

Submission
No 354

INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
Confidential

The birth of my son was a time I'll never forget. Although the static he came into the world it was filled with disgusting treatment which forced me into a home birth promising myself I will never give birth in a hospital again.

I was fixing a gate felt a pain at the top of my bump. I thought I should get r checked. I was only 36 and 5. There was no visual leaking at all. The pad had no liquid. But after putting a piece of plastic in me and opening me up and then scraping inside they managed to find a drop of amniotic fluid to which they said 'oh well your waters have broken you'll have an induction in two days'.

I explained my son wasn't engaged. I explained my son wasn't ready and that my waters breaking didn't feel like a true evaluation of what was happening.

For two days there was no leaking at all. No pain. No sign of him coming (even though I desperately tried to make him come). I begged the midwife day before give me a another week and if I could wait- to which she replied ' well if you actually care about your child you wouldn't go against medical advice'.

After this obvious coercion I consented, not really feeling supported in any other choice.

My son wasn't even 37 weeks yet, still not engaged.

Oxytocin drip was administered and it was manageable with my waters still intact- further proven by the lack of pain through horrible artificial contractions.

Then after 4 hours they told me they had to 'break my waters' cause they had to 'speed up the process'. That was the first time they increased my risk of infection. The contractions hard and fast without dilation. I was passing out from the pain. It was so intense. I ended up asking for pain relief, epidural happened.

After that I couldn't feel anything, except it didn't speed anything up and now my baby had a spike in his head for monitoring. He was feeling 'distressed' after I was on my back for 14 hours unable to move or help him and pumped full of he drugs they had given me.

The OB came in, you've got half an hour to turn him or you're going in for a c section.

I had to prop myself up, move my legs that wouldn't into the side and try and push my baby down, who never meant to come this early.

Eventually I did, he was 'born' being cut out of me with a full episiotomy.

his head full of blood, cone shaped, cut from the monitor. I was completely cut open, the cascade of unnecessary intervention resulting in horrible birth trauma.

We declined hep B having chosen not to vaccinate our child and a midwife told me that 'well you're making sure your son will never leave the house so you're going to. Be the reason he has a bad life'.

I will avoid hospitals for the rest of my life and I will especially never go there for any sort of birth care.

Stop using intervention as a first stop. Stop allowing scheduled c sections. Stop allowing interventions for stupid reasons. Let babies come when they want to come. For women that want the interventions let them do that. For the majority who don't, let us have an uninterrupted birth- especially when the only danger that is arising is the one the system creates with the interventions in the first place.