

Real Life Stories

Taking Baby DNA

The MN Dept. of Health has refused to follow written consent requirements in the MN genetic privacy law for the taking, storage, and use of newborn blood, baby DNA, and newborn genetic testing results, and now seek to pass legislation to eliminate these consent requirements. CCHC has been contacted by parents and others concerned about the Baby DNA bill's repeal of informed written consent and genetic privacy rights (HF1341/SF1478). Here is one short story we've received:

Mother: I had my last child back in Feb 08. My mom had mentioned to me about the Dna affair and told me to make sure I ask for papers to sign to have dna destroyed. I didn't really know what she was talking about and was a bit embarrassed to ask the nurses.

I did ask one and she said she didn't know anything about it and I believe she said I would have to talk to my doctor. I had never seen this test done before either even though this was my 4th child.

The people came in my room and I got the creepiest feeling for whatever reason. They were squeezing and squeezing my baby's foot and she was crying and crying. I was so upset just sitting there watching them do this. I think that protective mother was definitely [sic] kicking in. I couldn't wait for them to leave.

I will never have this test done again just as I plan to never send my children to nursery anymore either. I want to know what tests are being done to them.. – Saint Paul, MN