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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

THIS IS A STORY THAT YOU WILL READ AND READ AGAIN AND THINK TO YOURSELF - HOW CAN THIS HAPPEN? WHY DID THIS HAPPEN? WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS TRAGEDY TO A CHILD AND HIS BIOLOGICAL FATHER.

AS I SIT HERE DAY AFTER DAY THINKING TO MYSELF - WHERE IS MY CHILD? IS MY CHILD SAFE? WHAT DOES HE LOOK LIKE? I TRY TO SLEEP AT NIGHT THINKING THIS IS ALL A DREAM BUT REALITY KICKS IN AND I REALIZE THAT MY NIGHTMARE HAS JUST BEGUN.

THIS STORY STARTS WITH A PHONE CALL ONE EVENING STATING THAT I WAS THE POTENTIAL FATHER OF A CHILD THAT HASN'T TAKEN ITS FIRST BREATH. A CHILD THAT NEVER ASKED TO BE BORN, WITH NO RIGHTS UNTIL HIS FIRST BREATH IN THE REALM OF A CIRCLE THAT HE HAS NOW BECOME. THIS STORY CONSISTS OF DECEPTION, DENIAL, UNETHICAL CONDUCT, RETALIATION. THE PHONE CALL CAME FROM A FAMILY MEMBER ON THE MOTHERS SIDE STATING THAT I WAS THE POTENTIAL FATHER OF THIS BABY. AT FIRST I WAS SKEPTICAL OF THE WHOLE SITUATION DUE TO THE MOTHER AND I HADN'T TALK TO EACH OTHER FOR A LONG TIME. THE FAMILY MEMBER TOLD ME THAT HE THOUGHT THAT MONEY WAS EXCHANGED FOR THE BABY. I THOUGHT TO MYSELF "WHAT A THING TO DO TO A CHILD THAT DOESN'T HAVE A VOICE." I ASKED "HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT THE BABY IS MINE?" HE STATED THAT THE MOTHER OF THE BABY HAD SPOKEN OF ME SEVERAL TIMES IN CONCERN FOR THE BABY AND HAD STATED THAT I WAS THE FATHER. I ASKED WHY SHE HADN'T TOLD ME THAT I WAS THE FATHER, IT WAS EXPLAIN TO ME THAT BECAUSE WE WEREN'T TALKING AND THAT SHE WAS MAD AT ME THAT THIS IS A WAY OF PUNISHING ME WITH THE DENIAL OF HAVING MY BABY WITH ME OR BEING INVOLVED IN HIS LIFE. I WENT TO TALK TO MY FIANCE ABOUT THE BABY AND ASKED HER WHAT WE SHOULD DO. WE DECIDED TOGETHER TO TALK TO A LAWYER TO SEE WHAT MY RIGHTS AS A POTENTIAL FATHER WAS. OUR LAWYER ASKED US IF WE WANTED TO BE IN THIS CHILD'S LIFE, TO BE A PART OF HIS GROWING UP, TO BE PARENTS. THERE WAS NO QUESTION THE ANSWER WAS "YES". THE PROCEEDINGS BEGAN.

AT THIS POINT WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MOTHERS DRUG HABIT WITH CRYSTAL METH WE WERE CONCERNED FOR THE BABY'S HEALTH. WE CONTACTED SOCIAL SERVICES, CHILD PROTECTION, CHILDREN'S ADVOCATE, FAMILY SERVICES. THEY ALL TOLD US THAT DUE TO THE MOTHERS DRUG ADDICTION THERE WOULD BE RED FLAGS PUT UP AT RUH AND THERE WOULD BE A DRUG TEST DONE ON BOTH MOTHER AND BABY. WE ALSO TOLD ALL THE RIGHT DEPARTMENTS THAT THERE WAS GOING TO BE A PARKING LOT ADOPTION AND WE BELIEVED THAT THERE WAS MONEY EXCHANGED FOR THE BABY, THEY ALL REASSURED US THAT THAT WOULDN'T HAPPEN, "NOT IN SASKATOON". SO LIKE ANYONE ELSE WE HAD OUR FAITH IN THE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES THAT WE HAD TALKED TO THAT ALL OF THIS WOULD BE LOOKED INTO AND TAKEN CARE OF. WELL AS YOU READ ON WITH THIS TRAGIC STORY YOU WILL SEE THIS NEVER HAPPENED.

WE FOUND OUT THAT THE MOTHER OF THE BABY WAS BOOKED INTO RUH FOR A PLANNED CESAREAN SECTION SO MY FIANCE PHONED AND TALKED TO A SOCIAL WORKER AT RUH, TOLD THE STORY OF OUR DILEMMA AND WAS ONCE AGAIN REASSURED THAT THE TRANSFER OF THE BABY TO THE PEOPLE THAT HAS BOUGHT THE BABY WOULDN'T HAPPEN. ONCE AGAIN WE PUT OUR FAITH IN THE

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GOVERNMENT AGENT ICES.

A FEW WEEKS PASSED AND HAD HEARD NOTHING. MY FIANCE GOT A PHONE CALL ONE NIGHT FROM THE BABY'S MOTHERS MOTHER AND WAS TOLD THAT "THE BABY HAD BEEN AND GONE". AT THIS POINT WE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO THINK .....WAS THE BABY ALIVE? WAS THE BABY OK? WAS THE BABY STILL AT THE HOSPITAL? WHAT DOES THAT MEAN? WELL IT MENT WHAT WE FEARED THE MOST..... THE BABY HAD GONE FROM THE HOSPITAL AS WE ASSUMED AND WARNED THE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES THAT THIS WOULD HAPPEN. WITH A FAMILY THAT NO ONE KNEW OR HAD NEVER MET. THIS IS WERE OUR HUNT BEGAN. THE HUNT FOR A CHILD, A CHILD THAT HAS BEEN GIVEN AWAY, A CHILD THAT HAS NO VOICE. AFTER A FEW WEEKS OF RESEARCHING AND A LOT OF HOURS PUT IN TO FIND THE CHILD WE FOUND HIM. A PATERNITY TEST WAS DONE AND YES I AM THE FATHER 100% THE BIOLOGICAL FATHER. NOW YOU THINK 'TO YOURSELF.....' THAT'S GREAT THINGS WOULD BE EASY NOW" NOT SO. IT HAS BEEN 2 1/2 MONTHS AND THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS LATER WE STILL DON'T HAVE THE BABY IN OUR HOME AND WE ARE STILL FIGHTING FOR THE RIGHTS THAT A FATHER, A FATHER THAT HAS BEEN PROVEN 100% THE BIOLOGICAL FATHER. ASK YOURSELF SHOULD A FATHER OR ANYONE FOR THAT MATTER HAVE TO PAY MONEY TO GET YOUR OWN FLESH AND BLOOD FROM SOMEONE THAT HAS NO RIGHT TO HAVE YOUR CHILD IN THE FIRST PLACE? FOR ALL THE FATHERS OUT THERE THAT ARE FIGHTING FOR THE SAME THING WE ARE. DO YOU THINK THIS IS RIGHT? SHOULD THIS BE HAPPENING? THIS IS WHY FATHERS, LOVING FATHERS DON'T COME FORWARD, MAYBE THEY CANT AFFORD TO, MAYBE THEY THINK THEY DON'T HAVE RIGHTS AS THE BIOLOGICAL FATHER. WELL YOU DO HAVE RIGHTS AND NO IT SHOULDN'T COST THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS TO HAVE YOUR OWN FLESH AND BLOOD.

SINCERELY YOURS

A FATHER SEEKING HIS RIGHTS

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