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Title: Anonimowy poród szpitalny jako alternatywa dla okien życia / Anonymous hospital birth as an alternative to baby hatches

Source: Kwartalnik Prawa Prywatnego („Quarterly of Private Law”)

Year: 2024, vol.: XXXIII, number 3 pages: 549-566

Keywords: anonymous childbirth, baby hatch, mother, child

Discipline: Law (Civil Law)

Language: Polish

Document type: Article

Publication order reference: WSB University, Dąbrowa Górnicza [anna.wilk@wsb.edu.pl]

Abstract:

Anonymous hospital birth involves a woman giving birth to a child in a medical facility without providing her personal data, or providing it, but in a restricted form (e.g. in a sealed envelope). This is a solution practiced in various European and non-European countries. Individual legislations differ in this respect as to whether providing such data in a restricted form is obligatory or not, as well as to the conditions upon which the child can subsequently become familiar with such data. Anonymous hospital birth is an alternative to the so-called windows of life (baby hatches), as it allows a woman to give birth to a child in safe hospital conditions. Unfortunately, in Poland there is no possibility of giving birth anonymously in a hospital. The article will therefore discuss foreign experiences, the advantages of anonymous birth as an alternative to windows of life, the issue of anonymous birth in the context of protecting human rights, as well as the possibility of introducing such births in Poland.