



Reimagining Potential: Mature Female Students Attending a College-based Higher Education Establishment in the UK

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COLLECTION EDITED BY Janise Hurtig

COLLECTION
Education Studies

EDITION
1st edition

MARKET
College/higher education
and Professional and
scholarly

This course reading...

- Critiques the “one size fits all” government policy by highlighting the unique needs of students who enter higher education later in life.
- Explores the complex juggle between multiple roles—mother, wife, carer, and student—and how academic engagement fundamentally reshapes a woman's sense of self.
- Blends academic theories on educational “labelling” with the author’s own lived experience as a mature student, offering both intellectual depth and emotional resonance.
- Provides a raw look at the systemic and personal obstacles that prevent women from pursuing education at 18 and the motivations that drive them to return.
- Is perfect for educational researchers, policy-makers, and sociologists, as well as mature students looking for a narrative that validates their specific challenges and triumphs.

What is the impact of labels placed upon mature female students in college-based higher education settings in the UK?

Reflecting on her own lived experience, and the experiences of others, author **Jacqueline Dodding** explores how mature female students, who did not follow the traditional university route, navigate re-entry into education, and the impact this has had on their multiple identities including student, partner, wife, mother, and carer.

Reimagining Potential discusses the barriers faced at continuing education at 18, why these students have chosen to re-engage now, and the impact of the various labels placed upon them. Offering a discussion of the problems with the “one size fits all” approach to engaging with further study, this book is ideal reading for students of Education Studies, Gender Studies, Sociology, and higher education policy makers.

Jacqueline Dodding EdD is a lecturer and researcher in Education at University of Central Lancashire.

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