



## CALL FOR PAPERS

The editorial board is seeking submissions for Vol. 8.1 and 8.2 of the  
*Journal of the Motherhood Initiative for Research and Community Involvement (JMI)*  
This double issue will be published in fall/winter 2017

### **MOTHERS, MOTHERING, MOTHERHOOD IN TODAY'S WORLD: EXPERIENCE, IDENTITY, AGENCY, AND INSTITUTION**

We welcome submissions from scholars, students, activists, artists, community workers, bloggers, mothers and others who research in this area. Cross-cultural and comparative work is encouraged. We are open to a variety of types of submissions including academic papers from all disciplines and creative submissions including art and literature.

These two issues celebrate Canada's 150th year in 2017 and examine why mothers, arguably more so than women in general, remain disempowered despite forty years of feminism. Motherhood is the unfinished business of feminism. Motherhood scholars argue that motherhood, as it is currently perceived and practiced in patriarchal societies, is disempowering, if not oppressive, for a multitude of reasons: the societal devaluation of motherwork, the endless tasks of privatized mothering, the incompatibility of waged work and care work, and the impossible standards of idealized motherhood. Many of the problems facing mothers—whether social, economic, political, cultural, or psychological—are specific to their role and identity as mothers. What is needed therefore is matricentric feminism: a feminism that is fashioned from and for women's particular identity and their work as mothers. These issues position mothers' needs and concerns as the starting point for a new politic and theory of feminism to empower mothers in Canada and around the world and explore what mothers in the 21st century need to adequately care for their children while living full and purposeful lives. Over the last forty years, motherhood research has focused on the oppressive and empowering dimensions of mothering and the complex relationship between the two. Stemming from the above distinction, these issues will examine 21st century motherhood under four interconnected themes of inquiry: motherhood as experience, identity, agency, and institution. They consider what changes are needed in public-social policy, health, education, the workplace, the family, and the arts to create full and lasting gender equality for mothers in the 21st century.

#### **SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:**

Articles should be 15-18 pages (3750 words) including references. All should be in MLA style, WordPerfect or Word and IBM compatible.

Please see our style guide for complete details:

<http://www.motherhoodinitiative.org/journalsubmission.html>

SUBMISSIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY

**MAY 1, 2017!**

**\*\* TO SUBMIT WORK ONE MUST BE A MEMBER OF MIRCI**

<http://www.motherhoodinitiative.org/membership.html>

**Please direct your submissions to:**

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