

Dargaville, Sept. the 9th, 1982

Mr. Malcolm,
Minister of Health,
BEEHIVE BUILDING,
Parliament,
Wellington

Re: Miss Isabelle Smith

Dear Sir:

Please find enclosed a copy of the letter I sent to MELISSA CLARK-REYNOLDS and to her mother, which are both concerned in ISABELLE SMITH'S case. Also, I enclose a list of names of people acknowledging Miss Smith as a conscientious nurse, and a copy of the letter addressed to Mrs Redman.

I know, as well as Miss Smith, that her future in this country, as a midwife, lies in your choice of UNDERSTANDING or REJECTING the reality of what has truly happened...from both sides of the fence...!

Who is right?...Who is wrong?...is not so important, is it?...as by now, both parties concerned have grown through this ordeal and certainly, neither of them will want to be in a similar situation ever again...!

You may wonder on what authority I am writing all this, well, I will reply on my own authority, wishing that this proceeding will help you to recognize the real AUTHENTICITY of Miss Smith.

2.../ .

I'll terminate in praying God to bless you and all the persons involved, to give you the clarity of mind, the wisdom and the love in whatever decision you'll have to make.

I remain, very sincerely...and available for any further matter.

Truly yours,

Lise Domingue

Mrs Lise Domingue,
c/o POST OFFICE,
Dargaville Phone: 5235

COPIES TO:

Dr. Hidelston,
Director General of Health,
Box 5013, Wellington

Dr. Brownlee,
Health Dept. Hunst., Whangarei

Dr. Garlic,
Northland Base Hospital, Whangarei

Miss M.N. McAllum,
Nursing Council of New Zealand,
Convenor of the Penal Case,
Box 6240, Wellington

N.Z. Home Birth Association,
P.O. Box 6124, Dunedin
Att: Nat. Secretary

Miss McLean,
Domicile Midwifery Society,
1-14 Rodrigo, Lyall Bay, Wellington

Miss Ewington, Matron at Dargaville Hospital

Mrs Redman, Chief-Nurse, Northland Hospital Board
Whangarei-

REGISTERED MAIL

10000/

Dargaville, August the 18th. '82

I, undersigned, declare freely and sincerely
as having been under the care of Miss Isabelle
Smith while recently hospitalized in the Maternity
Ward of Dargaville Hospital, and truly believe
in the genuineness and the professionalism
of the above mentioned...

R. J. Long
Furgess
B. T. Owen
L. Adams

7 M. Ketch St Dargaville.

R.D. 2 Kopuru. Ph. 347

R.D. 1 Dargaville.

R.D. 10 Dargaville. Ph 5382.

I

Keapohue, August 15th 1982

Dear Melissa,

This letter is for you and your mother, because I'm greatly concerned about Isabelle Smith and the ordeal she's going through at the moment.

I'd like to introduce myself, my name is Lise Dominique, french canadian born, 37 years old, potter. My husband & I immigrated to this country 10 years ago and we live on a little farm out of Dargaville.

A dear little girl, Genevieve, has just been born to us, to our profound joy, on last July the 12th 1982. It's were I met Isabelle Smith as that day was her first day of practice as a midwife in the Maternity Ward of Dargaville Hospital.

My experience under her care during labour and delivery has been so fulfilling I'd like you to know how much my husband & I are grateful to her as the whole birth has been so beautiful and surrounded by so much love and peace . . .

II

This message is the main purpose of my letter
as well as sending you both and the dear little
boy... my warmest thoughts!

...and to your mother, I'd like to add:

"Dear Madam,

I truly understand your concern to
make public and to the Department of Health
the unfortunate circumstances surrounding your
daughter's ~~birth~~ "waterbirth".

Nevertheless, I would like to emphasize
that, in spite of your divergence in the whole pro-
ceeding, I'm sure Isabelle's intentions were to
assist your daughter to her best knowledge and
experience.

We are all humans and make mistakes
and believe me your actions will give Isabelle the
chance to ameliorate and most of all to acquire
more wisdom in her vocation which is her whole
life..."

III

Therefore, I'm begging you, dear Madame,
to reconsider your position and to not pursue
the matter further as the life, career and
hope of a young and genuine nurse is in
your hands.....

God bless you...

very sincerely,

Mrs Lise Domingue
c/o P.O.
Dargaville

Phone 3 5235

Dargaville, September 3rd, 1982

Mrs Redman,
Chief-Nurse,
NORTHLAND HOSPITAL BOARD,
P.O. Box 742,
Whangarei

re: Miss Isabelle Smith

Dear Madam:

Please find enclosed all the documents concerning my attempts to help in ISABELLE SMITH'S CASE.

Your position as a Chief-Nurse, is not an easy one, when a situation as this one occurs, and it is understandable that you are not very happy about the whole thing.

Nevertheless, I sincerely hope that you'll consider the re-employment of Miss Smith in Dargaville Hospital, because if you investigate a little about the reputation of Miss Smith, in her short period of work, you'll realize HOW MUCH, she has been appreciated by all the staff and all the patients.

I think that Miss Ewington will agree with me, that the hospital would BENEFIT to have her back!

I just like to add that all this is of my OWN authority, I remain,

very sincerely,

Lise Domingue

Mrs Lise Domingue,
c/o POST OFFICE
Dargaville Phone: 5235

COPY: Miss Ewington,
Matron-Dargaville Hospital

AND TO ALL THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW MR MALCOLM'S LETTER.