

## Building a Collection Plan

Women are an integral part of society; some may even argue that with all of the role's women juggle, they are the glue that keeps society going. I believe that motherhood unites women in a way unlike any other, this is why I chose motherhood as the topic for my collection. #JOPTY has a mission to document and preserve how COVID has affected life, from the mundane to the extraordinary, including those that have not changed at all. My goal follows the JOPTY plan to document motherhood in all its different shapes and forms. From the stay at home mother of small children who perhaps didn't notice much change, to the mother of school children who were suddenly faced with remote learning, the mother with the career who now faced her worlds meshing as she worked from home, and even the pregnant mother who now faced an unconventional birth.

My goal is to capture every aspect of motherhood amidst COVID while at the same time, creating a space for comradery and support for one another. There is no limit or exclusion to this motherhood collection, and I acknowledge that this collection has the ability to cross over to other existing collections, mainly ones involved with education, but that only adds to the richness of the collections. I imagine the motherhood collection in every existing collection, including incarcerated mothers, mothers seeking social justice, LGBTQ mothers, and even mothers looking for love amidst COVID. The possibilities are endless with this collection. The long-term goal is to be all-inclusive, including mothers from all walks of life, in hopes that the future can see clearly through the eyes of motherhood what living through COVID was like. I also hope that the future will be able to relate to this collection by making parallels with their own journey with motherhood. The best thing about this collection is that although aspects of motherhood can change and evolve, some elements, like the love a mother has for her child, are universal and never change.

I don't see there being a problem or great difficulty gathering information for this collection. I think mothers will appreciate the opportunity to share their stories. Motherhood is an aspect of society that, until recently, hasn't gotten the acknowledgment or praise it deserves. I'm hoping to gather as many personal stories as I can, mostly by asking my friends and family to share and having them spread the word in their scope of society. I don't think there is a better way to capture motherhood than by personal stories, but I also look to gather stories through video clips, links, texts, images, and audio histories.

My evaluation of this collection is that it fills an immense silence already present in the collections. As stated above, there is so much diversity in motherhood, and it is mostly seen as a side note in the life of professional women; this can also be said about women who are incarcerated. This collection will bring forward mothers in the performing arts, teachers who are also mothers, mothers who enjoy cooking or work in the food industry, and mothers in healthcare. The truth of the matter is that the word *mother*, or *motherhood*, can be added to any existing collection, and it will bring to light a group of women who may have been silenced. This collection will add new subjects while enhancing those that already exist.