



# **Mothers in the Academe**

**Fall/Winter 2015  
Volume 6, Number 2**

**Founding Editor and Editor-in-Chief**  
Andrea O'Reilly

**Advisory Board**  
Petra Bueskins, Deborah Byrd, Miriam Edelson,  
Regina Edmonds, May Friedman, D. Memee Lavell-Harvard,  
Brenda F. McGadney, Andrea O'Reilly, Joanna Radbord

**Literary Editor**  
Jane Satterfield

**Book Review Editor**  
Patti Duncan

**Administrative Assistant**  
Angie Deveau

**Web Designer**  
Nuagedesign

**Guest Editorial Board**  
Emily R. M. Lind, Kristin Marsh, Naomi Mercer,  
Andrea O'Reilly and Lorinda Peterson

**Social Media Coordinator**  
Casey O'Reilly-Conlin

**Copy Editor**  
Jesse O'Reilly-Conlin

**Proofreader**  
Nicole Doro

**The Motherhood Initiative for Research and  
Community Involvement (MIRCI)**  
140 Holland Street West, P. O. Box 13022, Bradford, ON L3Z 2Y5  
Tel: (905) 775-9089 Email: [info@motherhoodinitiative.org](mailto:info@motherhoodinitiative.org)

*The Journal of the Motherhood Initiative for Research and Community Involvement* (ISSN 1923-4139) is published by the Motherhood Initiative for Research and Community Involvement (MIRCI)

The Motherhood Initiative for Research and Community Involvement (MIRCI) is the first feminist organization devoted specifically to the topics of mothering and motherhood. MIRCI is an association of scholars, writers, activists, policy makers, educators, parents, and artists. Our mandate is to provide a forum for the discussion and dissemination of feminist, academic, and community grassroots research, theory, and praxis on mothering and motherhood. We are committed in both membership and research to the inclusion of all mothers: First Nations, immigrant and refugee mothers, working-class mothers, lesbian mothers, mothers with disabilities, mothers of colour, and mothers of other marginalized communities. We welcome memberships to MIRCI and submissions to the *Journal of the Motherhood Initiative for Research and Community Involvement* (JMI), our biannual publication, from all individuals.

### **Membership and Subscription Information**

For full information on regular and student memberships to MIRCI and student and regular subscriptions to JMI please visit our website <[www.motherhoodinitiative.org](http://www.motherhoodinitiative.org)>. Please see the last page of this journal for more detailed information.

### **Submission Guidelines**

In order to submit articles, book reviews, or poetry to the *Journal of the Motherhood Initiative for Research and Community Involvement* (JMI), contributors must be a member of MIRCI. The journal will only consider material which is not under consideration at any other journal or publication. Please contact us for a list of upcoming themes as well as a copy of our style sheet. Articles should be typed, double-spaced, and no longer than 3750 words (or 15 pages). Art or photographs may accompany your work. MIRCI reserves the right to edit manuscripts for length and conformity to our editorial guidelines and house style. We will not publish writing that is sexist, homophobic, racist, or in any way discriminatory. Submissions will be blind-reviewed by a guest editorial board. Articles printed in the journal do not necessarily reflect the views of the editors, the staff of the journal, or of our funders. Contributors retain copyright. No reproduction of any part of this journal is permitted without prior written permission from MIRCI.



**The Motherhood Initiative for Research  
and Community Involvement  
2015/16 Sustaining Members**

Gillian Demeyere  
Regina Edmonds  
Linda Ennis  
Catherine B. Garner  
Diana Gustafson  
Kandee Kosior  
Joan-Maki Motapanyane  
Hallie Pallidino  
Diana Parry  
Wendy Peterson  
Liz Podnieks  
Jasmine Symons  
Kelly Ward  
Marilyn Waring  
Marilyn Weedmark  
Laurie Kruk  
Janet Smith  
Rita Bode  
Pamela McKenzie  
Josephine Savarese



Social Sciences and Humanities  
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en  
sciences humaines du Canada

Canada

*This research was supported by the  
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council.*



