



Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 1990

1990 CHAPTER 37

Status

27 Meaning of “mother”.

- (1) The woman who is carrying or has carried a child as a result of the placing in her of an embryo or of sperm and eggs, and no other woman, is to be treated as the mother of the child.
- (2) Subsection (1) above does not apply to any child to the extent that the child is treated by virtue of adoption as not being the [F¹woman’s child].
- (3) Subsection (1) above applies whether the woman was in the United Kingdom or elsewhere at the time of the placing in her of the embryo or the sperm and eggs.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 27(2) substituted (30.12.2005) by [Adoption and Children Act 2002 \(c. 38\)](#), ss. 139, 148, [Sch. 3 para. 77](#) (with [Sch. 4 para. 6-8](#)); S.I. 2005/2213, [art. 2\(o\)](#)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** Ss. 27-29 excluded (6.4.2009) by [Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008 \(c. 22\)](#), [ss. 57\(2\)](#), [68\(2\)](#); S.I. 2009/479, [art. 6\(1\)\(b\)](#) (with [art. 7Sch.](#))
- C2** S. 27(2) modified (1.11.1994) by S.I. 1994/2804, [reg. 3](#), [Sch. 2 para. 6](#)
- C3** S. 27(2) modified (6.4.2010) by [The Human Fertilisation and Embryology \(Parental Orders\) Regulations 2010 \(S.I. 2010/985\)](#), [regs. 1\(1\)](#), 5, [Sch. 4](#)
- C4** S. 27(2) modified (21.12.2018) by [The Human Fertilisation and Embryology \(Parental Orders\) Regulations 2018 \(S.I. 2018/1412\)](#), [reg. 1\(2\)](#), [Sch. 4 para. 16](#)

Commencement Information

- I1** S. 27 wholly in force at 1.8.1991 see s. 49(2) and S.I. 1991/1400, [art. 2\(2\)](#)

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 1990, Section 27.