

Submission  
No 1323

## INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

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Partially  
Confidential

I am a mother of three. All three have been born in Hospital. Hospital has been medically negligent with me multiple times.

Birth number one was exceptional. Textbook birth, the midwife called it. My husband, who became a doctor later, held it as a gold star example of how a good birth should go.

Which is why I know that the next two births did not go the way they could have/should have and caused me stress and anxiety for years to come.

Birth number two, the midwives were so disconnected from what was going on in my birthing suite, that I had to tell them that the baby was coming. They didn't believe me, but then stressed out when they realised I was right. The baby had not been monitored for hours. She was born floppy and blue with a true knot. She was resuscitated. Her possible near death haunted me for years.

Birth number three. My son was admitted to the hospital, by what my family and I believe to be a biased nurse. My black mother and brown skinned self were compared to my three quarter white son who had had no exposure to sunlight. He was deemed to be too pale and put into the hospital system before the paediatrician could examine him. I was told that I would take him home at my risk against medical advice. He was given three types of antibiotics three times a day for 48 hours and nearly kept in the neonatal ward without me. There was nothing wrong with him. I have felt guilty about not trusting my instinct, and taking him home, for years.