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Mighty mom-osphere

Blogging mothers are all over the Web sharing insights, milestones, photos and doubts

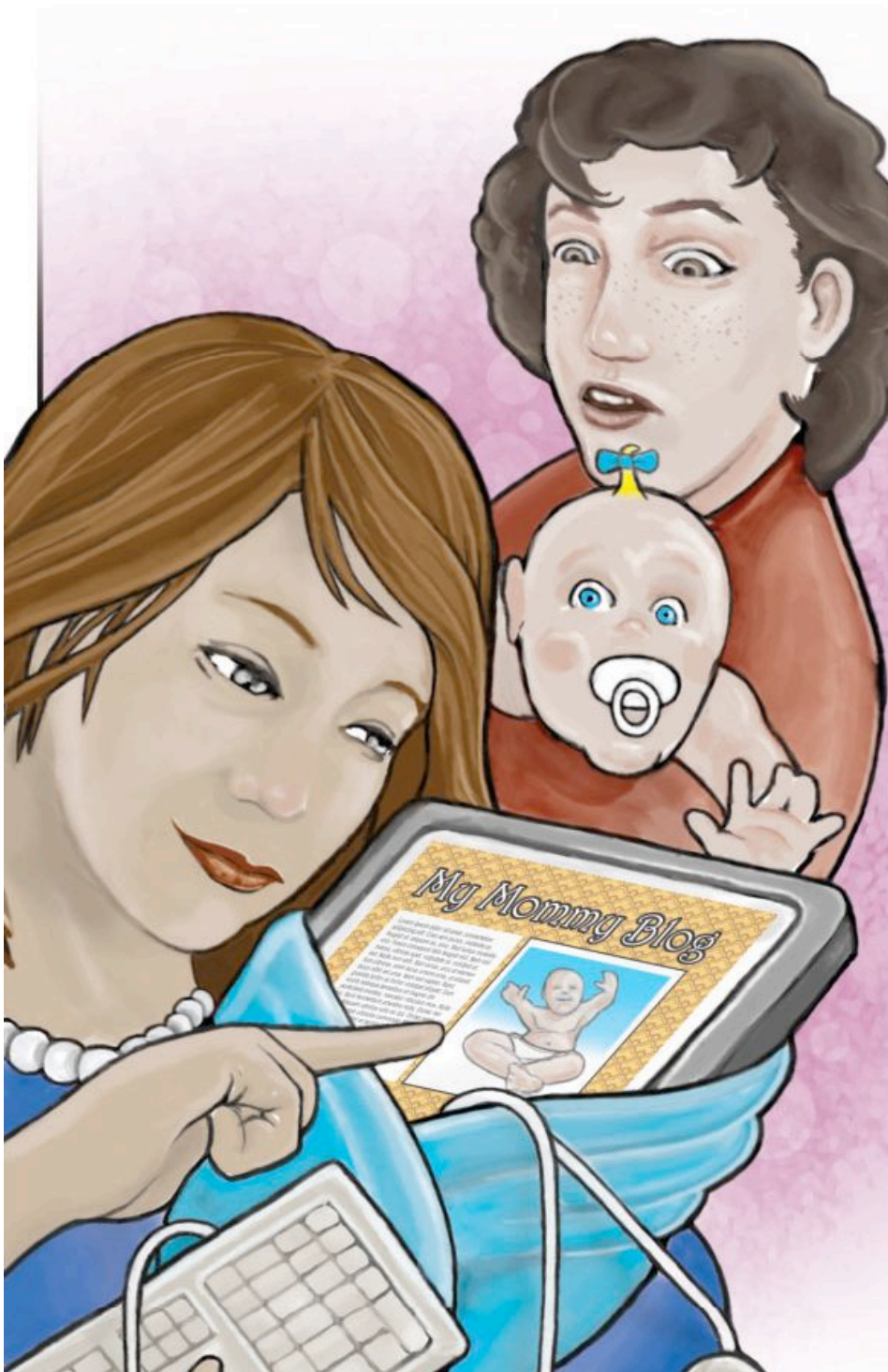
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With extended families spread far and wide and the family computer so very near, many proud new parents are relegating baby books and photo albums to dusty shelves and treating far-flung family — and even complete strangers — to virtual scrapbooks of their lives via web blogs.

It's a rage that mothers, especially, have enthusiastically embraced. Enter the mommy blog: written by moms, for moms — about all aspects of mommyhood.

A 2008 New York Times article reported that mom blogs were second in number only to political blogs. And their numbers seem to be growing. Many Arkansas mothers didn't begin their web diaries until 2009 or later, according to an informal survey of online blogging communities like Bloggy Moms (bloggymoms.com), The Mom Blogs (themomblogs.com) and Arkansas Women Bloggers (arkansaswomenbloggers.blogspot.com). Arkansas Women Bloggers lists hundreds of blogging mothers in the state, and those are just ones who signed up for that particular networking site.

There are, of course, any number of women writing web logs about subjects other than parenting, but these online maternal musings, commonly called "mommy blogs."





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Several subjects are addressed within the genre. Some focus on clipping coupons and saving money — a hot topic for stay-at-home mothers, some of whom recently parted ways with a regular paycheck. There are blogs about technology and healthful cooking. Others tackle subjects such as doulas or breastfeeding. The majority, however, seem to be focused on their individual families, sharing photos and