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ECED 501 Journal Entry – Prenatal

### Prenatal

According to a study supported by the National Institutes of Health “Heavy Prenatal Alcohol Linked to Children Brain Development Problems” (2002). The purpose of this study is to examine how heavy exposure to alcohol in utero affect brain growth in children. Researchers use the MRI scan, which is to figure out children’s brain, and they found that the study indicated that heavy alcohol drinking could impact children’s brain plasticity (para.3). Moreover, this study examine on children physical 50% of alcohol-exposed children were given full physical examinations to find out whether they met the criteria for “fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD)” (para.9) In other words, researchers concluded that the study might also help to understand and treat other disorders with abnormal brain growth in childhood, such as autism. (para.14)

In my perspective, alcoholism is one of the most serious problems in the world. I believe some people start drinking since they are teenagers, especially women. I have seen a lot of women drink when they have a baby. Everyone knows that it might be a risk to their children, but they don’t stop drinking. In addition, according to chapter 3 “Prenatal Development and Birth” mentions that mothers heavy drinking destroys child’s ability to learn new skills and leads to facial abnormalities (p.97). This article really related to the issues in my country. In Thailand, Most teenagers become young mothers. Some of them are lack of education. Other really enjoy drinking and hanging out in the party when they are pregnant. I have heard some locals in Thailand who claim that drinking beer everyday can help their kids make the birth easier. That is not true because children’s brain

plasticity could destroy by heavy drinking alcohol mother. They didn't realize that alcohol impacts their children. I feel pity for children who have a mother like this and born with a parent who is not ready to have kids. In addition, according to chapter 3 (p.97) they mentioned to "Social Drinkers" in the U.S. Some mothers have to drink for her works. That is very dangerous for having baby.

To sum up, I think that women who will become a mother should focus on their children when he or she is inside their womb with eating good nutrition and taking a good care for children. Many children who are born from heavily drinking mother, some of them are disable person that might lead to the problem in the society right now. For example, their parents abandoned their kids who are disabled because they were not ready to care and treat those children. The article "Heavy Prenatal Alcohol Linked to Children Brain Development Problems" might also help us to understand and concern about heavy drinking mothers affect newborns with disorders with abnormal brain growth in childhood.

### Reference

Heavy Prenatal Alcohol Linked to Children Brain Development Problems.

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