

INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
Confidential

It's been some years since my near death at the hands of public health birthing procedures however, I firmly believe the situation has only gotten so bad now because I was blocked at every attempt to sue the physician concerned and the State of NSW. Then customarily victimized in the health system because I'd tried to sue.

Background:

I've not officially lodged any part of this matter in any form of complaint to the State of NSW previously, despite that the hospital concerned was subjected to very limited investigations in the years after my near-death experience.

The Matter:

I was 19 years old. This was my second birth. The baby had been breech and had been successfully turned before delivery. The baby was two weeks late so I was scheduled for an induction with five other mothers. I was a public patient. After the induction, at no time during the delivery did any physician return to my birthing room. The baby was delivered by a nurse. I was left for several hours to sleep. When my husband came back in to see me he noticed our baby had not been cleaned. He called staff. The nurse cleaned the baby then turned to me to check my bleeding. I noticed her about three different sized lumps in my belly pointing them out to her. It was all my afterbirth. All of it. Without giving me any pain relief she had several attempts to push the afterbirth from me by external compression pressing with the ball of one hand over the ball of her other hand, pressed hard into my belly compacting against my spine.

Again I was a public patient in a country hospital covering a large geographic area and stayed in for about 6 days.

In those six days no on-call physician bothered to examine me on the basis that I was an "experienced" mother, even refusing to examine me when I started complaining about pain in my belly. I was told mockingly that it was "normal" to feel belly pain after childbirth.

Despite that I was complaining of feeling direly ill the morning I was discharged I was told I'd feel better when I got home.

The morning after I was discharged the second I put my foot on the ground after rising from my bed I hemorrhaged so weak that I could hardly generate enough sound to call to my family for help.

Rushed to the emergency department I was already in septic shock and injected in every conceivable spot with penicillin / antibiotics.

Emergency staff told my husband and mother not to expect me to survive, I am very intuitive and despite all attempts to keep it from me I overheard their distress.

Through a mass of tears they said their good-bye to me.

Eventually I was admitted back into the hospital in the general section, not maternity.

I required several pints of blood and plasma separately

I was completely paralyzed for about three days, unable to lift my head, arms, hands, feet or legs.

I was given sandwiches to eat, and not fed the food was cleared away.

I was not washed because the staff were too disgusted by my loss of blood, apparently.

Unable to breast feed and not given the right to express my milk my breasts became rock hard. I was losing my milk for my baby who had been breast fed.

A nurse recorded that I had breast cancer and scheduled me for a mastectomy only stopped when the surgeon came to talk to me before the operation, thankfully.

Flow-on:

Clearly someone had attempted to kill me as a result of being a victim of the physician's and the hospital's negligence.

The hospital is located in the country area at the outer edge of outer Sydney.

My baby and I had no long-term physical issues however, the hate campaign against me continues to this day even though I relocated interstate.