

**Submission
No 807**

INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

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I experienced birth trauma through not being supported through my pregnancy in the birth system, because I had absolutely no support I had to hire a private midwife which cost me 6700 dollars and have a home birth. the only doctor I saw to get a Medicare rebate for 1000 dollars from my private midwife treated me terribly. I felt harassed and pressured to get vaccinated in pregnancy she talked down to me and told me if I didn't get this vaccine my baby would die, she refused to write me a Medicare rebate form for my private midwife based on no evidence when she heard I was having a home birth she got extremely angry at me telling me I was putting my baby at risk.

She asked me a million random questions and made me feel stupid and attacked she tried to pressure me multiple times to get this vaccine and told me because I was overweight I had a big chance of having gestational diabetes and having a high risk pregnancy she said all this without any evidence in fact I had a beautiful healthy baby boy at home with no complications. I feel absolutely harassed and like I had no support at all in the medical system which is why I felt like I had to birth outside of it. My other experience with the medical system was my first doctors appointment she was extremely rushed a 10 minute appointment she didn't even give me information on diet or what to do now that I am pregnant she just gave me a referral for a blood test that was it.

My other experience was when I went to have an ultrasound at 42 weeks they put that the fluid was low just to find something wrong because everything was perfect they said my fluid was low but when my midwife looked at the report she said that was incorrect the level of my fluid was within normal range and there was no issues my placenta was working really well and baby moving a lot so baby was healthy no reason to induce the lady doing the ultrasound forced me to tell her my birth plan and then proceeded to put me down saying it was dangerous not to be induced and I must be sick of being pregnant now so I should just go in and have the baby and get induced, this was advice based on nothing she was trying to pressure me to be induced based on no risk factors for my baby I am so lucky I had my private midwife otherwise the only experiences I would have had would have been to be harassed and judged and talked down to I cannot believe some women have these people I described as their only support people. I have heard of so many women I know at least 4 personally that have been induced and for no reason there wasn't anything wrong with their babies but because they got induced they all had incredibly painful and traumatic births and all tore really badly.