

Submission  
No 558

## INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

**Name:** Name suppressed

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Partially  
Confidential

I gave birth to my first baby in the height of the pandemic in October of 2020. I was under the care of a private obstetrician and had complication during pregnancy including preeclampsia (that was well controlled with medication) A decision was made to induce me at 39 weeks as it was "no longer safe for my baby"

I went into the hospital for my induction the night before and had the most beautiful midwife. She was warm and friendly and explained everything to me. She was wonderful. The next morning my obstetrician came in and broke my waters. We had agreed I could have a couple of hours to see if I would go into labour before starting the drip. We had a change of midwife and this new midwife was so mean. She started at me the minute she walked into the room. She told me she was just going start the drip because I wouldn't go into labour naturally. I was naive and agreed. She turns the drip on and I went from nothing to contracting hard. My obstetrician came back and I said to him I couldn't do this. He said I was doing well so just keep going.

Once he left this midwife made me lay down, no walking around. She yelled at me. She did an internal and hurt me so much I cried. She told I was 5cm but that I wasn't getting anywhere and turned the drip up more. My husband was so upset and I was unable to communicate through the pain. He was googling how far 5cm was and she yelled at him to get off his phone and try and get me under control.

Finally I was begging for help and she just ignored me. When the obstetrician came back I said I couldn't do it. I wanted to it be over. He suggested a caesarean and the midwife said that it would be best. Once the obstetrician left she turned and said to me "I knew you wouldn't be able to do it. You are to fat and didn't try hard enough"

The thing that hurts the most is when my little baby boy was born he was taken from me by my beautiful obstetrician to that midwife. She actually touched my beautiful baby before I did. I have never got over this and I over compensated for this as a mother. I had postnatal depression and my husband was so affected by the process as well. We had so many fights in the first 6months and the root cause was the terrible birth experience I had. I will never forgive myself for letting my little boy into this world that way with that mean woman around.

I never said anything to anyone about her behaviour. My husband and I talked about how mean she was. When I fell pregnant with ny second I desperately didn't want to go back to that hospital for fear k would get her again, I didn't have a choice and finally we talked to my obstetrician about her and what she did. While nothing was ever done a note was put on my file that I didn't want her to come near me.