

**Submission
No 1154**

INQUIRY INTO BIRTH TRAUMA

Name: Mrs Heidi Few

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Whilst having my first child I felt I had very little support with most of the midwives I had during my hospital stay. I had a planned c section due to my anxiety of something going wrong during a natural birth which the dr was very understanding but unfortunately most of the midwives were not. One midwife said to me during change over after having my child safely via c section, why would I select to have a c section and put my baby at risk for no reason.

I had difficulty feeding my baby but I was okay to try formula which my husband organised because a midwife had suggested it to help top our baby up because she wasn't getting enough breast milk only to be told by another midwife that we had ruined our baby and she will never breast feed again.

On day three of being in hospital we were told we were all cleared to go by drs but the midwife that I had only just met that morning had said I am not capable of feeding my child and if I were to leave today I wouldn't be able to come back in.

My husband could see the hurt in my eyes and he picked up our bags and we left. I broke down in tears as soon as I got to the car thinking I had failed at being a mother. Thankfully I have great support from my husband and he reassured me otherwise. I feel sorry for all the other mothers that have experienced similar treatment and don't have the support team like I do. I still remember her name and if I see her in the street I can feel my anxiety coming back again and that's nearly 5 years later.

I also asked for a script for pain killers to go home with just in case but the midwife said I don't need them they don't give scripts to c section patients and to just take neurofin and Panadol. I've had 2 c sections since and I have been given a script every time without asking for it.

Both pregnancies after having my first i suffered even more anxiety mainly because I didn't know how I was going to be treated by the midwives.

My last pregnancy, the midwives that I had were amazing and I wish I had them for my first but the few bad ones that I had has left a negative imprint for life.