

## INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

**Name:** Name suppressed

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Partially  
Confidential

I am a student midwife at a busy tertiary hospital in Sydney. I have witnessed women being spoken about and spoken to in degrading and demoralising ways.

Examples being:

"Good girl, listen to the doctor and do what she says, sshhh now"

"That woman is so stupid, I could punch her"

"These women want babies but they can't put the effort into feeding them" (said about a woman recovering from a heavily intervened with birth who was struggling with breastfeeding).

The way women are spoken about by staff is abhorrent. It makes me question whether I want a career serving an organisation that has any level of acceptance of such inhumane behaviour.