Thanks for sharing. I can't really help with the content, but I appreciate what you're doing in the text. A few comments:

* The passage on attention is a bit unclear. It's not entirely clear what you're trying to bring out in the concept of attention and how it relates to the larger claim that you're trying to make. It might help if you made "One can direct one's attention only because a demand has already been made upon it" as the starting point of your inquiry into the concept and then explain what you mean by this.
* Your turn to Hobbes as the founding of the modern individualist social/political conception and his failure to recognize that one is born of a mother is a super interesting starting point. If you were looking to expand this piece in the future this might be worth further developing. This entire paragraph is fantastic and might be worked into an entire paper just on this subject. A really keen insight into the relationship between the maternal ties to nature and modern political individualism's failure to recognize this. You can also tie this into Hobbes' metaphysics.
* The transition from Glazebrook to Levinas happens a bit too quickly (though it may need to happen that quickly due to your word constraint). This entire passage is really rich in content and I found myself re-reading a number of times--you've packed a lot of your theoretical framing into this paragraph and I wonder if it might be worth dwelling on this a bit longer (especially if you were to make this into a full length article)
* When discussing Ruddick the maternal seems to be a practice, which seems to stand in tension with the biological relations of the previous paragraph. Again, I think there's a lot more that could be fleshed out here, but then again, I know that you're dealing with a word limit.
* Maybe consider using the "A person depends on others..." paragraph *before* the Ruddick paragraph. The dependence on others might be a way of motivating the turn from the birthing relationship to Ruddick's conception of maternal thinking.
* I'm pretty certain that Darwin's phrase "survival of the fittest" was actually coined by Spenser, not Darwin. Though Darwin later used the phrase. Jessica Riskin discusses the (pardon the pun) evolution of Darwin's thought (and how Darwin was read) in her book *The Restless Clock*. I'll try to find the Spenser reference later...
* You can make a stronger and more explicit connection to the maternal/feminist material at the end of your essay. I.e., it's not clear that you need feminism/maternal thought to make the points that you are making about Kropotkin's thought. What is it about maternal thought that allows us to see something in Kropotkin's work that scholars have missed? Is the claim that Kropotkin already is thinking of maternal practice or that maternal practice illuminates an aspect of Kropotkin's work?
* Your overall framework is really strong: setting out the problem, exploring a theoretical framing through the maternal, and then tying it back to Kropotkin. Clarifying your claim will help the internal flow of the essay.
* On the whole, I think your work is convincing and you've packed a lot into this short piece. I'd love to read a full length article (or an entire book) on this topic.

Hope there's something above that you find helpful. Thanks again for sharing!

Best,

James

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