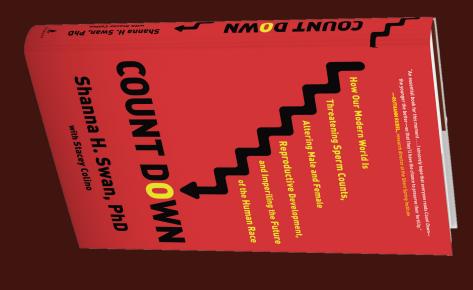
## Count Down

How Our Modern World Is
Threatening Sperm Counts, Altering
Male and Female Reproductive
Development, and Imperiling the
Future of the Human Race
SHANNA H SWAN, PHD

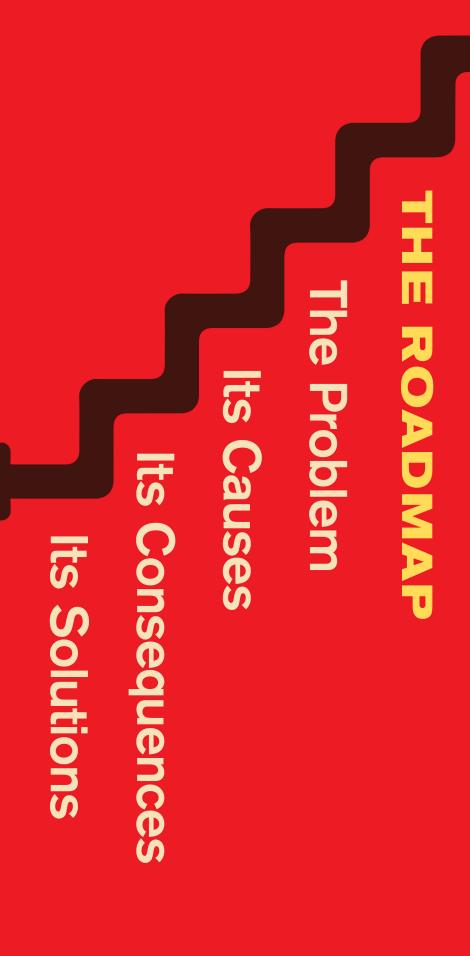










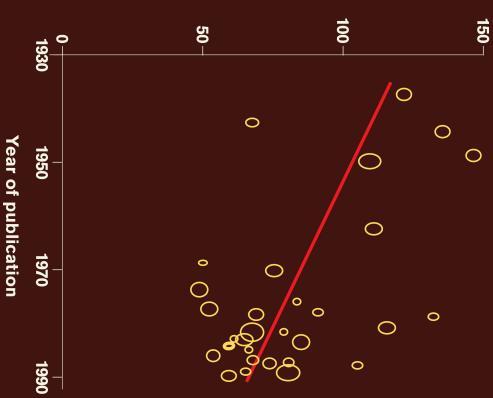




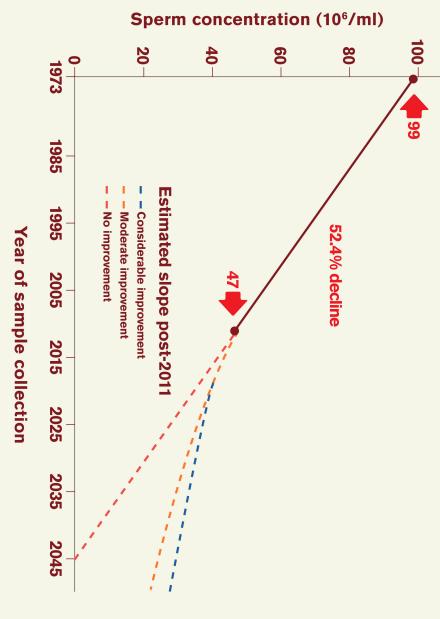
## "There has been a genuine decline in semen quality over the past 50 years"

