

Submission  
No 433

## INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

**Name:** Name suppressed

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Partially  
Confidential

I birthed my first daughter at [REDACTED] hospital on 25/01/2019 vaginally with assisted forceps, episiotomy and extended repair time.

I had two failed epidurals in which my spinal fluid was hit, I was forced to give birth vaginally despite my waters with extended time having meconium in them. I had not given consent for my waters to be forcibly broken, I had my catheter full whilst being forced to push for extended 2.5 hours time in which I kept advising staff I was not ready to push and the baby wasn't coming.

I was forced to have a forcep delivery as theatre was full in which the doctor rushed in whom I'd never met and yelled at me to show me I could do it first. She also put her foot on the bed when using forceps to remove my baby and I did not consent to use of forceps or episiotomy.

I had a 3rd degree internal tear, a significant bladder prolapse and extreme hemorrhoids to the point I was unable to walk for over 5 days. I was not offered to go to theatre for repair in fact I was packed full of medical material vaginally and left for a period of over 5 hours whilst the specialist left to assist elsewhere. In which time I developed a serious blood clot which I almost fainted in the toilets from passing 2 days later. I was forced to have my repair done in the room with only a numbing agent in which did not help and I was extremely traumatised.

I was then told my baby was fine I was fine to which neither were correct. My daughter had extreme silent reflux from swallowing meconium but being left for extended time in meconium fluid. I had a hole in the end of my episiotomy that did not heal for over 10 weeks despite returning to the hospital to get it re-sutured whereby they suggested I see my GP.

My care was extremely extremely negligent, I had multiple private pelvic floor physios say my internal examination showed I need surgery as my bladder was extremely prolapsed and I could not walk further than the inside of my home without pressure and pelvic floor problems.

I developed severe post partum depression and struggled to bond with my baby. I gave up breast feeding early due to my daughter's reflux in which care providers also dismissed.

Upon follow up the hospital agreed their care was negligent and wrote me a formal apology stating they would provide me with the head of obstetrics for further maternity care should I fall pregnant again. I then had a baby 2 years later (April 2021) to which I was denied the care that was promised, and was spoken down to stating I could give birth vaginally and only a smaller (higher) chance of further issues occurring again.

My experience was not only extremely traumatising but degrading, humiliating and negatively impacted my maternal experience and my first experiences as a mum. Not to mention the physical challenges I face still to this day from my birth trauma. I am unable to run, I need to empty my bladder within 30 mins of any drinks, when pregnant I am overall extremely incontinent.