

A documentary that examines the intimate nature of birth and the powerful role it plays in women's lives when they are permitted to experience it fully

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Meet the experts in the film...

THE DOCTORS:



SARAH J BUCKLEY, MD, is a GP/family physician with qualifications in GP obstetrics; author of the internationally-acclaimed book Gentle Birth, Gentle Mothering: The Wisdom and Science of Gentle Choices

in Pregnancy, Birth, and Parenting; and mother of four children, all born at home. Sarah's work critiques current practices in pregnancy, birth and parenting from the widest possible perspectives, including medical/scientific, psychoemotional, anthropological, and spiritual. Her ongoing work on the ecstatic hormones of labor, featured in the film, has been recognized as a powerful argument for normal birth. She lives in Brisbane, Australia.



RICARDO HERBERT JONES, MD, is a homebirth and hospital-

attending obstetrician/gynecologist and homeopath in Brazil. An international lecturer and author, Ricardo is a pioneer in childbirth,

introducing a model of support to laboring women that includes midwife, doula, and obstetrician for each of his patients.



JACQUES MORITZ, MD, is Director of the Division of Gynecology, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center, New York City. He was previously a medical news reporter and consultant for television, radio, and print

media.



CHRISTIANE NORTHRUP, MD, is a visionary in women's health and wellness. A board-certified obstetrician-gynecologist, she recognizes that health and healing

are women's birthright and helps empower women to tune into their innate inner wisdom

to transform their health and their lives. Her latest book, Mother-Daughter Wisdom: Creating a Legacy of Physical & Emotional Health, explores the mother-daughter bond as the headwater of a woman's health. Dr. Northrup is the author of two New York Times best-selling books, Women's Bodies, Women's Wisdom and The Wisdom of Menopause, and other works, among others.



LAWRENCE D. ROSEN, MD,

is a board-certified general pediatrician committed to family-centered, holistic child health care. He practices in northern New Jersey and consults

at the Joseph M. Sanzari Children's Hospital at Hackensack University Medical Center, serving as medical adviser to the Deirdre Imus Environmental Center. A nationally recognized expert in pediatric integrative medicine, Dr. Rosen is chair of the Integrative Pediatrics Council, a not-for-profit group dedicated to transforming children's health care, and a founding member of the Provisional Section on Complementary, Holistic and Integrative Medicine of the American Academy of Pediatrics.



MARSDEN WAGNER, MD, MS,

is a perinatologist, neonatologist, and obstetrician with extensive experience in maternity care around the world as Director of Women's and Children's Health, World Health

Organization, for 15 years . He is currently working as an independent consultant. He is the author of some 140 scientific papers, 23 book chapters, and 15 books (mostly recently Born in the USA: How a Broken Maternity System Must Be Fixed to Put Women and Children First), which have been translated into many languages.

THE SOCIAL SCIENTISTS:



CARRIE CONTEY, PhD, is a leader in the field of prenatal and perinatal psychology. Based in Austin, Texas, she is a member of the board of directors of the Association of Prenatal and Perinatal Psychology and Health.

ROBBIE DAVIS-FLOYD, PhD, Senior Research Fellow, Department of Anthropology, University of Texas/Austin, is a medical anthropologist, researcher, and author specializing in the

anthropology of reproduction and alternative health care.

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THE BIRTHING ADVOCATES:



MAUREEN CORRY, MPH, has 30 years of experience as a researcher, educator, advocate, and policy analyst focusing on maternal and infant health promotion and maternity care quality improvement in the not-for-profit sector. She joined Childbirth

Connection (formerly the Maternity Center Association) in New York City as executive director in 1995 and has played a leading role in positioning the organization as a powerful advocate for the needs and interest of families with children. She is the author of numerous articles and educational resources on maternity care issues and a frequent speaker at conferences.



PENNY SIMKIN, PT, is a Seattle-based physical therapist who has specialized in childbirth education since 1968, preparing more than 9,500 women, couples, and siblings for childbirth. She maintains an active practice as a childbirth educator, doula, and birth counselor. The author of many books and articles on childbirth, she is a founder of Doulas of North America, now called DONA International.



BILLEE WOLFF, RN, LCCE, CD, is a registered nurse, Lamaze-certified childbirth educator, doula, and midwifery assistant. She has supported women birthing at childbirth centers, hospitals, and homebirths. Billee is a founding member of Birthnet, an organization of birth professionals serving northern New Jersey and

Rockland County, New York. Birthnet provides education to the community about mother-friendly care as well as information about options in pregnancy and childbirth. Billee has worked with a local hospital in providing education to nurses on the safety and benefits of waterbirth and non-separation of mother and baby.

THE MIDWIVES:

LIZ BRUNTON is a homebirth midwife and midwifery educator who was involved in the push to create the New Zealand College of Midwives, changing laws and moving midwifery away from nursing. New Zealand midwives are now independent practitioners who continue to create awareness of the benefits of homebirth in their country.



ELIZABETH DAVIS, BA, CPM, is a midwife, educator, consultant, international lecturer, and women's health activist. Elizabeth is co-founder and director of the National Midwifery Institute, Inc., in the San Francisco Bay

area. Her books include *Heart & Hands: A Midwife's Guide to Pregnancy and Birth,* now in its fourth edition; *Women's Sexual Passages: Finding Pleasure and Intimacy at Every Stage of Life;* and *The Circle of Life: Thirteen Archetypes for Every Woman.*





INA MAY GASKIN, MA, CPM, is a certified practical midwife and founder and director of the Farm Midwifery Center in Summertown, Tennessee. Ina May is the author of *Ina May's Guide to Childbirth*, among

other classic works, and the originator and coordinator of the Safe Motherhood Quilt Project.



RICHARD JENNINGS, CNM, MS, is a certified nurse-midwife. His practice has included home births and births in out-of-hospital and inhospital birth centers, levels 1, 2, and 3 hospitals, and a regional

perinatal center. Richard is Director of Midwifery at NYU/Bellevue, New York City, the only birth center in the United States that is located in a public hospital. Richard educates students at several teaching facilities.

ANNE MARGOLIS, CNM, is a nurse-midwife with extensive experience in natural and conventional approaches to women's health and maternity care. Anne has extensive training and clinical experience in both in-hospital and outof-hospital settings, using an integrative approach—one that combines the best of modern medicine with natural and holistic modalities.



LONNIE C. MORRIS, CNM, ND, is a midwife who founded the Childbirth Center (now the Childbirth and Women's Wellness Center), the first out-of-hospital

birth center in New lersev and the

fourth in the United States, in 1976. She remains the director of the center. Lonnie pioneered the midwifery–birth center model of care within the hospital setting.

VALERIANA PASQUA-MASBACK, CNM, is committed to the work of empowering women through midwifery. As a nurse, doula, and home birth assistant, she began her work over 30 years ago. In 1992 Valeriana received her graduate midwifery degree with honors from Columbia University. She worked as a staff midwife at North Central Bronx Hospital, caring for women in the clinic setting before beginning HomeBirth Midwifery Services, a midwifery practice that provides homebirth and holistic well-woman care, in 1995. A midwifery preceptor at the National College of Midwifery, she lectures on homebirth and runs workshops and study groups on alternative women's health and childbirth.

NAOLÍ VINAVER, CPM, is a Mexican midwife who combines



traditional birth knowledge and practices with a profound interest in and respect for the physiology of natural birth. Naolí, within her specialty of homebirth, has been attending both water births and

traditional births since 1990 in her native México. She has had three children born at home. Her last birthing experience was filmed for the DVD "Birth Day."

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