

Why Moms Can Be Meanies

If you're new here, you may want to subscribe to my [RSS feed](#). Thanks for visiting!



Is there something about having a child that makes a woman feel like she's superior to others? That's what you might think considering how often moms judge other moms for making "bad" decisions. Now I'm not talking about dangerous decisions, just ones that someone might not agree with, like deciding not to breastfeed, or to put your child in day care, or to have a child when you're "[too young](#)" or "too old," to let your child watch television, to enroll her in too many activities or too few, or to [work full-time](#) or part-time, or to exercise too little or too much during pregnancy. You name it and there are plenty of moms out there willing to shame you for it.

What's got me started on this topic? A woman named Donna commented on my blog post "[The Top 5 Rude Comments Pregnant Women Field.](#)" She wrote, "*I'm finding a lot of hostility toward a planned c-section. Maybe I'm just defensive, but people seem to give me the third degree about why I'm doing it and telling me that vaginal birth isn't that bad. And frankly, I don't want to share all my medical issues with them and debate what my doctors and I have decided is healthiest for both me and the baby.*"

Even before that comment saddened me, I had read another one from Jane, over at [His Boys Can Swim](#). She had



posted about her decision to stop breastfeeding her 6-week old son because she began taking medication for Postpartum Depression. The response? Most blog commenters were supportive, but some were meanies and others were such bullies that they didn't even post their comments, they sent them directly to Jane, attacking her anonymously. [Jane's husband wrote that:](#)

"People [are] telling her that she's giving up too soon, that she's using PPD as an excuse to stop breastfeeding, that she really doesn't have PPD and that it's normal for her to feel this way, that she should suck it up and keep breastfeeding Monkey [their son] because formula is pure poison, and yet another who claims to have no respect for any woman who chooses not or stops breastfeeding for any reason whatsoever."

Are you kidding me? What is going on? Why are moms so mean to each other? Does having a child make some women incapable of understanding that there are many loving ways to have, care for and raise a child?

ExpectingWords.com – Brought to you by ViaCord – Cord Blood Banking & Research

At least it's not all bad. Over at [Dooce](#) Heather has received soooo much hate mail that her friend made a suggestion:

“You should monetize the shit out of it. Collect all the crap that people say about you, put it on a single page, and then litter the entire thing with ads. And I was all, I don't know as [my husband] Jon immediately turned to [my friend's] husband Derek and asked, ‘May I borrow your laptop, I've got a bit of coding to do.’”

Drum roll please, [Monitizing the Hate](#).

Why do you think some moms are meanies? Are they insecure or ego-driven? Do they think they are speaking for the voiceless children or do they just want to feel good about themselves by putting other people down? Are these moms teaching their kids to be bullies?