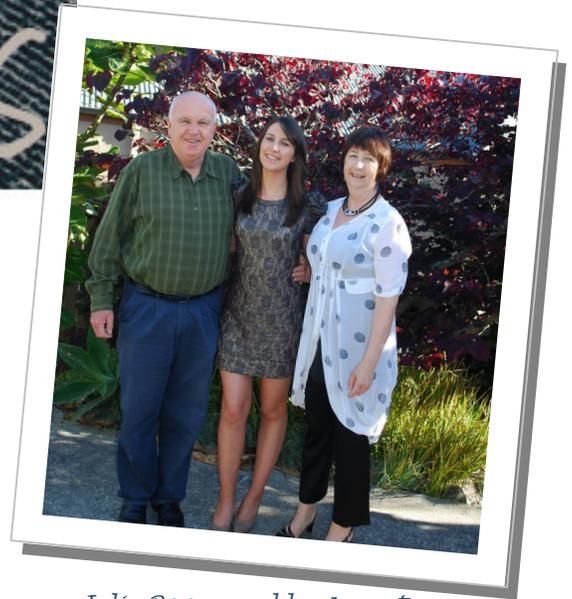


# IVF-lings



*Julia Rogan and her parents*

**We interviewed Julia Rogan, a 22 year old IVF-ling from Auckland. She has spoken openly in the past to media and other groups about her childhood, understanding and appreciation of how IVF help in her conception. Now she has agreed to get involved with our website and share her thoughts with you...**

## **Why do you think it is important to have a website such as [ivf-lings.co.nz](http://ivf-lings.co.nz)?**

I think it is important to have a resource especially dedicated to IVF children that explains the IVF process in simple terms. There is a lot of information available to parents going through the IVF process, but so far there hasn't been anything dedicated to the children. I also think it is important that IVF children are able to be linked to the experts in the fertility field if they have any questions.

## **Why did you agree to be involved with it?**

I wanted to get involved because I personally have always been interested in how IVF works and thought the website would be a great tool that I could use to understand the process in more detail. I'm sure that as many other IVF-lings come to a stage where they can begin to understand IVF they too can use this website to further their own understanding of the process.

## **Who would you encourage to use it and why?**

Although the website is aimed towards IVF children it is a great tool that anyone interested in the IVF process can use. I think parents who believe their children are at an age to start learning about how they were conceived can use the website to help them explain and I hope it can also be of use to those who are considering fertility treatment.

## **What has your experience been growing up knowing you were born with the help of IVF treatment?**

Overall my experience growing up has not been much different to anyone else. I guess I have always just been grateful and excited to know that the reason I exist is because of my parents being able to access this amazing technology.

## **What have your parents always told you and how did this impact you?**

From when I can remember my parents have always been up front and honest about how I was created. I presume because I have always known about it then it has never really come as much of a shock. I'm definitely grateful to my parents for their honesty as I definitely deserved the right to know as it is big part of who I am.

**What would you say to other IVF-lings that know they were conceived with the help of this treatment?**

Just always to realise how much you are wanted and loved by your parents. Not to say those conceived naturally shouldn't feel the same way, I guess just knowing what my parents went through to have me makes me feel very cherished.

**What advice would you give to parents who are thinking about explaining the process and background of any fertility treatment to their children?**

Just to be open and honest about the whole process from the start and tell your kids as much as you can if they are interested in finding out. If there are any hard questions that you can't answer then this new website can be a great tool to help you out.

**Do you believe the research?**

It is always interesting to listen and be mindful of the research. However, I never take it too seriously as I'm generally just a happy and healthy person like everyone else. So far I haven't come across any abnormalities...yet.