







Home ▶ All Journals ▶ Journal of Reproductive and Infant Psychology ▶ List of Issues ▶ Volume 23, Issue 1 ▶ The expected child versus the actual chi

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The expected child versus the actual child: implications for the mother-baby bond

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Abstract

The aim of this study was to examine whether women's perceptions of their infant

remain stable between late pregnancy and the early postnatal period, and to examine

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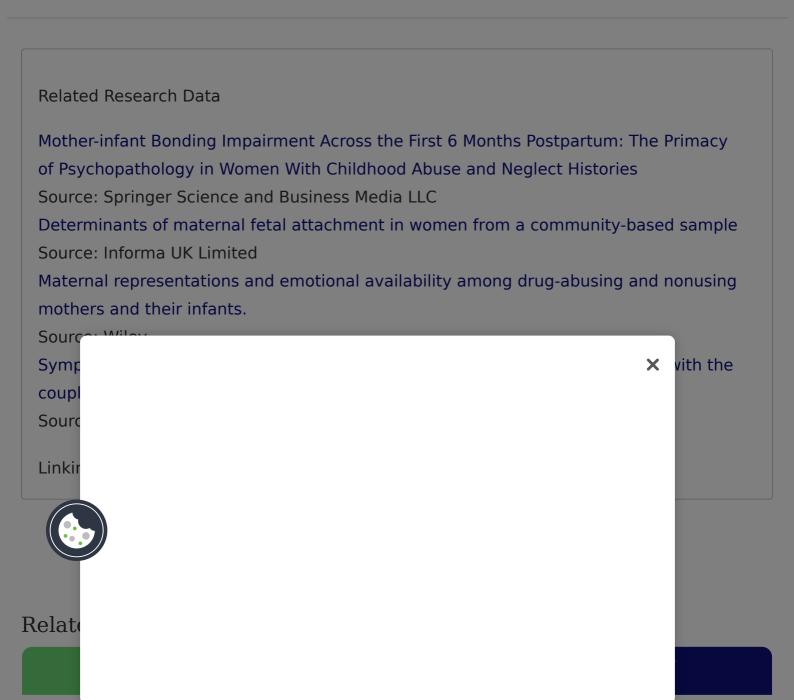
mother-baby bond. The effects of parity and postnatal anxiety and depression were

also examined. The results are discussed, suggesting that a subgroup of women who have negative perceptions of their infant before and after birth may be at risk of mother-infant attachment problems and long-term mother-infant difficulties.

Notes

ns = nonsignificant.

Possible range: Fussy 9-63; Unadaptable 5-35; Dull 4-28; Unpredictable 5-35; Total 23-161.



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