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Should women get guaranteed maternity leave?

Imagine, you are a few days late for your period, you haven't been feeling well. Your husband and yourself have been trying to conceive for months. You wake up in the morning; knowing that the first pee of the day is the most accurate. You grab the last stick from the box, and test your urine to see if you're pregnant. Positive!! Finally! But now what? When you deliver your baby, will you have adequate time off? Will you be paid for the time off? Will your job even be guaranteed when you get back? For many great reasons I believe all woman should be guaranteed maternity leave.

For starters, pregnancy is hard! There are days when you wake up and you just know that today is not your day but you need to push through and go to work anyways. People always say get your rest before the baby comes. Have they ever heard of pregnancy insomnia? What about how uncomfortable you are when you are trying to sleep? Adding the extra stress to your life worrying about maternity leave ,is something all woman could most certainly go without. Stress in pregnancy can cause multiple complications, for example preeclampsia, and having your baby prematurely.

Another cause for stress is financial stability. When having a baby you are going to be worried about making sure you have everything you need. Being sure that you are also guaranteed pay during maternity leave is a huge weight off of your shoulders. Sure, we all have savings but I personally do not feel that we should have to dip into it. We all work so hard for our companies I believe it's the least they could do. Living on one income for at least six weeks should not be something anyone with a newborn should have to worry about.

Forget about maybe not being paid for 6 weeks, what about finding out that your job wasn't saved for you? You lost your job, you're 3 weeks postpartum; now what? These short 6 weeks

are so very important to bond with your baby. Another major risk during this time is postpartum depression; one out of every ten new mothers will suffer from this. Could you imagine what losing your job could do to a woman on the brink of a break down?

There are so many factors that I could go on and on about. Having stability with your job will help keep your employees happy as well. It is so very important for every mother to have a guaranteed maternity leave. We need this to bond with our baby, adjust to our new life, and get our body rested. It is a lot of work, not just for mom but for dad too.