

Fed is Best

Recipient: Center for Disease Control, Rear Admiral (RADM) Sylvia Trent-Adams,,
American Academy of Pediatrics

Letter: Greetings,

Petition to Warn Parents Regarding Brain Injury Caused by Insufficient Breast Milk Intake

It has been reported that babies who are not fed enough milk through exclusive breastfeeding in the first days of life have experienced hypoglycemia and brain injury to a third to almost the entire brain. The health care system is sending babies home before they even have a certain source of food and mothers are uniformly discouraged from supplementing their own babies. They are unaware it is possible for babies to be starved from exclusive breastfeeding which results in hypoglycemia, jaundice and dehydration. These episodes can be undetected in hospitals because they are not sufficiently monitored. Mothers do not know what they are producing and no one knows what a baby is receiving. They are told their milk is always enough. For babies whose mothers cannot produce enough milk, it is only discovered that their babies have been starving once their babies are found lethargic and unable to feed at home.

Please warn parents that hypoglycemic, hypernatremia and hyperbilirubinemia brain injury can happen in underfed breastfed newborns within days after they are discharged from the hospital. Tell them that it can happen due to insufficient presence of breast milk, unrelated to a mother's effort and quality of latch. The complications related to the exclusive breastfeeding guidelines are not disclosed to mothers. Parents deserve to know the risks related to decisions they make regarding their babies and how to protect them. Please warn all parents of the potential complications of underfeeding and that they can be prevented by timely supplementation by a parent.

Comments

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|------------|--|
| Ingrid Ahlgren | New York, NY | 2016-01-07 | My daughter had jaundice and we supplemented with formula. I feel lucky that my doctor encouraged this! |
| Meghan Knittel | Papillion, NE | 2016-01-08 | Another mother of a baby who suffered hunger and dehydration in their very first days due to a provider prioritizing breastfeeding over timely and proper nutrition. |
| Rachael Garrison | Tracy, CA | 2016-01-08 | If I hadn't supplemented my baby, this would have happened to him too. I felt awful supplementing, but I realize now, years later that we avoided a tragedy. Women need to stop feeling guilty about supplementing, know that it doesn't hinder breastfeeding, and know the actual dangers and how common they are. |
| Ashley King | San Angelo, TX | 2016-01-08 | Babies should not go hungry, obviously. |
| ashley martin | san angelo, TX | 2016-01-08 | Fed is best. Thank you for bringing awareness to this - I had no idea that this could even happen. |
| Trina Alexander | Goodyear, AZ | 2016-01-08 | #fedisbest and mothers deserve to know the facts about all feeding options and be supported in nourishing their babies not JUST in nourishing them a certain way. |
| Kristy Jones | Denver, CO | 2016-01-08 | There is too much shaming against supplementation with formula and not enough concern for the health of the baby! I experienced this firsthand when I had to supplement my first. |
| Brooke Bostic | Greenville, SC | 2016-01-08 | Knowledge is power. |
| Kerri Christofferson | Bolingbrook, IL | 2016-01-08 | I my baby was a lazy sucker who was not getting enough and therefore I wasn't making enough. Luckily we listened to out instincts and supplemented even before we took her to see a lactation consultant to find this out. It was stressful and I felt like I was doing something bad by giving her formula because all I could think is it's very rare to not make enough milk" |
| Anette Ferrell | Miami, FL | 2016-01-08 | I support feeding babies, and denounce formula shaming. Women need to know ALL the facts. |
| Jody Baskett | Little Rock, AR | 2016-01-08 | I believe in facts and truthful research! |
| Amy Bagnall | Little Rock, AR | 2016-01-08 | I believe that feeding your baby is the most important thing - not HOW you feed them. |
| Christie del Castillo-Hegyi, M.D. | Little Rock, AR | 2016-01-08 | The human rights of mothers and babies are being violated and the future potential of babies are being taken away. |
| Carrie Turnette | Irvine, CA | 2016-01-09 | This happened with my daughter. We caught it before she got ok bad but still ended up in the hospital for 3 days.The help with breastfeeding I received in the hospital and from my doctor after was awful! Every Mom needs to know this information because I |

