



CALL FOR PAPERS

Demeter Press

Seeking submissions for an edited collection entitled

Toward an understanding of Motherhood and Affect (working title)

Editors: Julia Lane and Eleonora Joensuu

Deadline for Abstracts: September 1, 2016

At the most general level, affect refers to the capacity to affect and to be affected. We take this broad view of affect to invite consideration of the unique capacities to affect and be affected that are presented by motherhood and the socio-cultural figure of "mother." Understanding motherhood through the lens of affect and understanding affect through the lens motherhood has the potential to enrich and expand both, as experiential and as theoretical frameworks.

Our primary interest is in considering how accounts of affect can help us to unpack and understand motherhood differently. We invite broad approaches that bridge sociological, psychological, and philosophical distinctions between affect, emotions, and feelings.

Affectively, what constitutes motherhood? What activities, moments, and affects lead one to "feel" like a mother? How does the figure of "mother" operate in social encounters? What cultural frameworks and narratives structure the experience of pregnancy (body image, weight gain, etc)? What affects mark the transition from being two beings in one body to two separate beings with separate bodies?

As an academic volume, this anthology seeks submissions from across disciplinary perspectives, while maintaining an emphasis on affective experiences and affect theories. This collection also invites creative and reflective writing focused on the affective experiences of mothering. We are interested in submissions that seek to combine theoretical, storytelling, experiential, and broadly "affective" encounters with motherhood, including outside the normative "birth mother" paradigm.

Topics may include (but are certainly not limited to):

Encounters with disgust; shifting affective relationships (mother-child, parent-parent, and mother-self); embodied affective encounters; the affective experiences of queerness in mothering; mothering and (queer) invisibility; the legalities of mothering and their affect; the affective politics of mothering; adoptive mothers and affective encounters; mothering and the affect of loss

Abstract/Proposal (250-400 words) with 50-word bio due: September 1, 2016

Acceptances made by: October 31, 2016

Accepted and completed papers (15-18 pages, double-spaced including references, MLA format)

due: February 20, 2017

Please send inquiries to editors: Julia Lane and Eleonora Joensuu at: affectdemeterpress@gmail.com

DEMETER PRESS

140 Holland St. West, P.O. Box 13022 Bradford, ON, L3Z 2Y5

(tel) 905-775-5215

<http://www.demeterpress.org> / info@demeterpress.org

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