

# The Making of Man Midwifery: A Journey into the History of Midwifery and the Role of Men



**The Making of Man-Midwifery: Childbirth in England, 1660-1770 (Routledge Library Editions: History of Medicine Book 13)** by Adrian Wilson

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English  
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Throughout history, the role of midwife has been predominantly associated with women. However, there have always been men who have practiced midwifery, despite facing challenges and prejudice.

In this comprehensive and engaging book, we delve into the fascinating history of man midwifery, from its ancient origins to its modern resurgence. We explore the challenges and triumphs faced by male midwives, and the important role they play in the birthing process.

## Ancient Origins

The earliest evidence of man midwifery dates back to ancient Egypt, where men were depicted in tomb paintings assisting women in childbirth. In ancient Greece, the philosopher and physician Aristotle wrote about the

importance of male midwives, and in ancient Rome, male midwives were common.

However, with the rise of Christianity, the role of midwife became increasingly associated with women. This was due in part to the belief that childbirth was a sacred and feminine experience, and that men should not be involved.

## **The Middle Ages**

During the Middle Ages, man midwifery was largely suppressed. In many parts of Europe, it was illegal for men to practice midwifery, and those who did were often persecuted.

However, there were some exceptions. In the 16th century, the German physician Eucharius Rösslin published a book on midwifery that included instructions for male midwives. And in the 17th century, the English physician Francis Mauriceau wrote a book on midwifery that was translated into several languages and became a standard text for midwives.

## **The Modern Era**

In the 18th and 19th centuries, there was a gradual resurgence of man midwifery. This was due in part to the increasing need for medical care during childbirth, and the growing awareness of the importance of male midwives in providing safe and effective care.

In the 20th century, man midwifery became more widely accepted. In 1937, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) recognized man midwifery as a legitimate profession. And in 1971, the

American Midwifery Certification Board (AMCB) was founded to certify male midwives.

## **Today**

Today, male midwives play an important role in the birthing process. They provide a variety of services, including prenatal care, labor and delivery, and postpartum care. Male midwives are often preferred by women who want a more personalized and supportive birth experience.

However, male midwives still face challenges. They are often underrepresented in the field, and they may face discrimination from some healthcare providers and patients.

## **The Future of Man Midwifery**

The future of man midwifery is bright. As the demand for midwives continues to grow, male midwives will play an increasingly important role in providing safe and effective care to women.

Male midwives are passionate about providing women with the best possible birth experience. They are committed to providing compassionate and evidence-based care, and they are dedicated to improving the health of women and babies.

The history of man midwifery is a fascinating one, filled with challenges and triumphs. Male midwives have played an important role in the birthing process for centuries, and they continue to do so today.

As we move into the future, male midwives will continue to play an increasingly important role in providing safe and effective care to women.

They are passionate about providing women with the best possible birth experience, and they are dedicated to improving the health of women and babies.

If you are interested in learning more about man midwifery, I encourage you to read this book. It is a comprehensive and engaging look at the history of midwifery and the role of men.

Thank you for reading!

Sincerely,

Your Name



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