

## Woman 'deeply sorry' for duping lover over paternity of his 'son'

A woman accused of deceiving her former lover into believing he was the father of her son broke down in tears as she told a court that she felt 'deeply sorry' about the distress caused when he discovered the child was not his.

Giving evidence at the High Court in London, where she is contesting his claim against her for around £100,000, the woman said that what had happened was a 'great scar on my life and on all of us'.

As she wiped away tears in the witness box, watched by her former partner, a stockbroker in his sixties, she added: "So, if it is any consolation, I am not happy."

The man at the centre of the case, who cannot be named for legal reasons and can only be referred to as A, is seeking to be compensated for the sums he paid out for the boy.

The child was born in 1997 and A says that it was in 2002 that the 'brutal truth was made known to me'.

He is also claiming compensation for the emotional hurt of believing he had a son when that was not the case.

His former partner, who is in her forties, was asked today by his QC, Jonathan Baker, if she would acknowledge the distress he had been caused and apologise.

She replied: "Of course I acknowledge it and of course I am deeply sorry about it all. Not a day goes by when I don't think about it.

"I am sure he doesn't believe me when I say I am sorry about it. You can't make people believe you, but I am.

"I do think about it all the time and it is a great scar on my life and on all of us."

The judge hearing the case, Sir John Blofeld, has heard that A met the boy's mother, who can only be referred to as B, in 1996 when they both worked in the City.

After the boy was born, A helped pay for his upbringing, including £37,000 in nursery school fees.

It is the mother's case that she had no reason to believe A was not the father, and had not deliberately pulled the wool over his eyes.

The court has heard that in her mind, A was the father and she was upset when she found out as a result of a DNA test that he was not.

Giving evidence from the witness box, A, who lives in north London, said the child was five 'when the deception was revealed'.

He said: "I feel very strongly that I have been taken for a ride."

Mr Baker put to the woman that she must have had in the forefront of her mind that A was not the father.

She told him: "No, that is not right."

Counsel said that A had described in a statement that the discovery he was not the father 'broke my heart' and that he was 'eaten by despair'.

The case continues.

---

Find this story at [http://www.dailymail.co.uk/pages/live/articles/news/news.html?in\\_article\\_id=445365&in\\_page\\_id=1770](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/pages/live/articles/news/news.html?in_article_id=445365&in_page_id=1770)  
©2007 Associated New Media