

Submission
No 215

INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
Confidential

Baby no:1 - Hospital - Gel induction laboured on the antenatal ward being told I am not in labour ended up being rushed to the birth unit because I was in labour I ended up having an episiotomy unaware of this I was told I had a second degree tear it was not until my booking in appointment for baby number 5 that the midwife was reading my past notes and said "you had an episiotomy with your first baby" this was when I became first aware that I had been a victim of birth trauma. I had no knowledge of an episiotomy having been performed nor did I consent to the procedure and after the fact I was told I tore to a 2nd degree when it was actually an episiotomy.

Baby No:3 - Hospital - Cervidil induction, in assessment unit for elevated blood pressure when the dr explained they will do a vaginal exam and see what's happening with my cervix and then they will allow me to go home and get my belongings and come back to have the induction began, after the doctor performed the vaginal exam she sits up and says to me "I tried to break your water but couldn't get it to budge we will do the induction" she did not ask if I wanted my waters broken whilst she was examining my cervix she just attempted this herself without my consent. I had the induction begun and was sent to the antenatal ward, I laboured on the ward telling the staff I was in labour only to be told no I am not in labour I'll be going down to have my waters broken in the morning, when suddenly I was fully dilated and pushing on the ward when staff believed me and it was a mad rush to get me to delivery because and I quote "not having a baby on the ward", I was not listened to being a multip and consequently my husband missed the birth.. After the birth I was on the post natal ward and a rather unpleasant midwife was insistent that I "needed endone because this was my third baby and I'll have after birth pains" I refused because I wasn't in any pain that warranted endone and she was quite rude and insistent.