CARLSEN ET AL, 1992

#### Sperm concentration (10<sup>6</sup>/ml)



# Sperm Decline in Western Countries



**LEVINE ET AL 2017, GRAPH: GRANTHAM FOUNDATION** 

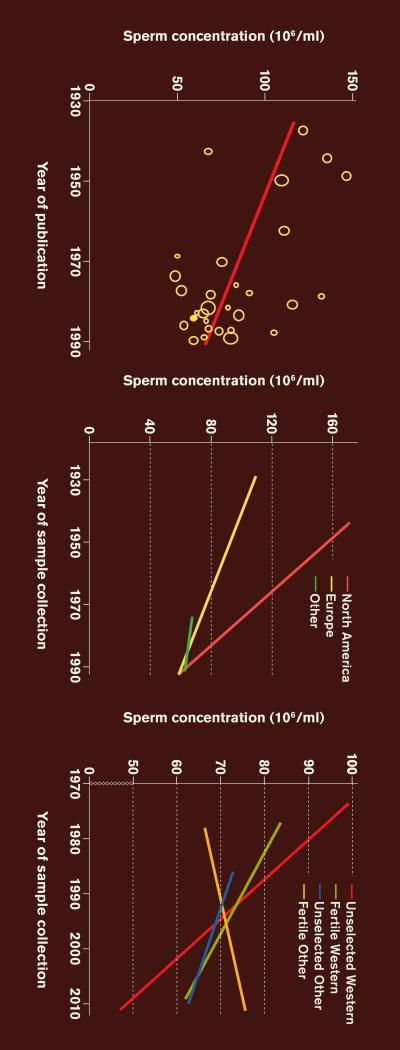


# Sperm Decline in Three Analyses

**CARLSEN ET AL 1992** 

**SWAN ET AL 2000** 

**LEVINE ET AL 2017** 



# Reproductive Problems in Men and Women

#### Males o

Low sperm count

**Short AGD** 

Small penis and scrotrum

Reduced testosterone Genital birth

defects

Both

Infertility

Ambiguous genitalia

**Hormone** abnormalities

**Low libido** 

DNA damage in sperm and egg

ART failure

#### Females +

Low birth weight/ prematurity

Menstrual problems

Endometriosis

Premature egg depletion

**Early** puberty

Miscarriage

# Reproductive Problems in Men and Women

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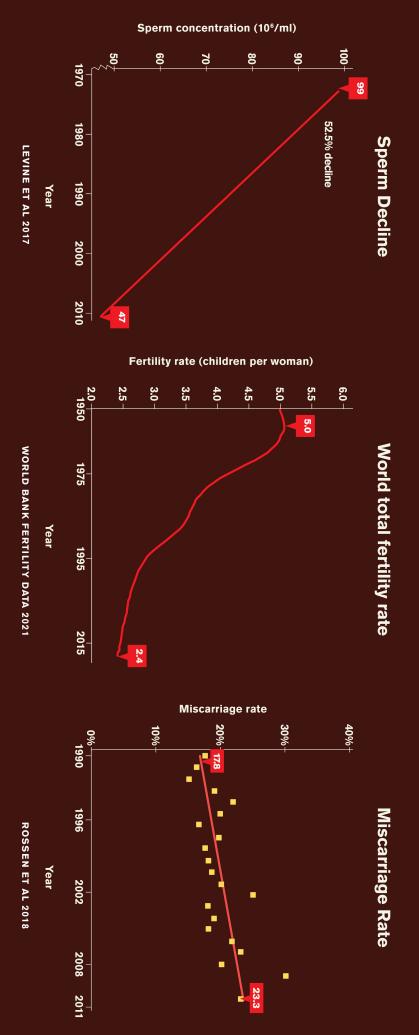
Premature egg depletion

