Conversations in education, government, and various other spheres are increasingly addressing the influence of artificial intelligence (AI) on our daily lives. Motherhood is no exception; artificial intelligence has already found its way into the realm of motherhood through "smart nurseries", where mothers use technological devices to monitor their baby's sleep patterns, receive suggestions for optimal feeding times and even insights into their child's well-being. As children grow, parental monitoring apps extend beyond infancy, enabling mothers to track activities ranging from school progress to extracurricular engagements. However, the integration of such technological enhancements is not universal, creating a socioeconomic divide among mothers worldwide. The accessibility of these devices is often constrained by financial limitations and overall access, exacerbating disparities among mothers.

This situation raises compelling questions about how AI might reshape or diminish reliance upon traditional, generational mothering practices. A thought-provoking comparison emerges between mothers who are able to embrace technology for parenting and those who adhere to more conventional methods. This discussion is deeply intertwined with consumerist narratives, asserting that these products are designed to simplify and enrich our lives. We must also consider cultural differences and how the "need" for technologies is perpetuated by dominant discourses.

AI's impact extends beyond child monitoring to the realm of maternal well-being. Emotional health and self-care, central themes in contemporary motherhood discourse (as evidenced by mommy blogs, TikTok videos and Instagram posts), can be augmented by AI tools that assist mothers in monitoring their mental health. Smart watches and other devices allow tracking of stress levels, offer relaxation techniques and AI-driven insights into overall well-being.

Given this ongoing dialogue, we believe it is opportune to present insights into how the dynamic and swiftly advancing technology of AI specifically shapes mothering practices and the discourses surrounding motherhood.

The developing situation prompts a slew of crucial questions: should mothers rely on AI for assistance, or should they strive to identify and address these concerns through traditional methods such as peer support, health organizations or professional guidance? Can AI do a 'better job' of mothering? What does the 'perfect' AI mother look like? How do the natural flaws of motherhood stand up against and compare to the flaws of AI? How does AI influence childhood development? Could AI children become a substitute for barren women who want a child of their own? How might mothers misuse or overuse AI?

As co-editors, we bring a combination of academic and creative backgrounds to this collection through a lens of feminism, technological development, sociology and anthropology. Dr. Marcella Gemelli is a Teaching Professor and Director of the Online Graduate Program in Sociology for the Sanford School of Social and Family Dynamics at Arizona State University. She previously taught courses in Women and Gender Studies and currently teaches both undergraduate and graduate level Sociology courses, including Technology & Society. She has conducted research and written on motherhood published in *Gender Issues* and *New Maternalisms: Tales of Motherwork (Dislodging the Unthinkable)*, completed a book review published in *Gender & Society* and is a regular reviewer for the *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*. Emma Května is a published poet, writer, and author with a BA in Anthropology that focuses on technology and society. Her creative writing has been published in *Planisphere Quarterly, Filling Station, FAYD Digital,* and Bell Press's anthology "Framework of the Human Body." Currently, she offers writing coaching and classes, retreats and workshops for writers. Emma and Marcella are both interested in curating work that takes an intersectional feminist lens in excavating deep-seated personal fears, hopes and equality concerns around mothering and AI.

Overall, this collection seeks to present insights into how the dynamic and swiftly advancing technology of AI specifically shapes mothering practices and the discourses surrounding motherhood.

We are interested in work that explores both the murky and hopeful sides of AI and mothering, in both contemporary and futuristic settings. We will look for well-crafted, voice-driven written work that takes liberties on the page in form and literary technique, and visually arresting and emotive artwork. We invite submissions from academics, artists, activists, writers, mothers, and those who support motherwork with/in communities. Submissions may include academic/scholarly essay, personal essay/reflection, creative fiction and non-fiction, poetry, art, photography, and hybrid genres. Although this collection is about AI, please refrain from using any generative AI tools for completed works.

Submission Guidelines

Abstract (400-500 words) with a 75-word bio (single document) due by March 31, 2024.

Notification of acceptance will be made by April 15, 2024.

Final completed works due by September 30, 2024:

- Papers/prose: max. 6,500 words, double-spaced pages, 12 point Times New Roman font, MLA format.
- Poetry: max. 5 poems of max 40 lines each, 12 point Times New Roman font.

- Photography/Artwork: max 5 pieces, .JPEG or .PNG, in high resolution. An artist statement (100 words max) may be submitted with each piece, but it is not required.

Projected publication date: 2025

Please note that acceptance will depend on the strength and fit of the final piece.

Also, please note that papers will be received and reviewed in English. Prospective authors who may have limited experience with publishing in English are strongly encouraged to seek the assistance of a technical editor before submitting proposals and papers, as language difficulties may be raised as a concern during the external review process.

Inquiries and abstracts may be sent to: marcella.gemelli@asu.edu **and** emmakvetna@gmail.com