

Description

Book Review: Becoming A Midwife By Ellie Durant

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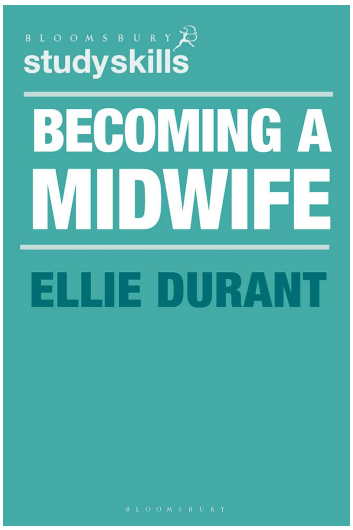
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This book focuses on the key organisational and communication tools for midwives. The book highlights time management, essay writing, examination, making presentations, writing reflections, research, clinical placement, advocacy and activism, anti-racism, bullying, job application and interview, and life as a newly-qualified midwife.

This is a must read for all the student midwives and midwives. I wished I had read this book before completing my midwifery program as I have learned a lot of practical applications that no one has ever taught me. From this book, I intend to practice key skills like the use of a to-do list, writing reflections, incident reports, preparing for and making

presentations, writing a CV, job application processes and interviews.

The author used her own experience and those of others to write the book with very constructive examples. The author also used credible published resources. The texts are clearly written with easy to understand English. Despite the fact that reference is made to the NHS, the content is applicable globally since midwifery is universal. The book also advised on self-care and the author used examples to explain key issues.

Respectful maternity care was touched on with a focus on bullying. I liked a statement made by the author ‘You can’t create a culture where women are really treated respectfully unless the midwives are treated with respect by their managers and so on and above them’. I strongly believe that bullying in midwifery could be one of the major factors that may be attributed to the attitudinal issues among midwives, thus learning about this would be so important for any student midwife or practising midwife.

The book used a variety of useful credible resources to give detailed accounts of the topic under discussion, and readers can utilise the resources suggested to gain more insight into each of the topical areas.

The qualities of a midwife would be a good topic to include in this book with the elaboration of the 6Cs. However, the readers can gain insight from this book and then read the details of the 6Cs from other books.

Becoming a Midwife will be very helpful to student midwives and midwives who still have an interest in furthering their career in midwifery. Most of the content can also be beneficial to other non-midwifery students as certain areas like time management, essay writing, research, job application and interviews, share the similar basic principles to other health care professional roles. **TSM**

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