**Early** puberty

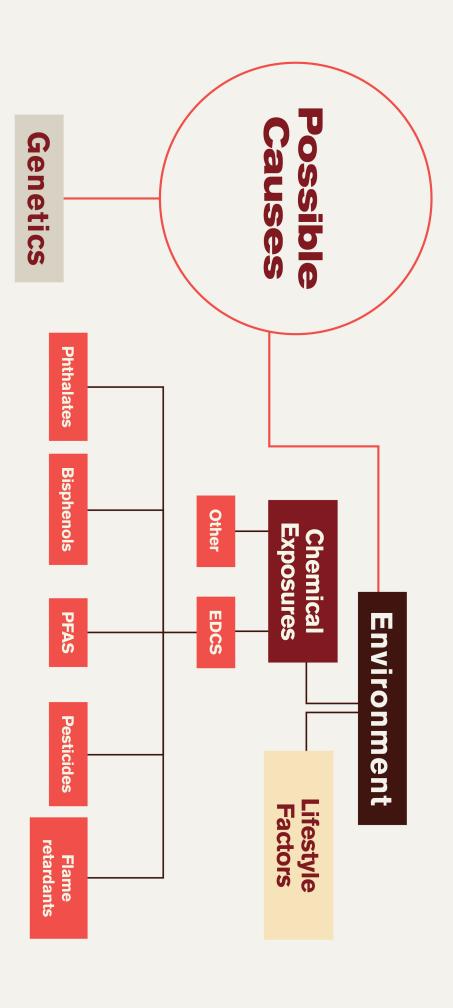
Miscarriage

**Reproductive Health and the Environment** 

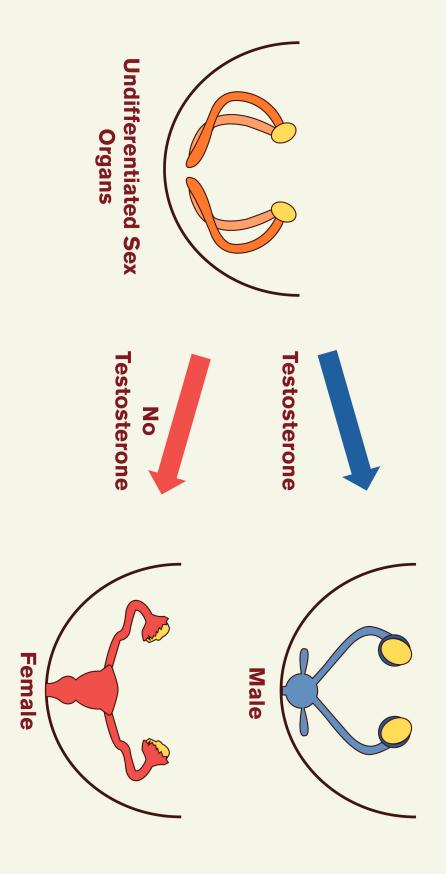
### The 1% Effect







## Reproductive development depends on hormonal input

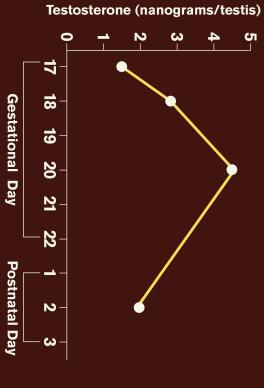




# What can interfere with testosterone levels?

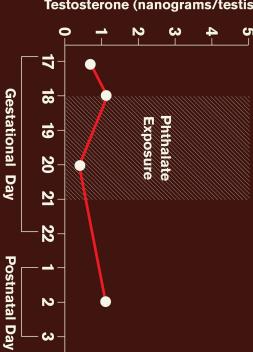






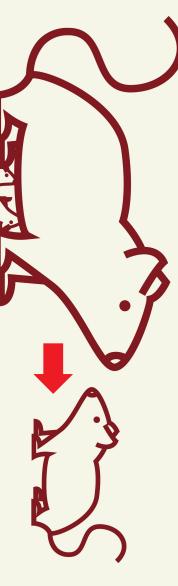


#### **Testosterone (nanograms/testis)**



#### DEHP

## Phthalate Syndrome



- Smaller penis
- Malformed penis
- Undescended testicles
- Shortened AGD

**FOSTER 2005 INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ANDROLOGY** 

#### DEHP

## **Phthalate Syndrome**



- Smaller penis
- Malformed penis
- Undescended testicles
- Shortened AGD

**FOSTER 2005 INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ANDROLOGY** 

## Anogenital distance (AGD): A reflection of fetal androgen

- 50%-100% longer in males than females
- Rodent data on AGD published in 1912
- Used in animal toxicity testing since 1998



