

Why this is important

The question of the pregnant woman dragged by force to an unwanted cesarean was not based on safety of the unborn child . There was not an imminent risk of death, as the child had had examinations attesting their good intrauterine health. The woman was dragged into an unwanted cesarean in breach of the law, an example of technical incompetence.

It's the incompetent obstetrician who ignores the evidence that labour is possible after two or more cesarean sections:

"The evidence shows that labour is a safe and appropriate choice for most women who have had one or more previous cesareans " ACOG Bulletin for clinical practice No. 115, 2010.

It's the incompetent obstetrician who ignores that delivery in breech presentation is possible in several situations :

"Pelvic planned vaginal delivery may be reasonable under the guidelines of hospital protocols." ACOG Committee Opinion No. 340 , 2006.

It's the incompetent judge issuing an injunction without adequately questioning the source of information .

It's the incompetent obstetrician who is not prepared to care for vaginal delivery under any possible circumstance :

"Code of Medical Ethics , Article 42 The physician is forbidden from practicing or indicating unnecessary medical procedures by the laws of the country. Either assisting with normal or instrumental childbirth, childbirth itself, or even when the caesarean is indicated, the obstetrician should be aware of the correctness of the procedure and must include in medical records the reasons, as well as discussing with the woman and her partner, the relevant justifications . "

The point is that our society IGNORES good obstetric practices , and there are judges and prosecutors who do not base their decisions on reliable sources "

Carla Andreucci Polido

"A woman was compelled by justice to an unwanted cesarean simply because a medical professional said so. There was no time to have recourse to evidence or protocols, there was no time to ask for second opinions. Medical power screamed louder, the Brazilian justice system ran like a crazy cockroach and the health police went in to intimidate the woman and force her to comply with the decision for surgery, based on the speculations of a professional (or two).

Who will be the next to be dragged away by police ?

And what if Adelir, or someone in their family had reacted to the violence they have suffered?

Would they have been shot? Adelir thrown in the boot of the car? Emerson arrested? And what about the doula ? And the older kids – would they have been taken to a safe place as there was no other adult in the house?

If there is a no legal mechanism that prevents things like this from happening, we are all exposed . Even though the evidence may subsequently prove there was no additional risk (through much discussion and detailed analyzes that requires time), if the police have already invaded your home and dragged you to the hospital to force you to do what the doctor ordered (be it a caesarean, or a normal birth, or a hospital birth you did not want or plan) , the damage is already done. To you, your baby, your family, all of us."

Maira Libertad Soligo-Takemoto