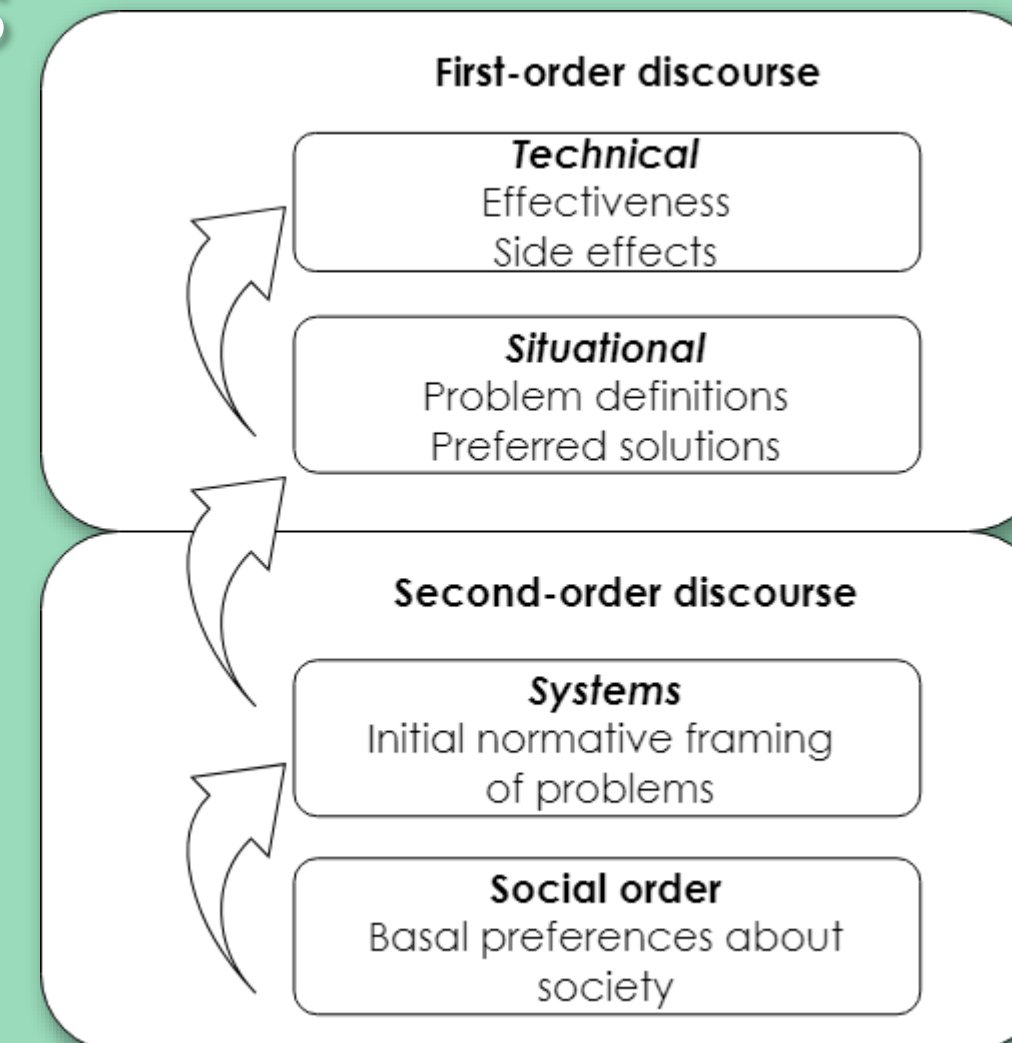
RESEARCH AIM

To contribute to the inclusive and reflective qualities of Next Nature Network's interactive Reprodutopia expo by investigating public perspectives on future reproductive technologies in lay ethics discussions.