## in two human studies (2005 & 2015) We confirmed this hypothesis

- Prenatal phthalate in human males the phthalate syndrome exposure causes
- Phthalates are endocrine disruptors (antiandrogenic)
- AGD is a marker of fetal androgen exposure

### Research | Children's Health

Phthalate Exposure Decrease in Anogenital Distance among Male Infants with Prenatal

Shanna H. Swan, <sup>1</sup> Katharina M. Main, <sup>2</sup> Fan Liu, <sup>3</sup> Sara L. Stewart, <sup>3</sup> Robin L. Kruse, <sup>3</sup> Antonia M. Calafa Catherine S. Mao, <sup>5</sup> J. Bruce Redmon, <sup>6</sup> Christine L. Ternand, <sup>7</sup> Shannon Sullivan, <sup>8</sup> J. Lynn Teague, <sup>9</sup> and

Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Rochester, Rochester, Minnesota, USA; <sup>2</sup>Department of Growth the Study for Future Families Research Team\*

Human Reproduction, Vol.0, No.0 pp. 1-10, 2015

doi:10.1093/humrep/deu363

reproduction

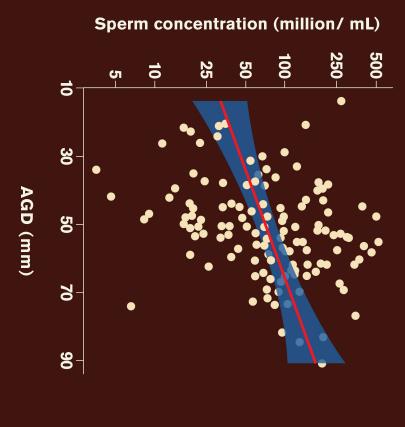
ORIGINAL ARTICLE Reproductive epidemiology

### and anogenital distance in newborns First trimester phthalate exposure

S.H. Swan<sup>1,\*</sup>, S. Sathyanarayana<sup>2,3</sup>, E.S. Barrett<sup>4</sup>, S. Janssen<sup>5</sup>, F. Liu<sup>1</sup>, R.H.N. Nguven<sup>6</sup>, and I.B. Redmon<sup>7</sup> the TIDES Study Team

