

Siti HAsmah Expresses Concern On Gentle Birth In Malaysia
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KUALA LUMPUR, May 16 (Bernama) -- The fourth Prime Minister's wife, Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali has expressed her concern on the spread of gentle birth - home drug-free and natural birthing options - in the country lately.

She said such a child birth concept needed to be monitored by a trained medical attendant who is able to handle any complications that might happen during the delivery.

"I fear for the mother's health if there is no medical expert in the house. Let the baby delivery be with a trained medical attendant," she said when speaking at the launch of an Institut Kesihatan Umum (IKU) coffee table book, "Preserving Our Heritage 1964-2014" at IKU here Friday.

Siti Hasmah was an IKU pioneer staff, including as Kedah Maternal and Child Health officer in 1974 besides being a former Maternal and Child Health Division lecturer.

According to earlier media reports, the Gentle Birthing Group Malaysia (GBG) was founded in 2008.

GBG started out as a support network for mothers who want a gentle birth.

The 193-page coffee table book includes IKU history as an arm of the Health Ministry to provide training programmes in the fields of maternal and child health, malaria eradication, nutrition, health systems research and health care management.

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