



Cheyenne Varner

she/her

Creating Equitable Perinatal Spaces: The Impact of Representation on Reproductive Health Outcomes

Cheyenne Varner is a doula, designer, photographer, and writer in Richmond, Virginia.

Born in California, raised in New Jersey, and transplanted to coastal Virginia in the midst of high school, Cheyenne didn't hit the Richmond scene until 2009, to attend the University of Richmond. There, she created the interdisciplinary major Educational Activism in the Arts — a mix of courses in Sociology, Rhetoric and Communications, Education, and Theater — and minored in Creative Writing.

Today, Cheyenne is a freelancer and a certified professional birth doula, trained by toLabor, Ancient Song, and Doula Trainings International (DTI) and certified by DTI. She runs The Educated Birth, an online shop of birth educational materials, including Everyday Birth Magazine. Her passion for all things creative leads her to pursue projects of the design, photography, and writing variety

*"The *primary* image of a pregnant person is a white, cis woman who is thin + in about her 20s has a white cis male partner + a white baby. This problem is a symptom of a much larger problem — that internal biases and systemic inequities create differences in outcomes for people throughout pregnancy, labor, birth + postpartum."*

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