

# Development, Behavior and Psychic Experience in the Prenatal Period and the Consequences for Life History – A Bibliographic Survey

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## **Abstract**

Ascribed to bilingual subject headings a compilation of citations on many aspects of pre- and perinatal psychology and medicine is presented. Papers published mainly between 1991 and autumn of 1993 are entered in the list. Purpose of this documentation is to provide a synopsis of progress in usually unrelated research fields for all interested in problems of this life period as well as to stimulate interdisciplinary dialogue and exchange of ideas. The majority of papers report on empirical findings but qualitative studies describing plausible evidence for pathogenic effects of prenatal conditions for later life are also included in the bibliography.

## **Zusammenfassung**

Themenbezogen geordnet sind Untersuchungen zur prä- und perinatalen Psychologie und Medizin zusammengestellt, die überwiegend seit 1991 bis Herbst 1993 erschienen sind. Zweck der Arbeit ist es, eine Übersicht über die Fortschritte in gewöhnlich unabhängig voneinander vorgehenden Disziplinen für alle Interessierten an Problemen dieses Lebensabschnitts zu schaffen, aber auch das interdisziplinäre Gespräch und Gedankenaustausch zu fördern. Neben den vorwiegend empirischen Untersuchungen werden auch qualitative Studien aufgenommen, die plausible Hinweise für pathogenetische Einflüsse von pränatal wirkenden Faktoren beschreiben.

## Introduction

Prenatal psychology is a rapidly evolving field of research engaging a broad range of scientific disciplines. This situation renders it difficult to keep informed on the progress made. The rapidly growing abilities of critical care medicine make it urgently necessary to compile further knowledge on fetal needs, for instance, in a brain dead mother or during intrauterine surgical interventions to prevent negative consequences for the growing human being. Basic research of the biological sciences, which gains significance in this context, is given ample attention.

A previous bibliographic overview<sup>1</sup> covered relevant literature published before 1992. A comprehensive overview on the current state of research is given by the proceedings "Pre-Peri-Natal Psycho-Medicine" from the 10<sup>th</sup> International Congress of the ISPPM in Cracow edited by Rudi Klimek published by DReAM, Cracow 1993.

## Sources

Publications were mainly found by queries in CD-ROM versions of data bases such as the Index Medicus (MEDLINE by the National Institute of Health), Psychological Abstracts (PsycLIT by the American Psychological Association) and the Biological Abstracts (BA). The „Psychologische Index“ (PSYINDEX, edited by the „Zentralstelle für Psychologische Information und Dokumentation“ at the University of Trier) provided access to papers originating from German speaking countries. A weekly updated data base version of the "Current Contents, Life Sciences" by the Institute of Scientific Information (ISI) helped to find newly published papers not yet included in other data bases.

We welcome hints from our readers on omissions of any relevant citations. Furthermore, we request proposals for themes not yet considered adequately but worth extra efforts to complete this survey. Such contributions will be included in the planned 1994 edition of this bibliography.

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