

My Project

*What is the role
of the midwife in the
mother's point of view?*

Project

Introduction

For the project I am going to be gathering information to find out the answer to my project question "What is the role of the midwife in the mother's point of view?" I am interested in finding out the answer to this because while I was researching information on Midwives I got more interested to know if the role has changed in anyway or has it always been the same. I am also interested in becoming a Midwife when I leave school and have been since year 9. I would like to be a Midwife because I am love working with children but I thought it would be even better to bring the children into the world.

A01 QUESTION

To help me answer this question I will send a questionnaire to mothers with children of all ages to see what mums think the role of the midwife is. Originally my questionnaire was different and aimed for Midwives to answer it but I had to change it for mums to answer it because it was difficult to get in contact with enough Midwives to back up my research, where as I can get in touch with a lot of mums with children of all ages so I changed it for them mums to help me. I have changed my question again. It was "Has the role of the Midwife changed over the last 20 years?". I changed this because when I got my questionnaires back there wasn't a lot of mums with children under the age of ten so I decided to change it to What is the role of the midwife in the mother point of view?" this is because it will be easier to get information from mums about what they think instead of focusing on the age of their child.

A01
JUSTIFICATION
OF CHOICE

A01 RESOURCES

A01
PROBLEMS /
CHANGES

The outcome of this project will be to decide whether or not the role of the midwife has changed over the past 20 years. My objectives for the project are:

- To find out the role of the Midwives from the mums and Midwives point of view.
- To compare the experiences of the mums depending on their children's age.
- To find out the main roles Midwives played before and after the pregnancy.

Research

I have done some secondary research where I searched the internet. I was looking for the role of a midwife. I looked at several different sites but I didn't use the information because the sites weren't reliable. This was because they weren't actually midwife sites or anything to do with them they were just site were someone is asking a question. I finally found a reliable site to get my information from. I know this information is reliable because the site had been made for families and it also had a lot of information about midwives as well. Also the site I used my information from had contacts on it and had good feedback. So this would make me think that the information is reliable. The advantage of using the internet to find information is that it finds more in depth information. Also it will explain what you already know but in more detail. The advantage of using the internet to get information for my project is that I need to compare what the role of the midwife is and what they actually do and see if it has changed. The

A02 SECONDARY

A02 RELIABILITY

GOOD RELIABILITY
COMMENTS

A02
APPLICATION

disadvantage of using the internet is that you find non reliable sites so you have to read it carefully to make sure you use the right information.

The other way I am going to be finding out information is by asking people questions. I have created a questionnaire to ask several mums. I will be asking them questions on the role their midwife carried out. I was trying to find out what mums think about the role of their midwives. By asking these types of questions I will be able to get the different views and opinions from mums on what they thought about their midwives role. By asking open questions I was hoping to get a more detailed answer and also I would get opinions from all the mums. I also asked closed questions. This is because it would be easier to evaluate the answers. The audience I targeted was going to be five mums with children under the age of 10 and five mums with children over the age of 10. this was to get the different opinions from experienced mums and newish mums. But then I couldn't pick a targeted audience so I asked my teacher to send my questionnaire to other teachers. And advantage of this is that I have now got opinions from many mums. A disadvantage of doing a questionnaire is that some people didn't answer all the questions.

A02 PRIMARY

A02 APPLICATION

Discussion

A02 APPLICATION OF

For my research I have analysed all of my questionnaires. This is showed down below.

