Challenging Choices in Pregnancy and Childbirth: Results from a Meta-Ethnographic Review of the Literature

Conference or Workshop Item

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Introduction

• Informed choice is the cornerstone of contemporary maternity care within the UK.
• Contributes to safe physical and psychological maternity care.
• Some women decline all or part of their maternity care and make choices and decisions considered ‘non-normative’.
• A wider approach is needed to understanding how, why and what the underlying social and other processes underpinning these are.

Key Findings

• 33 studies met inclusion criteria resulting in 3 3rd order constructs:

  - Philosophy, Values and Beliefs
  - Socio-Cultural Influences
  - Ambivalence
  - Fear and (Re) Traumatising Experiences
  - Policy procedure and guidelines
  - An inflexible, fearful, risk averse system
  - Institutional manifestation of fear
  - Defining Moments

What is a non-normative choice?

Review Question

“What are the views, attitudes, perceptions and experiences of women and birthing people who make non-normative choices along maternity care pathways?”

Methodology

Noblit and Hares (1988) Meta Ethnographic approach to qualitative systematic review, guided by France et al. (2019)

References


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