Absolutely and Fairfax is, as you know, not alone. [In denying donors their own donor number.] Fertility Center of California - same deal - my daughter is now testing with FamilyTreeDNA to bridge the gap. It seems that like every other corporate entity all they consider is covering their collective butts.

My experience with the Fertility Center of CA was, I think, different! I dealt directly with them as far as purchasing the sperm there and using one of their recommended doctors.... My experience with them was fine. I was given the sheet with the donor’s information and it had his donor id on the sheet (and we’ve connected with a sibling on the dsr based on the donor id). That said, I haven’t tried yet to get further information from them because my daughter expressed no interest! At this time, I’m going to contact them just to see if they will pass information on to the donor knowing that we’re interested in communicating with him if he’s willing to. I guess I’ll find out if they’ll help in that area or not! Although my daughter hasn’t expressed an interest (and I’ve asked her many times), I still think at some point she will, and I will do whatever I can to help her find the donor.

If you ever ask them, I would love to know why the Fertility Center of California, after being told the donor number, and told I would not pursue them legally, refused to confirm the details of my daughter’s donor that I remembered; are in fact what the donor wrote on his form. I didn’t ask for more info, or contact with the donor, just was the donor this and that.

As I was not allowed to hold the form in my hand, and had no agreement with FCC (I went through Dr. Debrovner via Repro Lab) I do not understand why FCC would say they would look and then refuse to tell me anything. It means my daughter will not be able to find any half siblings without DNA testing, which I can’t afford to offer to pay for for any potential half siblings.

We have had very poor response from the Fertility Center of California at San Diego - so I am asking the group - for those of you who found your donors by sleuthing - how do you do this? Does anyone know of a good detective in California? I have the donor’s # and I remember a lot of details, but the bank WILL NOT confirm that what I recall being told matches that donor number. This hampers our search on the DSR because when I search through the Unknown donors, the only thing I am 100% certain of is brown eyes. So we are frustrated.

Any info or advice the email group can provide is welcome. My daughter just wants to see a photo of her donor and hopefully meet 1/2 sibs if they want that. But we are concerned that the longer this drags out the more difficult it will be to confirm the info. We are willing to sign any release the bank has, we just want to know.

Yes same problem with my daughter and Fertility Center of California. I can’t get them to confirm that the features I recall pertain to the number I have for my child’s donor - I’m not asking for more info - just for me to know that what I have is the right corresponding info for that number. Nor will they tell me whether their numbering system means anything. They tell me "they don't know". Which is a 10 on my personal B.S. Meter.

A number of the banks have agreements with other banks and labs so that their list of donors is more diverse.
My daughter was conceived at Repro Lab in NYC with a donor from Fertility Center of California in San Diego. I didn’t find that out until this year and my daughter is now 18! I’m sure there are banks all over that used the same business model.

5/11/11  http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/14159
I remember that one DSR donor from that clinic, 48QAH, had that donor number because he was “Quite A Hunk”, according to the nurses that worked at the clinic...
So their donor numbering system might not have anything to do with hair color, eye color, education, etc.

8/4/08  http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/10956
Repro Lab (NY) uses some donors from Fertility Center of CA. Numbers with the letters in front of them seem to be Fertility Center of CA donor numbers.

7/11/08  Email to Wendy Kramer
...I had contacted the Fertility Clinic of California in Santa Ana, California where I was inseminated in 1986. When I contacted the clinic they were not very responsive and told me that the original director/owner of the clinic Herlinda Sullivan had since sold it and retired. I was told that someone would return my call...which they never did. I called back a few weeks later and got the same response and not very friendly or helpful in any way. I asked if they still had the records from the previous owner and was told by the receptionist that they would be in storage since they were so old. I asked if that information could be made available to us and was told someone would call me back.

3/27/06  http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/DonorSiblingRegistry/message/6652
My bad!!!! Actual Name is Fertility Center of California.
> I have been made aware of disturbing situation involving this clinic.
> There is a 15 year old boy who’s mother has passed away, and he and
> his aunt want to find out his donor number, so he can perhaps locate
> half siblings here on the DSR.
> This sperm bank has denied the aunt access to the donor number saying:
> "It is unfortunate that in this case, we missed your email and we
> truly apologize for that. Just to be clear, we are not denying any
> information to anyone who is entitled to receive it. Confidentiality
> is very important to us and vital to protect our patients/donors
> requests."
> Given this situation, and that this teen has a small family and is not
> asking for identifying information, just the donor number, I think
> this is shameful.
> I have written this sperm bank three times on behalf of the the teen
> and his aunt, no no avail. The above quote is a reply to my 2nd email,
> as they ignored my first and third requests.
> This is the letter that I sent to them:
> Hi,
> My name is Wendy Kramer and I run the Donor Sibling Registry. Many
> folks visit our site when choosing sperm banks as well as afterwards
> to make mutual consent contact with biological relatives. Your clinic
> is listed on our site with 36 offspring, 6 donors and 10 people
> matched to date.
> I am writing for a DSR member who has tried to get a donor number for
> her (deceased) sister’s son. Please see the correspondence below. This
> 15 year old has lost his mother and now your clinic is denying him the
only small piece of information he may have on his biological father,
> a sperm donor number from your clinic. this family is not asking you
> for any identifying information, just what all sperm banks give to
> recipients at the time of insemination - a donor number. This will
> allow xxx to search as well as place himself on the DSR to hopefully
> make mutual consent contact with his biological relatives.
> I am asking you to please provide xxx and xxx with xxx's donor number.
> I have not heard of a sperm bank unwilling to release a donor number
> and am extremely distressed to hear that this request has been denied,
> especially given the heart-wrenching circumstances.
> Please let me know if there is anything that I can do to expedite the
> release of this donor number to this family.