PRIMARY DATA

1. How old is your child?

1-5 - 1

6-10 - 4

11-15 - 7

16-20 - 2

Older than 20 -1

2. How would you describe your Midwife?

-Friendly - 11

-Approachable - 4

-Professional - 8

-Sympathetic - 4

-Formal - 2

-Informative - 7

3. Were you encouraged to have a home birth or hospital birth?

Hospital -10 -1- no choice- 9-encouraged

Home birth- 3- all not discussed/no choice

4. What type of pain relief was you offered?

Gas and air- 9

Epidural- 5

Paracetamol- 1

None- 1

Meptid- 1

5. Was this encouraged or was it up to you?

Encouraged - 6

Choice- 7

6. How often did you see you designated midwife?

Don't remember-1

Always different midwife- 3

Often- 9

7. Did your designated midwife deliver your baby?

Yes- 4

No- 9

8. Did your midwife do the following:

Teach you about sexually transmitted diseases. - 0

Help you with your parenting skills. - 4

No- 9

9. Were you encouraged to breastfeed?

Yes- 12

No- 1

10. If yes did the Midwife help you in anyway?

Yes- 7

No- 3

Didn't want- 2

11. Outline the main roles your Midwife performed during and after your pregnancy.

Health check

Support and reassurance

Delivery of child

Visited mum and child

Advice

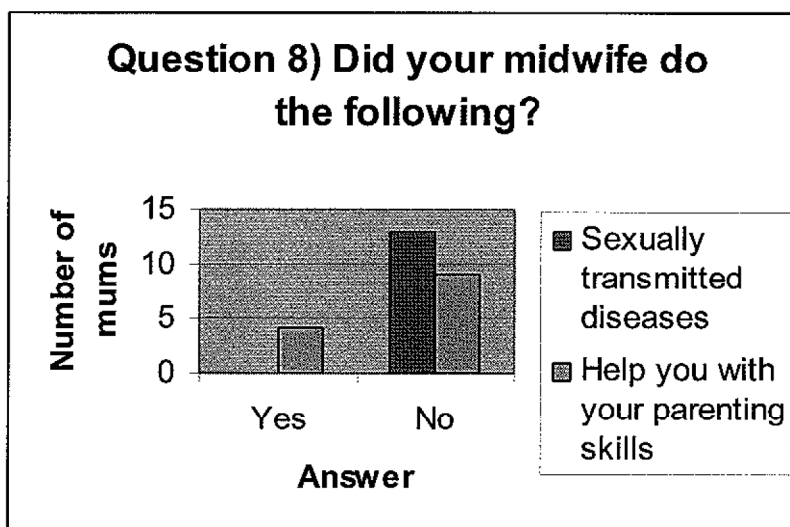
Information

A02
PRIMARY
RELEVANT

Looking at the analysis of my questionnaire it tells me that in a mother's point of view the role of the midwife is carrying out health checks on the expecting mothers, supporting and reassuring expecting mothers, delivering the child, visiting the mum after the birth, giving advice, informing the expecting mother, encouraging the expecting mother, teaching the mothers. This is what I think is the answer to my question I have done some primary research to get this information. In the graph below it clearly shows that the midwives didn't carry out one of their roles.

A02
APPLICATION
OF PRIMARY
DATA

A03
ANSWER TO
QUESTION
LIMITED REF TO
EVIDENCE



A03 Ref to ALTERNATIVE VIEW
A02 SECONDARY RELEVANT

This is teaching the mothers. From a website I used to get information on what the midwives role actually is I found this bit of information "They teach women about sexually transmitted infections, and focus on prevention of the spread of infections. Many midwives provide family planning services." This is what the

A02
APPLICATION
OF SECONDARY
DATA

midwives are supposed to do or one of their roles, but nearly all the mums that filled out my questionnaire stated that this did not happen. This could have been because they were old enough to know about sexually transmitted diseases or they had already had children, but I don't know this bit of information.

All of this information tells me that the role in a mother's point of view is to carry out health checks on the expecting mothers, support and reassure expecting mothers, deliver their child, visit the mum after the birth, give advice, inform the expecting mother, encourage the expecting mother and teach them.

A03

ANSWER

A04 CONCLUSION

Conclusion

By doing this project I have developed many new ideas. These are to do questionnaires when I want to find out a bit of information from a precise person e.g. if I wanted to find out how many teenagers have given birth this year, I would send out a questionnaire to teenagers because they may have a friend or know somebody who has just had a child in school. While doing this project I have learnt about the different roles midwives carry out and what mums feel midwives carry out. If I did this again I think I would like more time to do it and I would try harder. This led to me not getting a lot of information to help me with this. The bits that worked well in my project were the question and the way I found my answer. Doing the questionnaire really helped me to find the answer I wanted. Also using the internet helped me because it backed up my information. Also another thing that worked well in my project was the fact that I am interested in midwifery so it made it more interesting for me to find this information. The bits that didn't work so well in my project were some of the questions a first thought of like "has the role of the midwife changed over the past 20 years?" this didn't work because I couldn't ask enough mums with children under the age of ten to make sure I got the right information. If I was to extend my project I would do it by adding more information about the role of the midwife from the internet as well.

A04 OBJECTIVE
SUCCESS
IMPLIED.

A04
KNOWLEDGE

A04 SELF
ASSESSMENT

A04
IMPROVEMENT
DEVELOPMENT.

