

Submission
No 1313

INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

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Partially
Confidential

I was a patient at _____ hospital in 2015/16 when I was pregnant with my second child. Unfortunately I was forced to see an obstetrician because the midwives would not look after me due to an autoimmune disease. The autoimmune disease was under control and I was working with a endocrinologist. Out of 3 obstetricians I saw there, two of them were insensitive and placed unnecessary distress on me. Telling me things like my body doesn't remember how to have a baby and if the baby doesn't grow properly we will "take it out". They tried to force me to go to Sydney for an invasive ultrasound which I refused. Working with them was so distressing for me that the only option I had in the end was to work with a private midwife and have a planned home birth. Because I was so relaxed and comforted by her the remainder of the pregnancy was without any complications and I went into labour naturally on time and had a healthy 3 hour labour with a perfectly beautiful and healthy and ALERT (yes! No drugs) baby boy. I know how to have a baby as does every woman on the planet given the right support and trust in herself. How dare a man tell any of us we don't know how! One thing is for sure, they don't know how to have a baby. We need loving guidance from supportive midwife not old suited men. We need change. Very few women really need intervention with the right support early on.