

Regardless of whether the mother signed 'of her own free will' ALL adoptions are 'forced' upon the infants. The infant's perspective should be acknowledged even though they cannot articulate themselves. The infant experience affects the entire individual's life.

I was not physically given to my mother after the birth? (although I shared a taxi cab with her back to St Anthony's)

My mother did not have access to me until she signed the papers.

She was not given all options to keep me and told you she 30 days to change your mind.

She was not informed of possible regret.

She was heavily sedated at the time of the birth and cannot remember it. She signed the documents at this time.

I believe I went to my new home BEFORE 30 days was up.

Being removed from my mother's body after birth traumatized me.

Having my identity removed – my entire STORY about who I was – shattered my sense of self.

Having a partial and meager false identity attributed to me kept me in a state of traumatic confusion throughout my childhood to the current day.

I remembered the adoption – even though it occurred so soon after birth – in nightmares and a deep feeling of shame in my childhood, in confusion and ignorance, low self-esteem and bewilderment and self-hate in my adolescent which fostered depressive and suicidal thoughts although at the time I did not know the reason for them.

I only discovered what happened to me and the reason for my feelings as an adult after the access to information laws changed in the early 1990s.

After reunion I found my mother in a state of denial about the adoption. She later became a 'born-again' Christian and is unable to freely discuss the adoption. After many years of pretense of a positive relationship, it has faltered into what it is – a superficial relationship that cannot encompass depth of communication – cannot encompass truth – because of the trauma it has created.