

## PROPOSITIONS

### **Principles, practices and promises of prenatal screening**

#### **Ethical and social aspects of non-invasive prenatal testing (NIPT) and the expansion of the scope of prenatal screening**

1. Counselling should primarily enable women to make explicit their values and reflect on the medical information about prenatal screening according to these values. (this thesis)
2. Although there is less empirical support for the fear of presence of societal pressure to test, it does not take away the responsibility of those who offer prenatal screening to search for measures to maintain women's freedom of choice. (this thesis)
3. Unqualified use of the term routinization as argument for a restricted implementation of NIPT should be avoided as it does not make clear to which problems it refers or how these problems could be counteracted. (this thesis)
4. Asking a co-payment does not promote informed decision-making or autonomous choice. (this thesis)
5. A social debate which addresses the several aspects of prenatal screening might sometimes be a more effective 'pre-test counselling' than providing medical and technical information about prenatal screening within a pre-test counselling session. (this thesis)
6. Science is the struggle for truth against methodological, psychological and sociological obstacles.  
- Fanelli D, Ioannidis JPA
7. In its overarching meaning empirical ethics is not a methodology of doing ethics, but a basic methodological attitude to use the findings from empirical research in ethical reflection and decision making. - P. Borry et al.
8. There is no such thing as absolute certainty, but there is assurance sufficient for the purposes of human life. - John Stuart Mill
9. The aim of real study -of science- is not the pleasure of seeking but the finding of the truth.  
- Abraham Kuyper
10. Defining normal can make people ill: when 'normal' means something normative, something preferable, it becomes a double-edged sword. You can measure people by facts and if they belong to normal this sword will defend, if someone falls out it becomes a threat. - Juli Zeh
11. The more you see the less you know. – U2