Questionnaire

1. How old is your child? (please circle)

1-5

6-10

11-15

16-20

Older than 20

2. How would you describe your Midwife? (please tick)

-Friendly ☐

-Approachable ☐

-Professional ☐

-Sympathetic ☐

-Formal ☐

-Informative ☐

3. Were you encouraged to have a home birth or hospital birth?

1st child I was encouraged to have a hospital birth. 2nd child, I opted for a caesarean

4. What type of pain relief was you offered?

1st Child: pethidine, paracetamol

2nd child: epidural for caesarean

5. Was this encouraged or was it up to you?

Decisions taken were mine

6. How often did you see you designated midwife?

1st pregnancy: regularly

2nd pregnancy: hardly at all

7. Did your designated midwife deliver your baby?

Yes

No

8. Did your midwife do the following: (tick)

• Teach you about sexually transmitted diseases. ☐

• Help you with your parenting skills. ☐

9. Were you encouraged to breastfeed? (please circle)

Yes

No

10. If yes did the Midwife help you in anyway?

Yes

No

By

11. Outline the main roles your Midwife performed during and after your pregnancy.

_____ Midwife was very helpful during my first pregnancy. She saw me frequently and monitored my progress and answered any questions that I had. After the birth, however, I didn't see her as a health visitor came once a week. After my second child, I had little to do with the Health visitors. Moreover, during my second pregnancy, there was little point in seeing a midwife. Each time there was a different person; they were under staffed and I suppose I just lost interest. I was too busy being a mum to number one!

Hope this helps.

By

Questionnaire

1. How old is your child? (please circle)

1-5

6-10

11-15

16-20

Older than 20

2. How would you describe your Midwife? (please tick)

-Friendly ☒

-Approachable ☐

-Professional ☐

-Sympathetic ☐

-Formal ☐

-Informative ☐

3. Were you encouraged to have a home birth or hospital birth?

HOSPITAL

4. What type of pain relief was you offered?

MEPTID

5. Was this encouraged or was it up to you?

I WAS ASKED.

6. How often did you see you designated midwife?

3-4 checks different midwife
each time.

7. Did your designated midwife deliver your baby?

Yes

No

8. Did your midwife do the following: (tick)

• Teach you about sexually transmitted diseases. ☐

• Help you with your parenting skills. ☐

9. Were you encouraged to breastfeed? (please circle)

Yes

No

10. If yes did the Midwife help you in anyway?

Yes

No

11. Outline the main roles your Midwife performed during and after your pregnancy.

Health check only.

By

Questionnaire

1. How old is your child? (please circle)

1-5

6-10

11-15

16-20

Older than 20

2. How would you describe your Midwife? (please tick)

-Friendly ☐

-Approachable ☐

-Professional ☒

-Sympathetic ☐

-Formal ☐

-Informative ☐

3. Were you encouraged to have a home birth or hospital birth?

Hospital

4. What type of pain relief was you offered?

Epidural, Pethidine

5. Was this encouraged or was it up to you?

Up to me

6. How often did you see you designated midwife?

Every month then once a week after 32 weeks

7. Did your designated midwife deliver your baby?

Yes

No

8. Did your midwife do the following: (tick)

• Teach you about sexually transmitted diseases. ☐

• Help you with your parenting skills. ☐

9. Were you encouraged to breastfeed? (please circle)

Yes

No

10. If yes did the Midwife help you in anyway?

Yes

No

N/A

11. Outline the main roles your Midwife performed during and after your pregnancy.

Support + reassurance

By

Questionnaire

1. How old is your child? (please circle)

1-5

6-10

11-15 ☒

16-20 ☒

Older than 20

2. How would you describe your Midwife? (please tick)

-Friendly ☒

-Approachable ☐

-Professional ☒

-Sympathetic ☐

-Formal ☒

-Informative ☐

3. Were you encouraged to have a home birth or hospital birth?

home birth was not discussed/offered but it wasn't something I would have considered anyway

4. What type of pain relief was you offered?

was offered & accepted gas/air although to be honest, it didn't seem to make much difference but was something else to concentrate on!!

5. Was this encouraged or was it up to you?

don't remember

6. How often did you see you designated midwife?

often enough, didn't really want a stranger to interfere

7. Did your designated midwife deliver your baby?

Yes

No ☒

8. Did your midwife do the following: (tick)

- Teach you about sexually transmitted diseases. ☐
- Help you with your parenting skills. ☐

9. Were you encouraged to breastfeed? (please circle)

Yes

No (first time not particularly but second time yes)

10. If yes did the Midwife help you in anyway?

Yes ☒

No

By

11. Outline the main roles your Midwife performed during and after your pregnancy.

Pre-natal support groups were helpful, especially once people in the group had had children & came back with advice/experience stories.

Post-natal was OK although I would have preferred to be left alone sooner, didn't like the feeling of a stranger in my home telling me what/how to do things.

