

## Research Project LGBTQ+ Family Rights after Marital Dissolutions

Up to now, researches done in Quebec on **gay, lesbian, bisexual, trans, and queer parents** (LGBTQ+) have mainly focused on the different ways in which these people become parents: medically assisted procreation (with a known or an unknown donor), artisanal (at home) insemination, adoption, co-parenting (when individuals who do not form a couple decide to raise a child together) or surrogacy. These researches highlight the variability of arrangements in LGBTQ+ families, depending on whether the children are conceived and/or raised in a conjugal context or not, and whether or not the parents have a biological, legal and/or social status.

This project seeks to understand how these arrangements evolve in the case of **marital dissolutions and conflicts regarding the education of the children** (when these children are born out of a conjugal context). Its goal is to analyze the ways in which parents who identify with a sexual and/or gender minority relate to **law and justice** when faced with a marital dissolution or a parental conflict.

In order to do so, **we intend to interview LGBTQ+ parents** who have been experienced a marital dissolution with their partner·s (30 interviews). Additionally, we hope to meet parents who have experienced a custody dispute with the other(s) parent(s) of their child(ren) who is (or are) not their spouse. We also aim to talk to new partner·s of LGBTQ+ parents (including situations of polyamory).

The interviews are semi-structured and expected to last **2 hours** on average. They will focus on parents' marital dissolution and recomposition experience, and on the space taken by law, legal professionals, and dispute settlement options. To analyze the "sequence" of the marital dissolution, it will be necessary to deal with the modes of access to parenthood and the distribution of parental tasks prior to the marital dissolution.

This project was built upon a **collaborative framework**: it involves six researchers (in political science at Laval University, in social work at UQO, and in civil law at the University of Ottawa) as well as Quebec's Ministry of Justice and the *Coalition des familles LGBT du Québec*. Members of those two organizations were involved in the development of the project and the conception of the interview guide. They will also be involved in the validation and distribution of the results.

For any information request, please contact Émilie Biland-Curinier, associate professor at Laval University and leader of the project at [emilie.biland@pol.ulaval.ca](mailto:emilie.biland@pol.ulaval.ca).

This project has been approved by Laval University's **ethic comity** (Comité d'éthique de la recherche de l'Université Laval): Approbation number 2018-227 A-2 / 04-03-2019.