

## AFFIDAVIT

I, the undersigned ZEENAT BEGUM PILLAY do hereby make oath and say that:

1. The facts to which I attest are within my own personal knowledge and to the best of my knowledge and belief, both true and correct.
2. I am an adult female residing at
3. My contact number:
4. On 29 December 2007 I attended at the MARIE STOPES clinic at 91, Bree St, Cape Town after making an appointment by telephone. I was 8 weeks pregnant and I was considering an abortion.
5. I arrived at 0830; after waiting in the lounge area I was called into the office and asked to pay R.2070. I received absolutely no counselling whatsoever although my boyfriend had been assured on the phone that I would receive counselling and I could decide after the counselling whether to go ahead. I was tearful and did not object. I was asked about my medical history by a very unpleasant Afrikaans woman who had the attitude that she did not want to be there. I signed a consent form. I was given no opportunity to talk or ask questions.
6. I am quite sure that I was not told anything about the stage of development of the baby inside me, or alternatives to abortion or the risks involved. I think I was given a pamphlet but I had no chance to read it before being given some pills. I was too tearful to argue. I felt like a zombie. I thought it was strange that I had no counselling; I asked for my boyfriend. I was not allowed to see him.
7. After taking 2 pills I was told to wait in the waiting room. I waited 3 hours.
8. About 1230 I was called in. I was put on a drip and went to sleep.
9. My first memory of waking up was being shaken as I was screaming in pain. The same unpleasant nurse said "you must be imagining it." I think they then gave me an injection in my bottom. Then

they tried to take my blood pressure and I heard them saying I had no reading. They seemed to panic; they took their own blood pressure and it worked. I was then put on a 'drip' into my hand but one nurse said "it's bubbling" and the other said "stop". They tried to contact the anesthetist who had gone home but his mobile was off. No doctor was there. I felt very cold and saw my whole life flashing past me. There was nobody who seemed to know what they were doing.

10. Eventually I felt better and got up and dressed. I had excruciating pain in my chest. They must have been hitting me trying to resuscitate me. When I got home I had a big bruise there. My hand was also badly bruised from the drip.

11. I went back to the clinic sometime between 2 January and 5 January 2008. I was told the nurse who attended to me was away. I said I wanted to know what had gone wrong. The receptionist remembered me and said: " Oh, you were the one who had the ....." She stopped. She seemed very nervous. She called another nurse who told me to come back later.

12. On January 10 I wrote an email to the clinic setting out my complaint. I attach a copy marked "ZBP 1". I have received no reply.

13. I want to obtain damages from the clinic. I nearly died and no doctor was available. Also their equipment was not working.

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DEPONENT

SIGNED AT \_\_\_\_\_ ON THIS 1<sup>st</sup> Day of July 2008, THE DEPONENT HAVING ACKNOWLEDGED THAT SHE KNOWS AND UNDERSTANDS THE CONTENTS OF THIS AFFIDAVIT, THAT IT IS TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF THIS KNOWLEDGE, THAT SHE HAS NO OBJECTION TO TAKING THE PRESCRIBED OATH AND THAT THE PRESCRIBED OATH WILL BE BINDING ON HER CONSCIENCE.

BEFORE ME

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COMMISSIONER OF OATH