

Stranger in the Birth Room



Kathryn Gutteridge Consultant Midwife and Psychotherapist (University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust) looks at the vulnerability of this stage in women's lives, examines contemporary issues in maternity and gives personal insight into healing.

Childbirth is a time of tumultuous emotion and transition from an integrated self to virgin territory. For women who have experienced past trauma and or child sexual abuse this phase of their life is laden with unexpected surprises and the potential for re-traumatisation.

Raising awareness with maternity staff is crucial to encourage women to engage fully in their childbirth experience and allow their new mothering role to emerge.

Kathryn is herself a thriver herself and has experienced many of the complexities of this subject. Speaking about this issue in many settings and for a diverse audience is always a challenge but is vital for the women that staff may encounter.

Kathryn is co-founder of Sanctum Midwives, a group of midwives with an interest in survivors of sexual abuse and raising awareness within mainstream maternity services. Whilst Sanctum Midwives is not primarily a therapeutic support group, it is inevitable that some midwives will also be survivors of sexual abuse therefore we aim to support those colleagues in a compassionate way. Sanctum Midwives aims to help those working through child sexual abuse issues that impact upon midwifery practice and women's health issues.

Contact; kathryn.gutteridge@tesco.net or kathryn.gutteridge@uhl-tr.nhs.uk

01162585047



'To provide a forum where information, experience, and support can be shared amongst those working with, or involved with, survivors of childhood abuse'.

Dorset Action on Abuse and WOMen, Babies and their families programmatic research group (WOMB) are jointly pleased to invite you to a seminar, led by Kathryn Gutteridge on June 27th 2006 from 4.00 -6.00 p.m. at Bournemouth University Lansdowne Campus exploring the impact of childhood abuse on women in childbirth and as new mothers.

DAA is an inter-professional/agency group of those who are working with, or who are interested in working with or providing services for, men and women adult survivors of childhood abuse in the area. This group first came together in January 2004 and the aims of the group are broadly to:

- disseminate information
- to provide opportunities for networking across professions and voluntary groups
- to explore service provision in the area
- to work with survivors
- to look at needs both met and unmet locally
- explore possible ways of responding to these.

WOMB WOMen, Babies and their families programmatic research group aims :

- To promote the health and well being of women, babies and their families by undertaking work to underpin clinical practice and to inform policy making.
- To ensure relevance and impact by maximising service user/ voluntary sector involvement and the dissemination of results to health and social care professionals, service users and the voluntary sector.
- To undertake work across a wide methodological range as led by the research.
- To provide a forum to discuss issues related to the above.

Venue: Room B226 Bournemouth House, Christchurch Road (corner Christchurch Road and Gervis Road, nearest car park York Road)

Cost: None, but on the day contributions welcome to cover costs.