DESCRIPTION

Highly detailed and clearly written, this book is the first full-length study of the complex system of practices, beliefs and taboos which surrounded conception and childbirth in early modern Europe.

In a rich and scholarly study, Jacques Gélis reconstructs the activities and attitudes of the midwives and mothers, and the sufferings they had to endure. He continues with an examination of the role of the Church, the herbalist and the mineral world (touchstones and talisman) in the explanation of the mysteries of procreation.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jacques Gélis is Maitre-Assistant in History at the University of Paris VIII.

FEATURES

- The first full-length study of the history of childbirth in early modern Europe, now available in paperback
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