Would have preferred to meet up on neutral ground occasionally instead, if I felt I needed advice/help

By

Questionnaire

1. How old is your child? (please circle)

1-5

6-10

11-15

16-20

Older than 20

2. How would you describe your Midwife? (please tick)

-Friendly ☒

-Approachable ☒

-Professional ☒

-Sympathetic ☒

-Formal ☐

-Informative ☒

3. Were you encouraged to have a home birth or hospital birth?

hospital

4. What type of pain relief was you offered?

Epidural necessary. Had gas & air at first

5. Was this encouraged or was it up to you?

Encouraged

6. How often did you see you designated midwife?

Every week towards the last 6 wks

7. Did your designated midwife deliver your baby?

Yes

No

8. Did your midwife do the following: (tick)

• Teach you about sexually transmitted diseases. ☐

• Help you with your parenting skills. ☒

9. Were you encouraged to breastfeed? (please circle)

Yes

No

10. If yes did the Midwife help you in anyway?

Yes

No

11. Outline the main roles your Midwife performed during and after your pregnancy.

She delivered my baby (despite being off duty & at home - she came into hospital & stayed with me for 12 hours.

Helped me settle at home. Encouraged breast feeding - helped when it wasn't successful.

By

Questionnaire

1. How old is your child? (please circle)

1-5

6-10

11-15

16-20

Older than 20

2. How would you describe your Midwife? (please tick)

-Friendly ☒ -Approachable ☐

-Professional ☐ -Sympathetic ☐

-Formal ☐ -Informative ☐

3. Were you encouraged to have a home birth or hospital birth?

No choice - Hospital

4. What type of pain relief was you offered?

GAS + AIR

5. Was this encouraged or was it up to you?

Encouraged

6. How often did you see you designated midwife?

STAYED WITH ME

7. Did your designated midwife deliver your baby?

Yes

No

8. Did your midwife do the following: (tick)

• Teach you about sexually transmitted diseases. ☐

• Help you with your parenting skills. ☒

9. Were you encouraged to breastfeed? (please circle)

Yes

No

10. If yes did the Midwife help you in anyway?

Yes

No

11. Outline the main roles your Midwife performed during and after your pregnancy.

Kept myself calm + gave lots of praise
+ encouragement + advise

By

Questionnaire

1. How old is your child? (please circle)

1-5

6-10

11-15

16-20

Older than 20 ✓

2. How would you describe your Midwife? (please tick)

-Friendly ☐

-Approachable ☒

-Professional ☐

-Sympathetic ☒

-Formal ☐

-Informative ☒

3. Were you encouraged to have a home birth or hospital birth?

hospital birth every time

4. What type of pain relief was you offered?

gas and air
pethidine

5. Was this encouraged or was it up to you?

up to me

6. How often did you see you designated midwife?

approx three times before the birth
and three times after

7. Did your designated midwife deliver your baby?

Yes

No

8. Did your midwife do the following: (tick)

• Teach you about sexually transmitted diseases. ☐

• Help you with your parenting skills. ☒

9. Were you encouraged to breastfeed? (please circle)

Yes

No

10. If yes did the Midwife help you in anyway?

Yes

No

11. Outline the main roles your Midwife performed during and after your pregnancy.

Gave regular encouragement
Helped with advice on diet

Gave me ideas on how much to exercise during pregnancy
and after

Gave me lots of help and support with breast feeding

By

Questionnaire

1. How old is your child? (please circle)

1-5

6-10

11-15

16-20

Older than 20

2. How would you describe your Midwife? (please tick)

-Friendly ☒

-Approachable ☐

-Professional ☒

-Sympathetic ☐

-Formal ☐

-Informative ☒

3. Were you encouraged to have a home birth or hospital birth?

Neither -stressed it was my own choice

Home - no choice

4. What type of pain relief were you offered?

Gas and air reluctant to give epidural and had to

5. wait hours for anaesthetist

Was this encouraged or was it up to you?

up to
me

6. How often did you see your designated midwife?

can't
remember

7. Did your designated midwife deliver your baby?

Yes

No

8. Did your midwife do the following: (tick)

• Teach you about sexually transmitted diseases. ☐

• Help you with your parenting skills. ☒

9. Were you encouraged to breastfeed? (please circle)

Yes

No

10. If yes did the Midwife help you in anyway?

Yes

No

11. Outline the main roles your Midwife performed during and after your pregnancy.

Gave help with any issues that I knew or felt I knew nothing about such as jabs, illnesses, anything I was unsure about. She was very approachable.