# Mothers in the Academe

Fall/Winter 2015  
Volume 6, Number 2

## Contents

- Beyond Blame: Challenging the Myths and Inequities That  
Compromise Academic Mothers' Success  
*by BettyAnn Martin* 9
- Maybe, Maybe ... PhD Baby?  
*by Stephanie Chesser* 23
- Experiments in Voice and Visibility: Creating Space for  
Graduate Student (Single) Mothers in the Mother-Free Space  
of the Academy  
*by Summer R. Cunningham* 37
- "It's a Choice": Graduate Student Mothers' Sense of Agency  
in Decision Making  
*by Elizabeth R. Paré* 52
- Mothering and Professing in the Ivory Tower: Supporting  
Graduate Student Mothers  
*by Barbara A. W. Eversole, Cindy L. Crowder,  
Siham Lekchiri, Amber Clark and Toni S. Zimmerman* 65
- Next, the Campus Interview: An Elegy for Graduate  
Student Mothers  
*by Susan Rotolo* 81
- Moving My Brain to Canada: Motherhood and International  
Mobility as an Academic Career Requirement  
*by Florence Pasche Guignard* 93

CONTENTS

(Re)Turning to Motherhood and Academe: An Autoethnographic Account <i>by Talia Esnard</i>	109
Interrogating the Language of Diversity in Academe: Motherhood and Parenting in View <i>by Maki Motapanyane and Kit Dobson</i>	125
Motherhood in U.S. Academe: How the Presence of Women Disrupts the Ideal Worker Model in Colleges and Universities <i>by Kristin Marsh</i>	140
Envisioning a Different Journey: Negotiating Academe with a Chronically Ill Child <i>by Kirsten Isgro</i>	155
Poverty and Power: The Moral Regulation of Single Mother University Students <i>by Laurel O’Gorman</i>	164
Initiatives to Empower Women Faculty Members at University of Ottawa: Mothers See the Value in Participation <i>by Catherine Mavriplis and Françoise Moreau-Johnson</i>	179
 <b>Folio</b>  	
Editor’s Notes <i>by Jane Satterfield</i>	194
If, in October <i>by Marilyn Taylor</i>	197
The Boy on the Plane <i>by Marilyn Taylor</i>	198
At the End <i>by Marilyn Taylor</i>	199

Sestina for My Mother <i>by Marilyn Taylor</i>	201
In Other News <i>by Marilyn Taylor</i>	203
The Ice Cave <i>by Marilyn Taylor</i>	204
To the Mother of a Dead Marine <i>by Marilyn Taylor</i>	205
Family Picnic <i>by Marilyn Taylor</i>	206
Tercets from the Train <i>by Marilyn Taylor</i>	207
Open Letter to Grownup Kids Who Call Home <i>by Marilyn Taylor</i>	209
Mother as Poet / Poet as Mother <i>by Marilyn Taylor</i>	210

## Book Reviews

<i>Not Exactly as Planned: A Memoir of Adoption, Secrets and Abiding Love</i> reviewed by Bruna Alvarez	212
<i>Biting the Moon: A Memoir of Feminism and Motherhood</i> reviewed by Maya E. Bhavé	214
<i>Anybody's Miracle</i> reviewed by Rita Bode	215
<i>Intensive Mothering: The Cultural Contradictions of Modern Motherhood</i> reviewed by Judith Lakämper	217

CONTENTS

<i>This Is What a Feminist Slut Looks Like: Perspectives on the SlutWalk Movement</i> reviewed by Virginia Little	219
<i>In Our Hands: The Struggle for U.S. Child Care Policy</i> reviewed by Kristin Marsh	221
<i>Mothers of the Nation: Indigenous Mothering as Global Resistance, Reclaiming and Recovery</i> reviewed by Naomi M. McPherson	223
<i>Criminalized Mothers, Criminalizing Mothering</i> reviewed by Rachel O'Donnell	226
<i>Telling Truths: Storying Motherhood</i> reviewed by Lorinda Peterson	228
<i>Stay-at-Home Mothers: Dialogues and Debates</i> reviewed by Amanda Watson	230
<i>The M Word: Conversations About Motherhood</i> reviewed by Laurie Kruk	233
<i>Motherhood and Infertility in Ireland: Understanding the Presence of Absence</i> reviewed by Abigail L. Palko	235
<i>Twice in a Blue Moon</i> reviewed by Dorsia Smith Silva	237
<b>Contributor Notes</b>	239