

**Submission
No 1241**

INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

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Leading up to my birth of my first baby I had a traumatic experience. I had been having numerous bleeds 3 weeks leading up to my birth and needed to have Bub monitored. A female doctor told me she was going to do a vaginal examination to check if my cervix had dilated, I had never experienced one of these, she stuck her fingers right up inside me without first what I understand is what should have happened - she should have guided me through the process, asking me how I felt, that it was okay to start. I wasn't ready, I hadn't related (I was in so much pain) and it hurt so much, afterwards I felt violated and sore, and I was in tears, in shock.