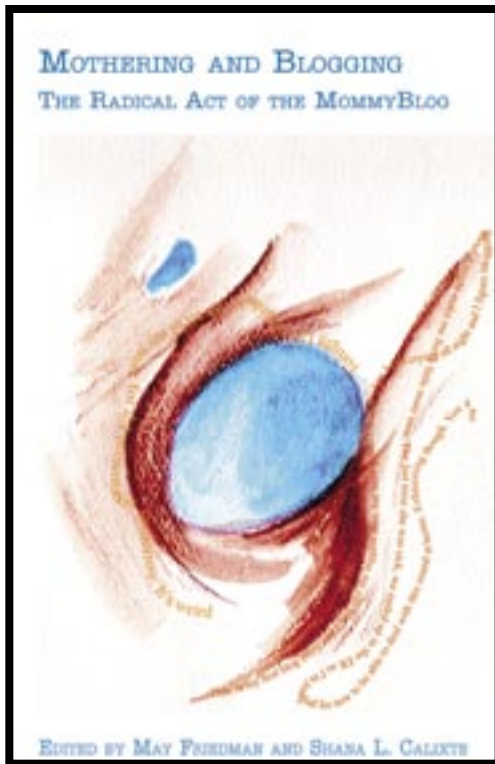


May 2009

Mothering and Blogging: The Radical Act of the MommyBlog

edited by May Friedman and Shana L. Calixte



At the 2005 BlogHer conference writer and mommyblogger Alice Bradley (finslippy.com) responded to criticisms that mommyblogging was solipsistic and self-indulgent by stating that "Mommyblogging is a "radical act." This collection seeks to interrogate this emergent genre in all its contradiction and complexity, looking equally at the ways that mommyblogs benefit some mothers while relegating others to the margins. Most importantly, however, this collection sheds light on a growing and overwhelming site of maternal narrative where many mothers are able to take on the "radical act" of speaking for themselves.

"With wit and candour, this book deconstructs concepts of 'mommy' and motherhood, offering a unique set of perspectives that capture the tension between women's individual and collective personal, cultural, and political identities and experiences as lived through new technologies."

- Krista Scott-Dixon, author of *Doing IT: Women Working in Information Technology*

Shana L. Calixte is a PhD candidate in the School of Women's Studies at York University and a sessional lecturer in the Department of Women's Studies at Laurentian University. Her current academic work is focused on examining the histories of Caribbean Girl Guide associations, girlhood, sexuality and HIV/AIDS education. She is also reconnecting with her love of Hip Hop music, teaching courses on Girl Cultures and Hip Hop Feminisms. She lives with her partner and son Leandré in Sudbury.

May Friedman combines social work with graduate studies and, of course, mothering. One of her most cherished activities is sitting on the sofa reading mommyblogs, an activity she hopes to put to work in the context of her forthcoming dissertation.

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