

Submission
No 1236

INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

Name: Miss Edwina Ditchfield

Date Received: 15 August 2023

Felt a lack of care by midwives and threats/ pressure from OB whilst in the midst of labour. Nobody told me risks of certain interventions. Nobody offered me water for 8 hours even though I was clearly dehydrated. Midwives seemed like they weren't updated with new findings to support physiological birth. Midwives said inappropriate things to me whilst I was pushing. The traumatic birth of my first and only child severely impacted the way I was able to parent in the first year especially. And my relationship with my partner. I presume I suffered a degree of postpartum depression but was never diagnosed. Felt let down, like I failed, angry, devastated, ripped off from what was meant to be an empowering experience.