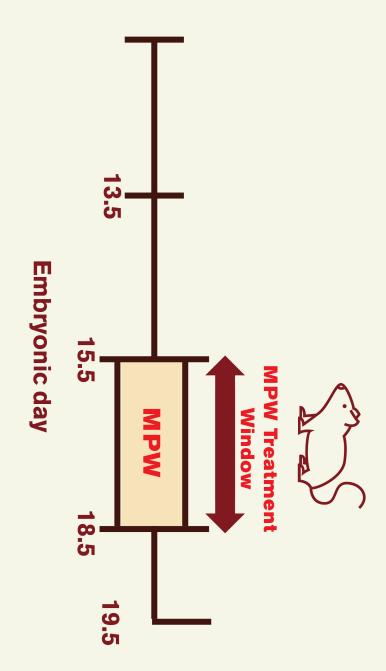
Reproductive Health and the Environment

# Shorter AGD is associated with lower sperm count



MENDIOLA ET AL., 2011, ENVIRON HEALTH PERSPECT

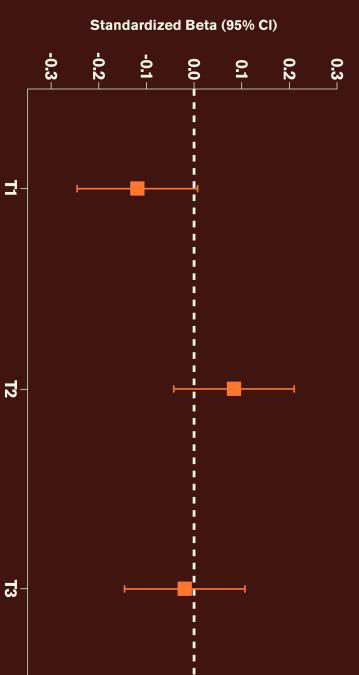
# Critical window (MPW) for rodent AGD



MPW = Male Programming Window

**MACLEOD ET AL 2010** 

# Change in AGD by trimester of exposure to Σ DEHP metabolites



**MARTINO ANDRADE ET AL 2017** 

Trimester of Exposure

## Prenatal exposure is more important than postnatal exposure



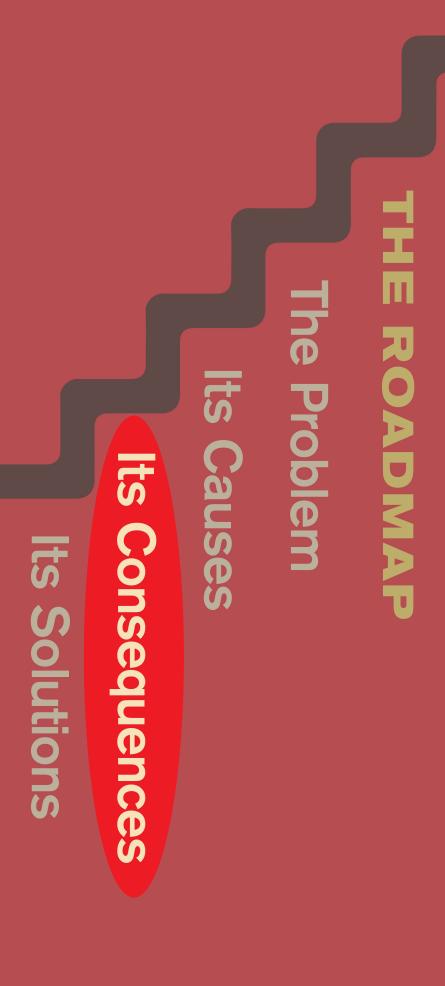
Shanna H Swan, PhD

Around the time of conception

**During pregnancy** 

**Reproductive Health and the Environment** 

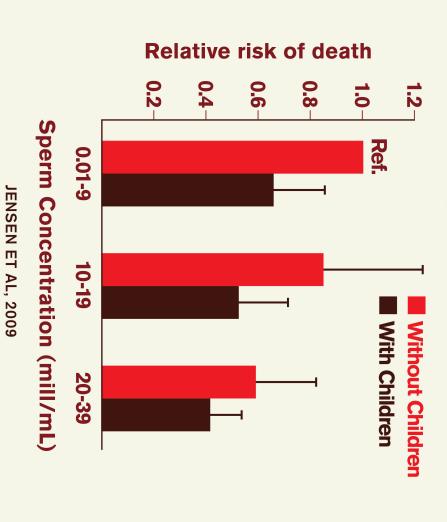
**During adulthood** 



Shanna H Swan, PhD

Reproductive Health and the Environment

### has lifelong consequences Poor reproductive health



**2018** 126 million

65 years

Shanna H Swan, PhD

Reproductive Health and the Environment

#### Exposure

Mother (F<sub>o</sub>)

Fetus (F<sub>1</sub>)

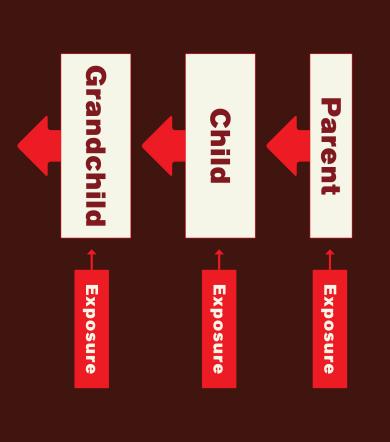
Reproductive cells (F<sub>2</sub>)

generation that was reported in the F<sub>3</sub> not directly exposed **Health effects** 