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| | | | was told by all the medical professionals that all was fine. I regret not supplementing and going with my gut! |
| Brooke Stolzer | Maumelle, AR | 2016-01-09 | Everything we can do for the possible prevention of brain injury in infants should be done. If there is a reasonable suspected cause it should be studied & the public should be educated about it. |
| Alex Falcon | Henderson, NV | 2016-01-09 | It's something that mothers need to realize that not every baby can survive on colostrum. A little formula in the beginning is ok. Just as long as the mothers milk comes in. |
| Chad Urata | Irvine, CA | 2016-01-09 | My child was admitted to the NICU two days after discharge. Bilirubin levels reached 25. Threshold for probably brain damage is above 30. We dodged a bullet but I still have extreme anxiety and fears that he has suffered some sort of brain damage. There needs to be better education and lactation consults! |
| Harley Ross | Kingsland, TX | 2016-01-09 | I am a breastfeeding mom who is trying to normalize breastfeeding. But do believe sometimes formula is needed. |
| Deanna Belanger | Medford, MA | 2016-01-09 | FED IS BEST and all babies need to be fed. Breast or formula, it's all milk! |
| Sherrion Herring | Little Rock, AR | 2016-01-09 | This happened to my grandson |
| Dana Chapman | Lacey, WA | 2016-01-09 | I am signing this petition because I was shamed for wanting to use formula when 3 days after his birth I was making almost no milk. I expressed a desire to use both since his birth and the lactation consultant TOOK MY FORMULA AWAY! I was told that giving my child 0.3mL of breastmilk was better than giving 1 to 2 ounces of formula. This is getting out of control and I had to hide formula in my drawer of clothes to keep my child fed! |
| Samantha Taylor | Gastonia, NC | 2016-01-09 | I'm signing because mothers need to know there are risks with breastfeeding. It can go very very wrong. |
| Carly Brake | Halifax, Canada | 2016-01-09 | Despite my valiant attempt to breastfeed my son even in the face of chronic pain and bleeding he still wasn't getting enough milk. He could barely urinate due to dehydration and was lethargic or screaming. Formula that was timely save his life. |
| Brandy Johnson | Monteagle, TN | 2016-01-09 | Breastfeeding was the most difficult thing I attempted after the birth of my daughter. Happy, full baby tummies is what matters...not the source. Had I not supplemented immediately my daughter would have starved as well. The nurses and pediatrician on call in the delivery ward were VERY unhelpful and ruined what could have been a rewarding learning experience for this first time Momma. |
| Tara Fiander | Alliston, Canada | 2016-01-09 | #fedisbest! |
| Tessa Flatt | Post falls, ID | 2016-01-09 | It is vital to educate parents and ultimately kids just need to be fed no matter how it looks. |

