

Submission
No 1145

INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

Name: Miss Kate Ryan

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Partially
Confidential

I had an induction at my local hospital, Hospital on 26th February 2020. This was my first pregnancy and I am a single parent. The midwife that admitted me very rude and made snide comments about me too me. I am a very anxious and nervous person generally and about to be a new parent with being induced heightened everything more than normal. Along with this midwife I had another midwife that had just completed her training that came across more nervous and scared than I was which was alarming as I'm about to have a baby. Later that night after having the gel to be induced, the midwives changed over and I had two beautiful women that were amazing. My baby was in distress with a dangerously high heart rate and my body not dilating so my doctor said an emergency cesarean was the safest option for my baby and I. The doctor, surgical team and midwife's that night were amazing and very caring. Unfortunately the day after my daughter was born I was in the care of other midwife's that were very rude, displayed no bedside manner or empathy. I was bullied and threatened by the same midwife that admitted me into the hospital that my baby had lost too much weight since birth and they would call children's services and my baby would have to stay in hospital when I go home if I did not get up on the bed and breastfeed my baby. This was very traumatic for me as I was a first time mother trying my best to breastfeed my baby and every other doctor and midwife that was caring for me had not once mentioned anything of this to me. As far as I knew and was told this was not a concern. When I was discharged from the hospital the midwife came into my room, threw my discharge papers at me and said you can go now and that was it. I was not offered or asked if I needed any assistance leaving the hospital I was just left to leave. My birth didn't go how I thought it would and there are aspects of it that I will cherish forever but for the most part it has caused me emotional trauma and made me question myself if it was something I did wrong, but that's what birth trauma does to you.