### **Transgenerational**

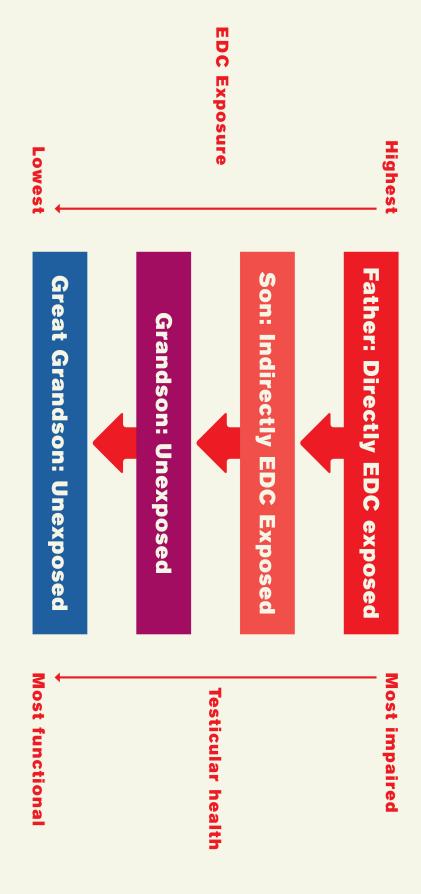
## Parent Child Multigenerational Grandchild Transgenerational

#### Successive

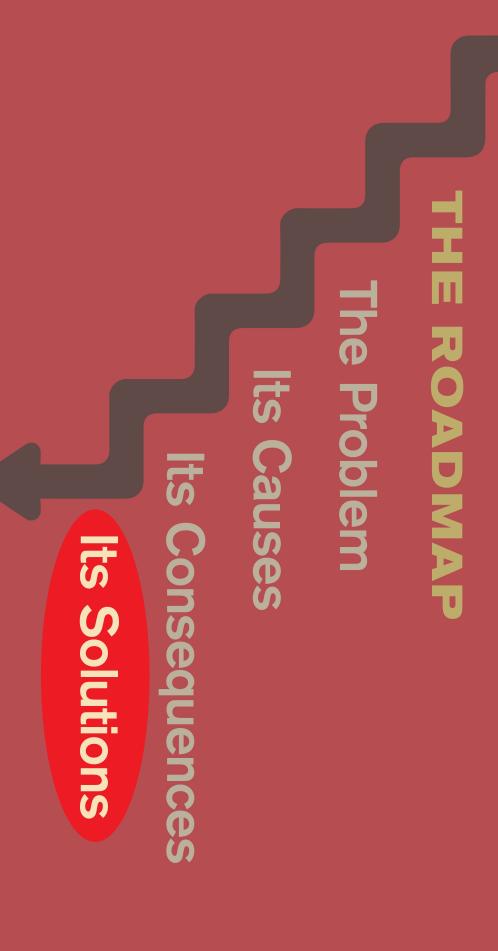


ADAPTED FROM PA HUNT

# generations after direct exposure to an EDC Recovery of testicular function several



ADAPTED FROM PA HUNT









## Chemicals that are:

- Hormonally active
- Cause harm at low doses
- Environmentally persistent
- Untested for toxicity



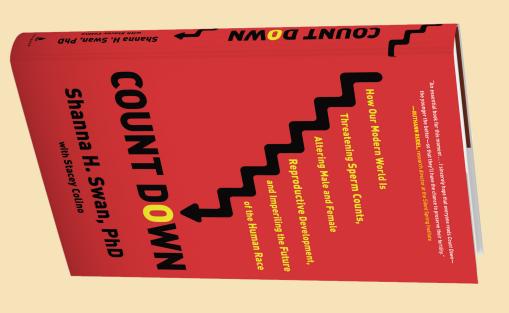
## With chemicals:

- Without endocrine disrupting effects
- Free of low dose adverse effects
- Minimally environmentally persistent
- Shown to be safe prior to marketing



### By assessing:

- Low dose effects
- Mixture effects
- Environmental persistence
- Risks in untested chemicals



## Count Down published by Scribner on February 23rd

Pre-order here:

www.shannaswan.com