



MOTHERHOOD and MENTAL HEALTH

By Ian Brockington,
Professor *emeritus*, University of Birmingham.

Oxford, Oxford University Press, 1996.

600 pages (235,000 words), with 2,700 references.

Chapters:

- The desire for children
- Pregnancy and mental health
- A portfolio of postpartum disorders
- Puerperal psychosis
- Infant loss
- The mother-infant relationship
- Child abuse and neglect
- Infanticide
- Drugs, prescribed and abused
- Postpartum mental illness and the family
- Services

In his foreword Professor Paffenbarger wrote,

What you hold in your hands is the distilled essence of years of personal experience and months of literature review and abstraction, [searching] for causes and intervention therapies of maternal mental illness. It is a magnificent collection from the world literature. Particularly valuable is the inclusion of comprehensive information from French, German and other foreign literature, both historical and contemporary, material especially helpful in the English-speaking world.

Carol Sue North wrote,

I had hoped to find this veritable tome on motherhood and mental health to be informative, but I hadn't anticipated that it would be entertaining as well. From the very first page *Motherhood and Mental Health* is full of fascinating and fun facts that held me captivated. What utterly engaged me was the rich historical background applied throughout the book, providing ... a warehouse of vividly illustrative material. There was nothing lacking that I would want to know about, and there was a lot that I hadn't even thought of that captured my interest. This density of material is present in every chapter. The scholarly detail that went into this book is the basis for the blending of rigorous science, history and artful storytelling to create a work that is exceptional from many perspectives.

This book is still in press, as a paperback