

When Does Parenting Begin?

Written by David B. Chamberlain, Ph.D.

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In our culture, majority opinion is that parenthood starts after birth. This view has been subtly fostered by medical scientists who think of a baby as physical matter, especially brain matter, which they have long believed is insufficient to register or process memory, learning, trauma, emotion or any truly human experiences until months after birth. This effectively excludes the period of life in the womb from active parenting. Hence, we then think that parenting can't

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and as tests ultimately proved, were committing them to memory. Numerous experiments have made it clear that prenatals who have the opportunity to hear stories and music repeated to them in utero can demonstrate recognition for this material later in life. Prenatals have become

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