I would like to express my deepest sorrow for my mother who was forced into signing papers to lose me to adoption. She was drugged, tied to a bed and had a pillow obscuring her view and was not allowed to see me but she heard me cry. I cannot tell the exact details of her experience but I can say how it has affected me.

I have been taken from my family and have lived my life with an enormous feeling that something was missing from life. I suffered depression because of it for most of my life. I also have never felt secure and have suffered with anxiety also.

I found out I was adopted when I was 46yrs old. The pain of rejection was strong and so was the pain of finding my mother only to be rejected again. This rejection was caused by the great stress and trauma she had suffered in losing me as an infant. No longer was I the baby she remembered but a fully grown woman whom to her was a complete stranger. All of the memories she had hidden in her subconscious were brought to her mind and she was in great distress. I almost lost her because of this but somehow through great determination we have managed to have a relationship.

I cannot stress enough how it is to lose one's identity at such a late age and then find family most of whom rejected me. If I had not been taken from my family I would have known my siblings, my grandparents ,my aunts and my uncles and my cousins. All this has been taken away from me by the actions of uninformed staff at Crown St Hospital. Most of all I would have had MY mother. The bond between us was great and it never should have been severed by anyone. No one had the right to take me away from where I belonged. It was wrong, it was criminal and we who have been adopted and our parents have suffered for it.

Something must be done to right this injustice in any way that is possible.

I hope that my words will help someone understand the absolute devastation of being kept from one's own mother. The mothers were not treated with dignity or respect or given any support. I shudder to think how terrible my adopted mother and father would have felt to have known they had in their home someone else's stolen baby. There must be consequences for the heartbreak this has caused for all involved.

I will end now but please keep in mind that if anything should be remembered from my submission is that I love my mother and had the right to have stayed with her and no one in this world should have taken me without her consent.