There are two primary types of surrogacy: traditional surrogacy and gestational surrogacy. Here's an overview of each:

1. **Traditional Surrogacy**:
   * In traditional surrogacy, the surrogate (also known as the gestational carrier) is genetically related to the child she carries. This is because the surrogate's egg is fertilized with the intended father's sperm or donor sperm through artificial insemination.
   * Traditional surrogacy is less common today due to legal, ethical, and emotional complexities. In some jurisdictions, the legal rights and obligations regarding parental rights can be unclear in traditional surrogacy arrangements.
2. **Gestational Surrogacy**:
   * Gestational surrogacy is more commonly practised and generally considered less legally and emotionally complex than traditional surrogacy. In gestational surrogacy, the surrogate carries a child conceived using either the eggs and sperm of the intended parents or donor gametes. The surrogate is not genetically related to the child she carries.
   * Embryos are created through in vitro fertilization (IVF), where eggs from the intended mother or an egg donor are fertilized with sperm from the intended father or a sperm donor. The resulting embryo is then transferred to the surrogate's uterus for gestation.
   * Gestational surrogacy is often preferred because it allows both intended parents to have a genetic connection to the child and reduces legal uncertainties regarding parental rights. It also eliminates the genetic link between the surrogate and the child, which can simplify legal and emotional matters.

Within these two primary types, there can be variations and specific arrangements based on the preferences and circumstances of the intended parents, the surrogate, and any legal or cultural considerations. These variations may include factors such as whether the intended parents use their own genetic material or donor material, whether they work with an agency or independently, and the level of involvement and contact between the surrogate and the intended parents during and after the pregnancy.

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