

LAUNCH DAY: THE PHILOSOPHY OF BIRTH NETWORK

RESEARCH SEMINAR IN VALUES-BASED PRACTICE IN CHILDBIRTH



Convenor: Stella Villarmea

Co-convenors: Ashok Handa, Brenda Kelly, Soo Downe, and Bill Fulford

5 JULY 2023

ST CATHERINE'S COLLEGE, OXFORD

IN PERSON 10.00-16.30 (BST) | ONLINE 10.30-12.30 (BST)

Register [here](#).

Contact: svillarm@ucm.es



THE PHILOSOPHY OF BIRTH NETWORK

RESEARCH SEMINAR IN VALUES-BASED PRACTICE IN CHILDBIRTH

10.00 -10.30 Arrival and welcome to in person participants

The online connection will be initiated at 10.15.

10.30 -10.35 Chair Introduction
Ashok Handa

10.35 -10.45 "The Philosophy of Birth Network"
Stella Villarme

10.45 -11.00 "Challenges to respectful personalised care: what can you do?"
Brenda Kelly

11.00 -11.15 "Naming of parts: how should we talk about labour and birth in 2023"
Soo Downe

11.15 -12.15 Live and unplugged conversations
All participants

12.15 -12.25 Further steps
Stella Villarme and Brenda Kelly

12.25 -12.30 Closing remarks
Ashok Handa

End of online connexion

Lunch break from 13.00 to 14.30

Afternoon session for in person participants

15.00 -15.15 Moving forward
Stella Villarme

15.15 -16.15 Group discussion and collaborations

16.15 -16.30 Closing remarks
Soo Downe, Brenda Kelly, Stella Villarme, and Ashok Handa

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Birth care brings to the fore fascinating philosophical questions: is a person in labour a subject with full rights in practice as well as in theory? Can they exercise their autonomy in a situation of maximum vulnerability? How do agency, capacity, and pain intertwine during and between contractions? Birth poses key questions relating to knowledge, freedom, gender, and what it means to be a human being. Through the lived experiences of women, illuminated by the insights from the vibrant new field of the philosophy of birth, the Philosophy of Birth Network aims to explore how we understand the practices that bring us into being, challenging widely-held assumptions about rationality and agency in the delivery suite.

Coordinator: **Stella Villarrea**

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svillarm@ucm.es

Co-coordinators: Rodante van der Waal and Rebeca Granero

Controversies in Childbirth: from Epistemology to Practices (VOICES)

Philosophy of Birth: A New Logos for Genos (PHILBIRTH-2)

Metaphysics of Biology: Processes and Dispositions [PID2021-127184NB-I00]

Crossroads of the Sexed Body (ENCRUSEX) [PR27/21-020]