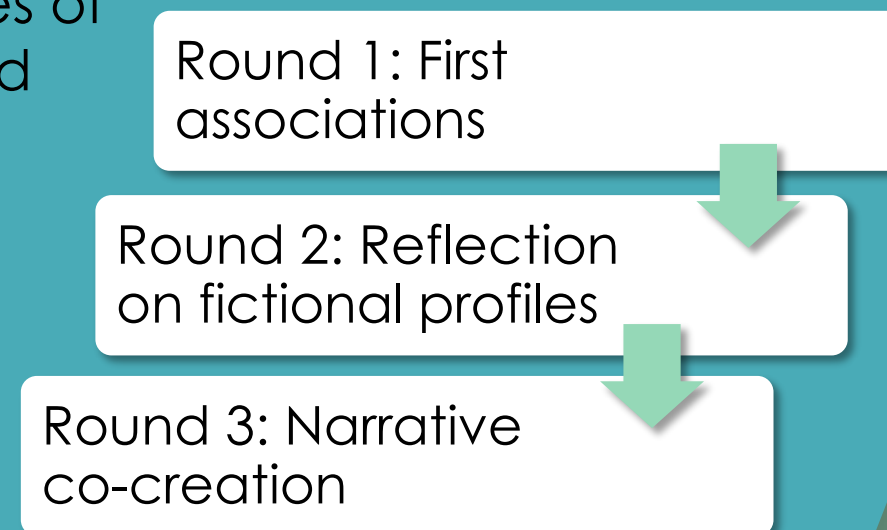
THEORY AND CONCEPTS

- People use **frames of meaning** to make sense of complex issues
- Reflection on frames of meaning occurs on **four different levels**
- Each level of reflection is influenced by the level below it



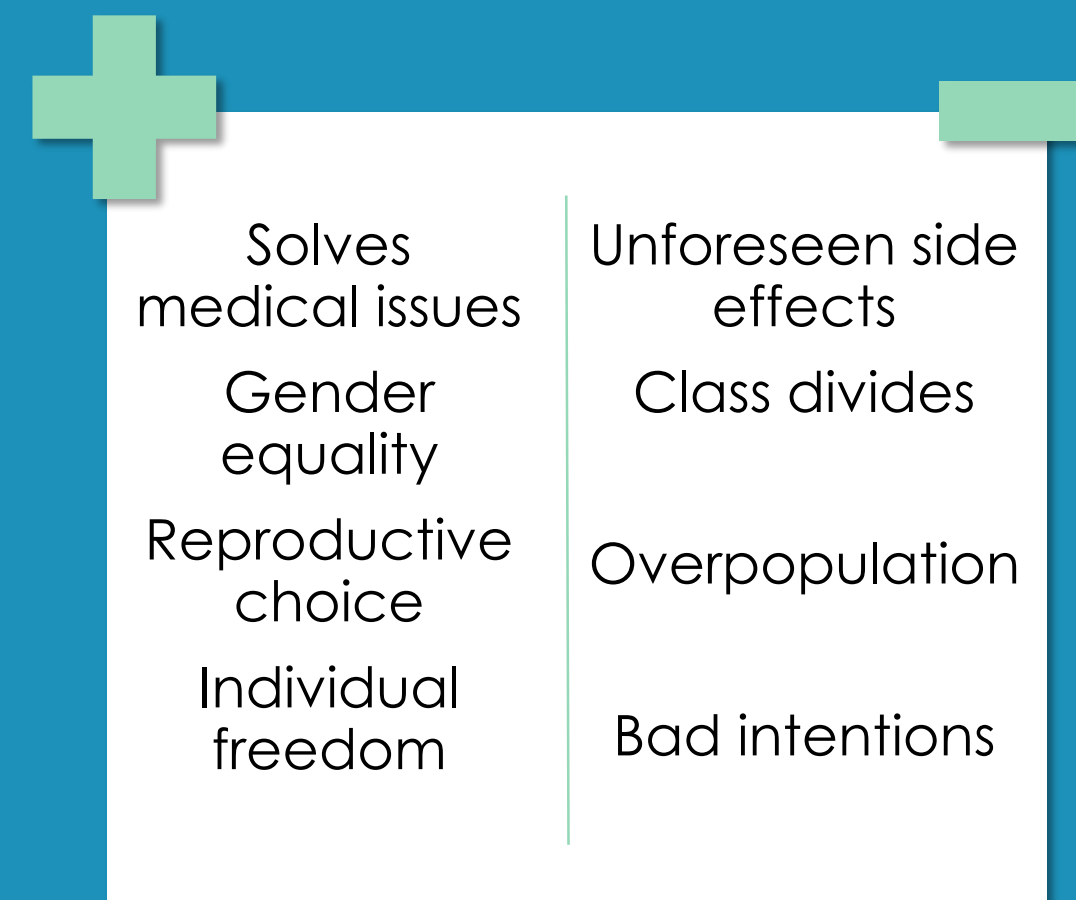
METHODS

- Five **focus groups**
- 25 participants: different ages, parents and non-parents
- Three **discussion rounds**
Outcomes of one round serve as input for the next
- Combination of open and selective coding; **horizontal and vertical analysis**



KEY RESULTS

FRT as a **double-edged sword**:
It will be designed to solve issues, but may create new ones



DISCUSSION

- Co-created **narratives reflected the themes** and levels of discussion
- Different **themes co-occurred** on the same level of reflection
- **Strength: focus group design** with creative dialogue elements
- **Limitation: diversity** of participant sample
- Implication: efforts to enrich the societal discussion on FRT (e.g. Reprodutopia) can be made more inclusive and reflective by **incorporating lay people's double-sided views** on FRT