

Saira Hirji
Gorham
LD 780

were recommending that I be given drugs to speed up the labor.

I still wonder if we made the right choice, but we agreed. I might have been willing to risk my own life, but we didn't want our baby to spend her life suffering. I had to sign papers stating that I understood that this was considered an abortion.

I again went through the worst pain I had ever experienced (even now, having delivered a full term baby), and Kira was born. She was given medication to keep her comfortable, and I was able to hold her until she died two hours later.

I have two babies that I contributed to the abortion statistics. I never want to discount the many many reasons a woman might choose (or need) to have an abortion. I just also want people to understand that when you read a statistic like "In 2019, 629,898 legal induced abortions were reported to CDC from 49 reporting areas" (from the CDC website), that might sound like an enormous number, but it might not mean what you think it does.

I desperately wanted my babies."

I urge you, when making your decision, to think about all of the reasons a woman might get an abortion, and the impacts to women's health when that option is not available. Don't make assumptions. Women do not make the choice lightly, when it even is a choice, so please protect our right to make it.