



News and Current Events :: A Fetus Can Sense Mom's Psychological State

A Fetus Can Sense Mom's Psychological State - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2011/11/15 8:56

My brother-in-law posted a link to this article on FB. Later his sister posted a reaction to it and her take is fascinating. When I read both pieces I thought every young woman and man who is anticipating parenthood should read this. Hence my posting it here.

Reaction to article by my sister-in-law:

"Interesting. A friend told me recently of a pregnant mother who read Bible stories out loud during her pregnancy. When her baby was about 2 or so(not sure of the age) this child knew some of those stories, tho' the mother had not read them to the child yet after it was born. Bible verses had the similar effect. (Wish I had known that about 49 years ago! :) Educating the child starts in the womb.--as well as the mother's attitudes, according to your article.. May the abortionists get this message loud and clear!!!"

ginnyrose

PS: I expect it to be legit - my BIL will not post anything like this if it were not.

A Fetus Can Sense Mom's Psychological State

As a fetus grows, it's constantly getting messages from its mother. It's not just hearing her heartbeat and whatever music she might play to her belly; it also gets chemical signals through the placenta. A new study, which will be published in *Psychological Science*, a journal of the Association for Psychological Science, finds that this includes signals about the mother's mental state. If the mother is depressed, that affects how the baby develops after it's born.

In recent decades, researchers have found that the environment a fetus is growing up in—the mother's womb—is very important. Some effects are obvious. Smoking and drinking, for example, can be devastating. But others are subtler; studies have found that people who were born during the Dutch famine of 1944, most of whom had starving mothers, were likely to have health problems like obesity and diabetes later.

Curt A. Sandman, Elysia P. Davis, and Laura M. Glynn of the University of California-Irvine study how the mother's psychological state affects a developing fetus. For this study, they recruited pregnant women and checked them for depression before and after they gave birth. They also gave their babies tests after they were born to see how well they were developing.

They found something interesting: what mattered to the babies was if the environment was consistent before and after birth. That is, the babies who did best were those who either had mothers who were healthy both before and after birth, and those whose mothers were depressed before birth and stayed depressed afterward. What slowed the babies' development was changing conditions—a mother who went from depressed before birth to healthy after or healthy before birth to depressed after. "We must admit, the strength of this finding surprised us," Sandman says.

Now, the cynical interpretation of our results would be that if a mother is depressed before birth, you should leave her that way for the well-being of the infant. "A more reasonable approach would be, to treat women who present with prenatal depression. Sandman says. "We know how to deal with depression." The problem is, women are rarely screened for depression before birth.

In the long term, having a depressed mother could lead to neurological problems and psychiatric disorders, Sandman says. In another study, his team found that older children whose mothers were anxious during pregnancy, which often is comorbid with depression, have differences in certain brain structures. It will take studies lasting decades to figure out exactly what having a depressed mother means to a child's long-term health.

"We believe that the human fetus is an active participant in its own development and is collecting information for life after birth," Sandman says. "It's preparing for life based on messages the mom is providing."

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Source: Association for Psychological Science

http://www.biosciencetechnology.com/News/2011/11/A-Fetus-Can-Sense-Mom%E2%80%99s-Psychological-State/?et_cid=2320238&et_rid=84560179&linkid=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.biosciencetechnology.com%2FNews%2F2011%2F11%2FA-Fetus-Can-Sense-Mom%25e2%2580%2599s-Psychological-State%2F

Re: A Fetus Can Sense Mom's Psychological State - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2011/11/15 9:15

Once again I am reminded of how frail we humans are, how much empowerment we actually need of the LORD to anything right - as in correctly.

Being healthy mentally while pregnant...if a woman is dog-sick when pregnant it will make her ask some unrealistic questions. She feels bad in every sense of the word....

I remember well when carrying our second child - a girl - the doctor gave me an injection for nausea. It cured it - perfectly! I did not have one sick day since. I was so extremely pleased and happy. This pregnancy was a delight. This child's birth was a delight as well - I said I wouldn't mind birthing 12 if they all would be this much fun! Anyhow, this child, Regina, was the happiest child in our family! She was a lot of fun to all of us and those she encountered. Not until now would I have made the connection between how I felt when carrying her and what she was like in life.

(I do not think doctors will treat a pregnant woman for nausea today like they did when I was a young woman. Back then the arsenal of meds available was changing with some more effective than others.)

Yes, we women really do need divine enablement to mother our child while in the womb. I never heard this when I was a young woman...reckon we grandmothers need to take the initiative to warn and teach the young women. And dads - encourage your wife as well!

Re: - posted by White_Stone (), on: 2011/11/15 11:21

Dear Ginnyrose,

This is a very good thread. Thanks for posting what your Brother in Law sent you.

kind regards,
white stone