Psychological and sociological research outline pregnancy, birth and the initial period of motherhood as a period of life in which a woman might experience disruption and new perspectives in a bodily, psychological, social and existential way. This may be even more relevant for women giving birth preterm, since research suggests, that mothers of premature babies undergo an experience of loss, crisis and unpredictability. This PhD study aims to identify if pregnancy and childbirth actualize new ways of life orientation, including existential or religious considerations in a secular society. The aim is furthermore to explore the difference regarding existential or religious considerations, if any, among mothers of preterm-born babies and full term born babies.

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