

Quiz #4

Childbirth

1. Where should birth take place? (home, hospital, out-of-hospital birthing center, etc.)
2. Who should be present at a birth? (mother and obstetrician, midwife, doula, grandmother, husband, older children, etc.)
3. Where were you born? Who was present?
4. Is it safe for a woman to give birth alone? Explain... How often does this occur amongst world societies?
5. Why is birth typically treated as a medical event in America?
6. Why do American women stay over in a hospital after giving birth?

Childbirth in Cross Cultural Perspective

7. How might an anthropologist study childbirth?
8. T/F Childbirth is both physiological and cultural.
9. T/F Most societies regard birth and postpartum to be a time of vulnerability for both mother and the newborn.

10. T/F All cultures have childbirth rituals.
11. Which country has the lowest infant mortality rate?
 - a. Sweden b. United States c. Somalia d. Mexico e. Netherlands
12. Which two countries have a tradition of hospital birth?
 - a. United States b. Mexico c. Sweden d. Netherlands e. Somalia
13. T/F Pain is a universally recognized and expected part of childbirth.
14. How does pain management during childbirth vary across cultures?
15. T/F Traditional birth in Yucatan Mexico did not involve prenatal education.
16. How available is prenatal care and education in the U.S.?
17. T/F Emotional support during the birth process can be provided by non-medical personnel such as family and friends.
18. What do you think of the traditional Yucatan belief that a “baby will be born when it’s ready?”
19. T/F The Dutch do not typically use medication during childbirth.
20. What is a fetal monitor? What does it measure? What are the consequences of using one?
21. Why might traditional Yucatan birth management include administering a raw egg?
22. What is a birthing stool?
23. What are the costs and benefits of a Caesarean section?
24. How are birth management decisions made in Yucatan vs. Netherlands, Sweden and the US?

25. T/F In US hospitals birthing mothers are typically regarded as patients who are not competent to make decisions regarding the management of their births.
26. In 27% of societies husbands are allowed to be present for the birth of their children.
27. What is the most common birth position across world cultures?
28. T/F Babies who are breastfed immediately following birth are less likely to continue breastfeeding in the months following.
29. What is colostrum? Why is it important for babies?
30. T/F Few cultures emphasize skin-to-skin contact and suckling immediately following birth.
31. What are the benefits for contact following birth for the baby and mother?
32. How long should a baby be breastfed? Why might US women require breastfeeding instructions?
33. What is "continuous" breast feeding? Why has this been challenging in American culture?
34. T/F The pathological model of childbirth management is unique to the US.
35. What is "rooming in?"
36. What is "co-sleeping?"
37. Why do the Maya require fathers to participate in the birth of their children?
38. T/F Statistically home births in America have been proven to be less safe than hospital births.