

Submission
No 180

INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 2 August 2023

Partially
Confidential

I was relentlessly coerced by one of 2 private obstetricians I was under the care of- I eventually stood up to 1 and refused to engage with her after she told me I was silly silly girl who was probably only reading nonsense on the internet and that rejection of a planned c-section would very likely result in a traumatic birth where my huge baby's fantasy shoulder dystocia would get stuck and then they'd have 5 minutes to save my baby with little care about managing my care as baby was priority.

I then went onto have an unneeded induction- the midwife repeatedly insisted I put my underwear back on and was physically trying to push me onto the bed "as gravity would make the baby come quicker and the ob wasn't here yet!" even after her repeatedly asking me what I wanted and me replying to remain active and upright, she only meant what drugs did I want- to which I had already said absolutely none!

The ob then engaged my husband to get me to lay down to birth on my back "as I'd likely be more compliant if he asked"

Even though my baby had no issues aside from a slower heart rate which happens naturally as they are emerging through birth canal I ended up with an episiotomy (which I also repeatedly said I didn't want as I'd rather tear) I was rushed and coached in extreme pushing.

As I birthed the placenta naturally the midwife compressed my upper leg and said "just a little green ant bite" as she injected me with syntocinon without my permission- when I asked what she was doing she explained it was to "help me birth the placenta" when I pointed out the ob was already holding it she shrugged and giggled.

After stitching up the episiotomy she stuck her finger in my anus and exclaimed how strong I was and then said the midwife should feel it, before I could say no she also stuck her finger in my anus and said 'wow!' I told them this was assault and they should fuck off- they said I was clearly over exaggerating and hormonal, likely the synthetic ones the midwife unnecessarily administered without need or consent!

The induction was cause I was fat, old and carrying a giant foetus- this beautiful baby was 8.5pounds at 38wks.

For my second child I birthed safely in my home under the expert care of an endorsed private midwife and her colleague midwife and birthed an 11pd baby at 43wks into the water encaul with compound presentation without a tear or stitch required. I struggled to find an available private midwife in my area and struggled to afford it but am EXTREMELY grateful I did- the birthing experiences are worlds apart and I'll never birth in a hospital again.

Government needs to make home births more readily available and affordable PLEASE! I implore you on behalf of all future mothers and babes