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| Sharon Medaugh | Sterling Heights, MI | 2016-01-09 | I'm signing because both of my children had jaundice as newborns. Thankfully my pediatrician was on top of it and the hospital encouraged me to give them formula. My youngest was more severely jaundiced and had to come home with a light blanket. He was nearly readmitted to the hospital. Babies need to be fed, and that includes formula. |
| Danielle Chance | Ashland, OH | 2016-01-09 | My baby girl deserves to be FED, I how that happens should not matter. Babies are being hurt by the fanatical breast is best concept, this needs to stop. While breastfeeding is admirable and a goal of mine, my Adrianna will not go hungry and women should be encouraged to feed there babies safely, no matter how it happens. |
| Leanne Gonzalez-Singer | Bronx, NY | 2016-01-09 | When my son was born after a long failed labor and emergency c section, he was in the NICU and doctors recommended supplementation. I was determined to breastfeed exclusively. Grudgingly, because the doctors told me to do so, I supplemented him at home until his jaundice cleared. I did breastfeed him exclusively, and his sister after him, but what is going on in some breastfeeding advocacy now is bananas. It has gone from a necessary effort to normalize breastfeeding and support mothers with information, to a frighteningly rigid scare campaign that in extreme cases can cost babies their health or even their lives. Fed is best. To quote my lactation consultant: "Rule number one is feed the baby." |
| Brooke Orosz | Montclair, NJ | 2016-01-09 | My son had to be readmitted to the hospital. I had no idea that nursing problems could develop into a medical emergency in just a few days. By the time we reach the hospital, his sodium level was 159 and he was so dehydrated his veins had collapsed. If I had been warned, all of this could have been avoided, saving my family an ordeal and the healthcare system about \$9000. |
| Nicole Leszczuk | Bordentown, NJ | 2016-01-09 | What began as a well-intentioned message that primarily benefited woman & children with limited access to clean water has become perverted to the extent that woman are afraid to avail themselves of safe feeding alternatives. Breast is not best if baby is starving to death. |
| Allison Young | Nashville, TN | 2016-01-09 | I unknowingly starved my child for the first few days of his life -- he dropped 15.5% of his birthweight by five days. Everyone needs to know that underfeeding is definitely possible in breastfeeding and that the mother-child dyad needs to be closely monitored postpartum to assure that babies are getting what they need from their breastfeeding mothers. |
| Jaclyn Orduno | Irvine, CA | 2016-01-09 | New moms don't know any better, they just do what they are told and if they aren't warned that this is possible, what to look out for we will continue to see newborns in this fashion. Instead of making moms feel that the end of the world will come if they don't breastfeed maybe nurses and Drs can explain that it's not the end of the world. Formula fed babies are healthy and this is what to look out for if nursing doesn't work out (because sometimes IT DOESN'T). |
| Tom Bozzay | Little Rock, AR | 2016-01-09 | Our future and country matters how we treat our children |

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| Lynne Yager | Hopewell, NJ | 2016-01-09 | Babies require nutrition to thrive. |
| Lauren Cohen | New York, NY | 2016-01-09 | I'm signing because my baby clearly needed formula supplementation while we were in the hospital, yet the nurses treated me viciously when I requested formula. |
| Kellie Wort | London, England, UK | 2016-01-09 | Thankfully a good pediatrician noticed my baby's jaundice and insisted on formula, but I remember the night of screaming through hunger |
| Anissa Byrd | Minneapolis, MN | 2016-01-09 | My baby was dehydrated and jaundiced the 3rd day after she was born. It was because I was not producing much breast milk. No one warned me this could happen. |
| Jaqueline Humphreys | Australia | 2016-01-09 | This is life saving for babies. A question of if its needed shouldn't even be asked. Every life matters and fed is best! |
| Susan Evans | Oviedo, FL | 2016-01-09 | Medical field is so pushy about breast feeding. Wake up, your doing more harm then good. Explain so mothers understand when to go for help. |
| Melissa Rowe | San Diego, CA | 2016-01-09 | Because the hyperbole surrounding the benefits of breastfeeding is actually becoming harmful to moms and babies. |
| Missy Simonsen | Indian head, MD | 2016-01-09 | Fed is best! |
| Carolyn Thomason | Bull Shoals, AR | 2016-01-09 | My daughter was starving because she could not latch, and when I told the Doctors and Lactation Consultants that I was in pain and she was always crying, they told me that it was my fault and I was doing something wrong. I felt like a failure and my daughter went hungry. |
| Amy Robinson | Mount Hope, Canada | 2016-01-09 | It is outrageous that this information is being kept from mothers, who are given no warning or information regarding something so serious. This is morally outrageous. |
| Jessica Kelley | Woodstock, AL | 2016-01-09 | This is a problem and people should be aware. It's ridiculous when there is formula that this is still happening. |
| Heather Casebeer | Guthrie, OK | 2016-01-09 | My daughter was near starving. I was producing absolutely no milk. Thank goodness my mother was there to help me through the badgering and guilt trips from the nurses and lactation consultants telling me I might as well just starve her instead of poisoning her. A fed child is a healthy child. Breast is not always best. |
| Amelia Buchholz | Asheville, NC | 2016-01-09 | Fed is best! |
| ilise newman | Waynesboro, PA | 2016-01-09 | Watch the video that goes along with this. If you been in a similar position as this, you know how frustrating it is and how your baby could have been on the precipice of great danger, but you didn't know it because your birth circles and even nurses (in my case) kept telling you that using formula would ruin your chance of breastfeeding. It's definitely okay to support breastfeeding, but sometimes it really does become the same as telling a pregnant |