By

Questionnaire

1. How old is your child? (please circle)

1-5

I have two children both are in the 1 – 5 category (2 and 4)

6-10

11-15

16-20

Older than 20

2. How would you describe your Midwife? (please tick)

-Friendly ☒

-Approachable ☐

-Professional ☐

-Sympathetic ☐

-Formal ☐

-Informative ☒

3. Were you encouraged to have a home birth or hospital birth?

_____ Home birth was not discussed it was just assumed I would go to hospital with both

4. What type of pain relief was you offered?

_____ during labour I was offered gas and air I didn't need anything else _____

5. Was this encouraged or was it up to you?

_____ Gas and air was encouraged during my second labour as I tried not to use it too early. _____

6. How often did you see your designated midwife?

_____ I didn't have the same midwife for either pregnancy I think I only saw the same midwife twice. I think I saw them around 5 times each pregnancy maybe a little more (if honest can't fully remember) _____

7. Did your designated midwife deliver your baby?

No

8. Did your midwife do the following: (tick)

• Teach you about sexually transmitted diseases. ☐ NO

• Help you with your parenting skills. ☐ NO

9. Were you encouraged to breastfeed? (please circle)

Yes

10. If yes did the Midwife help you in anyway?

Yes - the midwife in the hospital on the labour ward

11. Outline the main roles your Midwife performed during and after your pregnancy.

I can't fully describe the roles she played as such. They were obviously much more informative during my first pregnancy. I saw their role mainly to observe the pregnancy e.g. blood pressure etc and passing on information about birth.

By

Questionnaire

1. How old is your child? (please circle)

1-5

6-10 = 2 children

11-15

16-20

Older than 20

2. How would you describe your Midwife? (please tick)

-Friendly ☒

-Approachable ☐

-Professional ☐

-Sympathetic ☐

-Formal ☐

-Informative ☐

3. Were you encouraged to have a home birth or hospital birth?

Allowed to make my own choice - hospital

4. What type of pain relief was you offered?

Wanted ^{no} pain relief - went in birthing pool.

5. Was this encouraged or was it up to you?

Yes - it was offered.

6. How often did you see you designated midwife?

Sorry - cannot remember now!!

7. Did your designated midwife deliver your baby?

Yes

No - I took too long & had emergency caesarean

8. Did your midwife do the following: (tick)

• Teach you about sexually transmitted diseases. ☐

• Help you with your parenting skills. ☐

} no

9. Were you encouraged to breastfeed? (please circle)

Yes

No

but refused!

10. If yes did the Midwife help you in anyway?

Yes

No

11. Outline the main roles your Midwife performed during and after your pregnancy.

A great help with advice, sleeping problems etc.

By

Questionnaire

1. How old is your child? (please circle)

1-5

6-10

11-15

16-20

Older than 20

2. How would you describe your Midwife? (please tick)

-Friendly ☒

-Approachable ☐

-Professional ☒

-Sympathetic ☐

-Formal ☐

-Informative ☐

3. Were you encouraged to have a home birth or hospital birth?

Hospital.

4. What type of pain relief was you offered?

Gas + Air and Pethidine

5. Was this encouraged or was it up to you?

Offered - but my decision

6. How often did you see you designated midwife?

Regular intervals during pregnancy - more towards end

7. Did your designated midwife deliver your baby?

Yes

No

8. Did your midwife do the following: (tick)

• Teach you about sexually transmitted diseases. ☐

• Help you with your parenting skills. ☐

9. Were you encouraged to breastfeed? (please circle)

Yes

No

But did not want too!!
Midwife - very pushy!!

10. If yes did the Midwife help you in anyway?

Yes

No

11. Outline the main roles your Midwife performed during and after your pregnancy.

Regular appointments - checking me and baby during
visited daily after birth but never the same
midwife, never one I had seen before!!

By

Questionnaire

1. How old is your child? (please circle)

1-5

6-10

11-15

16-20

Older than 20

2. How would you describe your Midwife? (please tick)

-Friendly ☒

-Approachable ☒

-Professional ☒

-Sympathetic ☐

-Formal ☐

-Informative ☒

3. Were you encouraged to have a home birth or hospital birth?

Hospital birth

4. What type of pain relief was you offered?

Gas & Air

5. Was this encouraged or was it up to you?

Up to me.

6. How often did you see you designated midwife?

About once a month.

7. Did your designated midwife deliver your baby?

Yes

No

8. Did your midwife do the following: (tick)

• Teach you about sexually transmitted diseases. ☐

• Help you with your parenting skills. ☐

9. Were you encouraged to breastfeed? (please circle)

Yes

No

10. If yes did the Midwife help you in anyway?

Yes

No

11. Outline the main roles your Midwife performed during and after your pregnancy.

The duty midwife at the hospital helped deliver my baby and then my designated midwife visited me and my baby on my return home after 4 days.

By