

20073-27-07A

Therese Luxton
457 Weymouth Rd.
6th May 1985.

Home Birth Assoc.
Auckland.

Enclosed is a copy of the letter written to Kay Burnside complaining about the delivery of my son on the 20.3.85. Also her views on demand feeding, & my account of the birth-bearing. In mind I was pretty out of it at the time & it could be distorted.

Tricia Dunlop & Judi Shirley, who attended the birth and are still angry about what happened & can be contacted respectively at .PH 795 310 & 792 949, to clarify & verify what happened if necessary.

Sincerely,
Therese Luxton.

457 Weymouth Rd

Weymouth

6. May 1985.

Dear Kay,

Even though I appreciated having a home birth I feel there are a few things that occurred I wasn't happy about. I wanted to tell you during the post natal visits but didn't know how to broach the subject.

On reflection it saddened me that we shared no empathy during my labour. That during that long stage where I had to push a lot of it was done in a cold wet nightie & an uncomfortably wet bed. which were only changed at my request.

I found it strange that the

Doctor asked to have the curtains
drawn & the babies clothes
headed instead of you.

My concepts about midwives
caring & giving were shattered
when you left after the birth
leaving me to organize my
own bath & the changing of my
dirty bed linen

Your views on demand
breastfeeding hurt my heart.
and I found them contrary to current
thought on the subject. Was this
why you wouldn't let Nikdai
suckle while you did his ~~PKU~~ PKU
putting both of us through so much
pain?

Yet, Kay you also did
the gentlest internal exam I
have ever had and ~~you~~ gratefully
you didn't give me an episiotomy

Kay and I'm also sorry
this is such an awful
letter to receive.

The distension between you
& Bundellu cannot have
made it easy for you.

If you feel this is ~~the~~
unjust criticism please
feel free to tell me.

A copy of this letter
has gone to the H.B.A.,
Joan Donnelly & Kathy Thompson.

Sincerely

Theresa Cuckey.

An account of the birth.

Started labour with regular contractions around 6pm.

Rang Kay to keep her informed.

By 2 am contractions strong.

Kay arrives. - given gentle internal exam
(8cms dilated).

During contractions want to walk around.

Kay 'sneers' & says never heard of anyone doing that before.

~~10cms dilated~~

Ready to push. The baby is stuck.

Trying to tell Kay to appease her she can deliver baby.

Doctor is rung, & told she is delivering

baby he says he won't come. She

insists as situation is getting serious.

Baby is not moving - I'm in a lot of pain. Kay is talking of hospital.

I plead I don't want my baby delivered

with forceps she looks at me as if I'm crazy.

Starting to feel delirious. 2

~~Birth~~ Am being given homeopathic remedies or sips of water from a friend. Kay disapproves of remedies although being told before birth they were to be administered.

Phasing in & out. Push on my hands and knees. Kay puts very cold stethoscope on my tummy which feels like an electric shock.

Don't want Kay to help me push as don't feel any love from her.

Burdellu helps alot. Panic when Jud. (friend) leaves the room.

Burdellu does an internal to try a lift cervic rim.

Another one is done during a contraction moving my bladder out of way.

Very aware of a cold, wet clinging nightie or a wet bed. In the end can't stand the discomfort. ask ~~for them~~ ^{for them}

to be removed.

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In the background I hear Bundellu asking for a hot water bottle to be put in the babies & clothes & he

draws the curtains. Also he insists I change position as am making no headway on hands or knees which was true.

About 9.30 am head appearing.

Push Baby out. at 9.45.

Cord wrapped around his neck twice. There is a panic for either the clamps or suction which are still in Kay's bag. Bundellu finds them cord is cut Bundellu suckles his mouth.

Baby is passed to me.

Kay writes her notes up.

I have nothing on. Baby has nothing

on. Kay vaguely offers to dress it.

I can't relate to anything at the

moment or don't reply. Kay leaves.

I get up with my husband, run a bath for the baby & me & make my own bed.

Kay returns in afternoon to check all is well.