

## Donor # 4264 Interview Notes

Donor 4264 is one of the most likeable and mature donors I have met. There is a sense of calm that exists in the space around him and I couldn't help but feel better while interacting with him. He is easy to talk to - both trustworthy and accepting. I found him reciprocally honest and open, and not overly gregarious. He seems grounded and comfortable in his own skin.

4264 is a very attractive man, with kind, deep eyes and a well defined build. His muscle mass is reminiscent of his years as a dancer. For the interview he is casually dressed in a white knit shirt and black slacks. His head is shaved and his neatly trimmed facial hair has a sprinkle of grey. Donor 4264 comes across as put together and composed. He truly holds himself with the grace of the dancer. He danced in college and professionally-Ballet, Modern and West African, stopping only after a car accident 1999. He said that still dances around the house with his children. I found it sweet to picture this mature, mellow man being so fun-loving with his kids.

I feel confident that donor 4264 is a wonderful father. He smiles and his eyes warm when discussing his daughter and son. He said he got practice helping his parents and older brother with the care of his two younger brothers. He characterizes himself as the "daughter" of the family -- being the most likely to help out around the house, watch his siblings or fix things. Despite this characterization, I found nothing feminine about him. He exudes an understated and absolute masculinity that is both soft-spoken and absolute. He and his wife have been together for eleven years, and moved to California together before having two children. Their partnership appears equitable and solid; they discussed his decision to be a donor at length.

Donor 4264 comes from a big family. He speaks enthusiastically about his father's green thumb and the organic vegetable garden his family had when he was as a child. His father learned his gardening skills while working on farms in Jamaica. The donor said, chuckling, that he and his brothers helped his father out by eating the vegetables more than they ever helped by working in the garden. As well as an interest in gardening, much of the donor's family cooks as well. He described bustling, extended-family holidays with warmth. I picture a large, warm and loving family environment. Donor 4264 said with some regret that he hasn't been able to bring his children to see their grandparents in Jamaica, but said once they are a little older, he will arrange a visit. His family is also musical -- with musicians and singers aplenty. Although donor 4264 focuses his musical energy and talent on dance, his brothers all learned to play the piano that sat in their childhood home, and he said proudly that they were natural musicians.

The donor seems to truly value the community he and his wife have found in California. He spoke about the difference between paying lip service to diversity and actually experiencing it. He appreciates the myriad of difference that he is a part of in his group of friends. His decision to be a donor was strongly impacted by the experiences of friends in same-sex partnerships who have spoken with he and his wife about the challenges they faced in finding donors of color. After discussing it, he and his wife made the decision that he was in a great position to help people conceive. I was impressed by the consideration and maturity that donor 4264 brings to his decision to be a donor. He comes across as genuine and thoughtful in all aspects of his life. I can say without reservation that he is a truly good man.