



*Sunrise Midwifery*

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **MAKING MONEY ON CHILDBIRTH: WHO PAYS AND WHO BENEFITS?**

#### **The controversial movie “The Business of Being Born” has led many women to ask these questions and ACOG to lambast anyone choosing out of hospital birth**

The United States pays astronomical costs for maternity care yet is second to last in infant survival in the developed world. Additionally, many American women cite negative childbearing experiences and concern about the high rates of interventions during birth. These issues were addressed in the controversial 2008 documentary, *The Business of Being Born*, which led Netflix rentals for several weeks and prompted the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) to issue a statement against out of hospital birth. This movie is being shown in conjunction with Sunrise Midwifery’s 2nd Annual Natural Health and Birth Fair on Saturday, April 2nd, at 12:30 in Prosser’s Princess Theater.

Births in the United States run on average from \$8,316 for an uncomplicated hospital vaginal delivery to over \$20,000 for a complicated hospital cesarean section while birth at an independent birth center averages \$1,872 ([www.childbirthconnection.org](http://www.childbirthconnection.org)). Local midwives in the Tri-Cities and Yakima areas charge anywhere from \$1500 to \$3500 for complete maternity care which includes all the prenatal visits, attendance at the birth, and postpartum home visits. Washington State is one of the few states which recognizes the financial benefit of homebirth midwives and has paid for their maternity services for many years.

This year’s Natural Health and Birth Fair starts at 10:00 and ends at 6:00 and includes a Q&A session following the movie; presentations from a board-certified ophthalmologist/anti-aging medicine MD, a naturopath, and a certified car seat technician; vendors of local and sustainable products; and live music from 4-6 pm. The schedule of events can be found at [www.sunrisemidwifery.net](http://www.sunrisemidwifery.net).

More information about the movie and the press statement from the producer and director can be found at [www.thebusinessofbeingborn.com](http://www.thebusinessofbeingborn.com).

Sunrise Midwifery has been providing quality and personalized maternity care to homebirthing families in the Yakima Valley for two years. Almost 50 babies have been welcomed to the world by the WA state licensed midwives who are proud of their 0% cesarean section, 0% episiotomy rates and 100% initial breastfeeding rates.

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Questions and requests for interviews can be addressed to Kristin Eggleston, LM, at the contact information listed at left.

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