

Submission
No 1308

INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

Name: Jessica Cassidy
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Partially
Confidential

To the NSW Parliamentary inquiry committee ,

I wish to make a submission into the inquiry against birth trauma and obstetric violence. On August 2nd 2016 I delivered our daughter at _____ Hospital, under midwifery care. My labor was straightforward however after delivery the midwife pulled on the umbilical cord in order to release my placenta faster because she was and I quote "too busy" to wait. I went on to hemorrhage almost 4L of blood due to her hasty conduct which had caused damage to my uterine wall. That resulted in emergency surgery and extended time in ICU. As I was being rushed into surgery the same midwife stated "this is the second woman to do this to me this week" referring to my hemorrhage, all whilst another midwife was sitting on my torso trying to stop the blood loss. Not only was this an incredibly scary and harrowing experience, it also resulted in a significant deficiency in iron as I was denied a blood transfusion by the obstetrician on duty as I was "young enough and healthy enough to make it back myself". I continued to have sever issues associated with low iron, low platelets and low keratin including heart issues that required extended periods of using beta blockers. I have since had two more children under the guidance of private obstetric care so I know how pregnancy and birth should be approached and I know my experience on 02/08/16 was one of a horrific and damaging nature.