



The Medical Humanities Program

Everything You Need to Know About Childbirth, but Weren't Going to Ask Until Later



After a personal introduction explaining her own interest in the topic of childbirth, Jennifer discusses eight "painful truths" about how pregnant and laboring women are treated in the U.S., and why this is both a public health concern and a women's rights issue.

With powerful photographs, stories, and research, she will discuss how this system impacts women and families, sometimes "pushing" them to go outside the system for care, or even to give birth without any trained attendant. Finally, she asks the painful question: Why aren't we demanding better care?

Jennifer Block has been a journalist for over ten years, frequently covering women's health and politics and the intersection of the two. Her first book, *Pushed: The Painful Truth About Childbirth and Modern Maternity Care* (Da Capo), was selected as a "Best Book of 2007" by Kirkus Reviews and is now part of many university and childbirth education curricula. The *Women's Review of Books* called *Pushed* "extraordinarily readable...No woman who is pregnant, has been pregnant, or plans to be pregnant should set foot inside the office of her ob/gyn before reading." *Bitch* magazine called it "an eye-opening, distressing, and ultimately empowering look at the very sorry state of maternity care." Recognized internationally as a leading voice for pregnant women's rights, Jennifer is frequently called upon for comment on maternity care and health policy in the media. A former editor at the legendary feminist magazine *Ms.*, Jennifer's work has appeared in the *The Village Voice*, *The Nation*, *ELLE*, *Babble*, *Time*, *Walrus*, *ReadyMade* and many other publications. Jennifer also served as an editor of the revised classic, *Our Bodies, Ourselves*. She currently splits her time between Tucson and Brooklyn.

FRIDAY
MAY 6TH
7 P.M.

Gilfillan Auditorium
FREE
541-737-2955

Sponsored by the Department of Philosophy and
the Hundere Endowment in Religion and Culture
and the Department of Anthropology

oregonstate.edu/philosophy

Oregon State
UNIVERSITY