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| | | | woman with gestational diabetes or preemie babies that she just isn't trying hard enough and to hold in there. |
| Stephanie Razzeto | Apex, NC | 2016-01-09 | I had my second daughter at a "baby friendly" hospital where mothers were very strongly pressured to breastfeed no matter the cost. When she was two days old she had become severely dehydrated and the neonatologist told me she needed supplemental formula, but the nurses refused to give me any. They wanted me to send her to the NICU for IV fluids instead to protect my status as an exclusively breastfeeding mother. I ultimately had to send my husband out to buy formula and bottles to feed our baby, and when the nurses caught us we were chastised for feeding formula because they said it was morally wrong and not something good mothers feed their children. It is appalling that breastfeeding advocates would rather see babies starving and injured than have a single drop of life-saving formula. |
| Jennifer Barnes Webster | Johnstown, OH | 2016-01-09 | The "Breast is Best" has been taken to an extreme where mothers are afraid to give their babies formula, even when they are not making sufficient breastmilk. Babies are being unwittingly starved by their loving mothers because they have told repeatedly that only Breast is BEST, always, no matter what. |
| Araceli Alfaro | Lake Elsinore, CA | 2016-01-09 | Fed is Best |
| Jessica Shapiro | Brooklyn, NY | 2016-01-09 | Baby's health is more important than breastfeeding at all costs up to and including brain injury. |
| Cheryl Duncan olague | Las Vegas, NV | 2016-01-09 | No baby should be starved because of this stupid breast is best movement going on. Fed is best |
| Lindsay Sherman | Cincinnati, OH | 2016-01-09 | Supplementation saved both of my daughters' lives! I have low milk supply and while I found out before my children needed hospitalization, many are not so lucky. Fed is best. This is coming from a combo-feeding Mama. Supplementation can SAVE a breastfeeding relationship!!! |
| Angela Knight | Pearland, TX | 2016-01-10 | I am an NNP in an level 3 NICU and see this often. Lactation shames the mothers who wants to offer a supplement after breast feeding. Many infants are discharge early from nurseries only to be readmitted with hyperbilirubinemia and high sodium levels. I believe breast milk is liquid gold and best for infants but not to the extent of starvation and brain injury. |
| Sara Mickelson | CENTRALIA, WA | 2016-01-10 | My two children had jaundice. My second was the worst, I was taking him in every day and he almost had to go to a children's hospital. If I had known this, I would have fed him formula. Please inform the public! |
| Debra Netto | Las Vegas, NV | 2016-01-10 | Babies should be fed regardless of where the food is coming from. Not everyone can successfully breastfeed and that is okay a baby should not suffer because of pride and stupidity. |
| Alex Falcon | Henderson, NV | 2016-01-10 | We as mothers know our babies best. Breast is best but also feeding the baby wether it's supplementing with formula after |

