

Submission
No 1315

INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

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Partially
Confidential

As an overweight woman an obstetrician at _____ hospital made me feel unfit to be a pregnant woman. The way she looked at me, the way she spoke to me, it made me feel disgusting. When she found out that I had no complications and no gestational diabetes she was in disbelief and checked through my paper work again like she must have missed something. I left that appointment with high anxiety and stress and I did not feel comfortable when seeing obstetricians in the future.

The next obstetrician talked me in to being induced, she made me feel as if I had no choice and used scare tactics to guilt me in to signing up to be induced.

My induction did not go well and I ended up having an emergency caesarean that resulted in over 1lt blood loss during the emergency surgery and an infection in my caesarean wound.

I have high respect for all of the midwives, but to no fault of their own they were grossely understaffed. It took over 45 minutes every time for a midwife to respond to a button call.

Having just undergone an emergency caesarean, it was absolutely heart breaking for my baby to be crying right next to me in his crib and not being able to reach him and pick him up. I ended up having to walk unaided less that 24 hours after the major surgery to go to the toilet. Blood and fluids all over the floor, walking in pain just so I didn't soil the bed next to my newborn.