



## CALL FOR PAPERS

Demeter Press

Seeking submissions for an edited collection entitled

### **The Motherhood-Entrepreneurship Nexus: Explorations of Experiences, Identities and Practices of Mothers as Entrepreneurs**

Editors: Melanie Knight and Talia Esnard

**Deadline for Abstract: August 31, 2017**

Women are increasingly entering the entrepreneurial space. Research that examines women's motives for becoming entrepreneurs is somewhat restrictive. Most researchers continue, predominantly, to assess women's entry based on a push-pull model. Women are either pushed out of wage work into entrepreneurship because of workplace dissatisfaction, discrimination and/or the glass ceiling effect. On the other hand, they can also be pulled into entrepreneurship due to the desire for more flexibility to balance work and family. For some, defining pull factors and family responsibilities as a voluntary choice fails to acknowledge the gendering of the labour market, unpaid family work and the lack of a social wage. What is needed at this time therefore are examinations that make visible the nature, dynamics and politics of this motherhood-entrepreneurship nexus. Indeed, women's participation in entrepreneurship can offer a rich site for the exploration of maternal identity, work-life relationships and entrepreneurial identities.

Despite the tendency to homogenize women's motivations and participation in entrepreneurship, this edited volume will seek contributions that account for women's different histories of migration and oppression, socio-economic conditions, race, sexuality, precariousness of work and citizenship, geographic location, education, and community ties. As a starting point, explorations can tease out the implications of discursive landscapes for the maternal as well as entrepreneurial identities of these women. Where existing examinations also center on the notion of a work-life "balance" or a "right blend" for coping with the challenges of working within and between different spheres, such scrutiny can explore the ways in which women adopt strategies that are empowering rather than those that assisting them with mere coping. Such examinations remain critical to the advancement of this scholarship.

#### **Papers for this edited volume can address, but not limited to the following:**

Issues related to maternal empowerment and entrepreneurship, challenging the "good mothering" messages through entrepreneurship, caregiving, social wage and public policy as it relates to entrepreneurship, transnationalism, entrepreneurship and motherhood, discourse of choice, autonomy and maternal thinking and practice, activism, entrepreneurship and mothering, structure/agency as entrepreneurs, the discourse of work and organization and implications for mothers, entrepreneurial and maternal identities, queerness, mothering and entrepreneurship, ablism, mothering and entrepreneurship, racism, privilege, motherhood, identity and entrepreneurship, permeability and work-family boundaries, how women negotiate the power relations within different spheres, interlocking systems of oppression, entrepreneurship and mothering, as well as, indigeneity, motherhood and entrepreneurship.

#### **SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:**

**Abstracts:** 250-word description of the proposed paper, with a working title, followed by a 50-word biography and contact information (affiliation, email address) of each author. **Decision on submission: October 1, 2017**

**Full Manuscripts:** 6000 words including references, double spaced, in Word format, and using MLA style.

**Due Date: March 1' 2018.** Final acceptance of the manuscript for inclusion in the collection rests upon the strength and fit of all submissions within the edited collection.

\*\*Please submit all submissions or inquiries to [melanie.knight@arts.ryerson.ca](mailto:melanie.knight@arts.ryerson.ca) and [talia.esnard@sta.uwi.edu](mailto:talia.esnard@sta.uwi.edu).

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