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**A Case for Motherhood as an Intersectional Identity: A Feminist's Labor of Love**

There are currently about 2.2 billion mothers living in the world – and according to the Census Bureau, 85 million live in the U.S. Unfortunately, feminists self-admittedly have done a poor job representing the interests of mothers. Maternal theory scholars, such as Shari L. Thurer (2021), have asserted that as soon as a woman becomes a mother, she ceases to exist (p. 191). Moreover, despite the fact women’s unpaid domestic work in the US raises the Gross Domestic Product by 25.7% (McCann, 2019), full-time mothers are also forgotten by economists. The purpose of this paper is to give mothers their rightful place in feminist theory and discourse by demonstrating that motherhood needs to be addressed as a social identity in intersectional feminist scholarship. As Kimberlé Crenshaw (1991) recognized, women of color were not fully represented by feminists or antiracists, as such they fell between the two and were politically invisible. Highlighting the seminal works of Adrienne Rich, Kimberlé Crenshaw, Devon W. Carbado, Andrea O’Reilly, and Betty Friedan while building upon Leah Williams Veazey’s observation regarding the absence of women from feminist discourse and Valerie Purdie-Vaughans and Richard Eibach’s position on ‘intersectional invisibility,’ I demonstrate that mothers are not fully represented by feminists or economists and as such are marginalized by both identities. In short, motherhood is an experience that is not adequately addressed by the experiences of women or workers – and an intersectional approach will help ensure mothers and motherhood get the attention they deserve.

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Tina Powell is a nationally published journalist, an award-winning communicator, and a bestselling author. She is the Founder and Chief Content Curator of GLORIOUS IS SHE, a social media platform that celebrates Canadian women who inspire, achieve, and empower. She has a Master of Communication Management degree from the University of Southern California, a Bachelor of Commerce degree from York University, and an English degree from McMaster University. She is currently working toward her Master of Arts in Gender, Feminist and Women's Studies at York University, and is an Alumna Mentor in York University’s Advancing Women

Leadership Program. Tina is an inductee into the Sheridan College Business Hall of Fame and is a McMaster University Arch Award recipient. She recently received a Certificate of Recognition from the Government of Ontario for her significant contribution to children's literature. Tina's books have raised funds for numerous charities and her book *If you could see what I see...*, written in the aftermath of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, raised \$58,000 for the Canadian Red Cross USA Appeal and is in the National September 11 Memorial Museum in New York City. During the pandemic, Tina donated \$20,000 in autographed books to teachers and children's organizations.