

Submission  
No 98

## INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

**Name:** Name suppressed

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Partially  
Confidential

When I was pregnant with my daughter, I was 41+1 when I started to go into labor on the morning of the 2022. That morning I had an appointment at Hospital with an OB, Dr . Because I was overdue, the medical staff wanted to check baby was happy and everything is okay. When I arrived at the appointment, I told the midwives that my labor had started and I asked if the appointment was necessary but they still insisted I put on the monitor just the check bub which I was happy to do. I sat there for an hour with the monitor on. Bub was happy, everything was fine.

Then the OB came in and stood at the end of the bed and told me he needed to do an internal examination of my cervix. I told him that I was fairly certain I was already in labor already but he told me I could be wrong and proceeded to put his gloves on.

While he was doing the internal, he told me I was already 4cms dilated and then he did a stretch and sweep!

I left that appointment feeling so uncomfortable, violated and sick. I wish I spoke up for myself at the time.

He didn't ask my consent to do the internal examination, he just told me that that's what he had to do and no one mentioned anything about a stretch and sweep.

I realise my experience probably isn't the most traumatic but I still feel like if I don't speak up about it, these sorts of things and maybe even worse things will continue to happen.