

Submission  
No 169

## INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

**Name:** Name suppressed

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Partially  
Confidential

I was induced just over 24hrs after my membranes ruptured. Labour was only 4 hours long however in the end required episiotomy and forceps. Once bub was put he was taken to special care for high lactate levels and my husband went with him. I was left with my legs in the stirrups alone (with an unknown midwife checking on me) in the birthing suite (as my midwife also went with bub) for almost 2 hours waiting for a doctor to come and stitch me up. In that time I had enough time to message my mum and for her to drive to the hospital to be with me. In walked a dr, without introducing herself or explaining what she was about to do she stuck her hand up me stating that I had clots and starts scooping them. I'd been lying there for 2 hours no wonder there were clots.

This was the most painful and violating experience. I asked her to stop, started screaming "no!" "Stop" and even pushing away from her with my feet on the stirrups but she kept going. It was agony, I'd just birthed my baby out of there and she gave zero fucks, no respect, not even enough to introduce herself first. She then started to stitch and I told her I could feel it, she told me I was imagining it, it wasn't until my mum advocated for me as well that she listened and realised I could feel every stitch going in to my vagina. I said "no" countless times and asked her to stop. She never listened once, that is abuse: she had no consent. I never want to go back to that birthing ward again. The anxiety over another birth like that is horrendous. The pain was unimaginable and it felt like no one there except my mum cared.

She made the birth of the first one of my worst experiences when it should have been one of the best.

My D&C following a miscarriage in a different hospital was a much more positive experience.