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| | | | breastfeeding. Poor babies have no voice! I can't imagine 4 days no food?!! |
| Jennifer shrewsbury | Lillington, NC | 2016-01-10 | I want to protect infants from harm. |
| Brianna B | Green Bay, WI | 2016-01-10 | I know low supply IS a real thing, no matter what everyone tells you! |
| Lise Hauser | Chicago, IL | 2016-01-10 | I'm a certified nurse-midwife, and I've seen the tragedies that can occur when mothers and families do not understand how to properly assess whether their babies are getting enough food, and when to ask for help. |
| Donald Meulenberg | Fredericksburg, VA | 2016-01-10 | I fully agree that breastfeeding is being promoted without any proper recognition of the harm that can result when it doesn't go well, as well as of the developmental toxins that are indisputably contained in typical human milk. |
| Nissa Patterson | albuquerque, NM | 2016-01-10 | Because we need to know more about this phenomena. We need more research into it. We need to understand how to protect infant health while also support breastfeeding mothers, and increasing breastfeeding rates in this country. Nissa Patterson MPH |
| Kris Milburn | Mount Holly Springs, PA | 2016-01-10 | Because it's not right to push breastfeeding onto new mothers or mothers in general. The doctors and nurses make you feel like you aren't good enough to take care of your babies if you can't breastfeed or if you choose to go with formula. It's not fair to the mothers or the children. |
| Deidra Clark | Southaven, MS | 2016-01-11 | I have hypoplastic breasts, which means I have underdeveloped breast tissue. I didn't know that when I was trying to breastfeed my daughter. Exclusively breastfeeding her was impossible because I did not make enough milk, especially after I returned to work. Women need choice and support for both formula and breastfeeding. |
| Felicia Patterson | Little Rock, AR | 2016-01-11 | I want people to be more aware of this growing problem. Luckily, I was educated by a physician in the emergency room that I work at. I am 32 weeks pregnant and she has really brought good information to me. |
| Mary Dugan | Bowie, MD | 2016-01-12 | I have a newborn and though I'm producing milk, I have had issues not being able to produce enough milk (pumping as we have serious latch issues) and have had to supplement w/formula. Also he had to be hospitalized 2 days after initial discharge due to severe jaundice due to not getting enough to eat |
| Rhonda Miner | Scappoose, OR | 2016-01-12 | As a NICE nurse I often see babies admitted for jaundice and/or dehydration. Supplementation is required when this happens. |
| JoAnne Sherwood | Searcy, AR | 2016-01-13 | I have a son that is autistic and did not receive the adequate amount of milk during his first days after birth. He was in Nicu and was npo for 5 days. I believe that this is what caused his autism. |
| Tanya Wedige | Madison, WI | 2016-01-13 | I'm signing because my daughter was starved at 3 days old. |

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| Mellany Flynn | Little Rock, AR | 2016-01-13 | I have two children who have gained insufficient weight on breastmilk alone. |
| Liliane Min | King of Prussia, PA | 2016-01-14 | I care about this issue |
| Joel Pascual | Granada Hills, CA | 2016-01-14 | You're doing amazing work, Dr! |
| Heather Powell | Harrison, AR | 2016-01-14 | I had a similar experience |
| Michele Snyder | Raleigh, NC | 2016-01-14 | I'm a physician and believe that mother's are often discouraged by lactation consultants to never use formula. |
| Preethi Thomas | Glen Burnie, MD | 2016-01-14 | I agree with initial supplementation , if mothers are have difficulty with breast feeding In order to prevent the serious life threatening complications. |
| Mary Paul | Houston, TX | 2016-01-14 | I want first time mothers like myself to not feel guilty if they don't figure out breastfeeding right away. I want them to keep know that it's ok to supplement and that you can still eventually get to exclusive breastfeeding while making sure your baby is getting the nutrition he/she needs. |
| Julia Powell | Aston, PA | 2016-01-14 | Breast is NOT always best! |
| Leslie Choy-Hee | Atlanta, GA | 2016-01-14 | I am an OB physician and worried about excessive pressure to breastfeed, especially in light of the "Baby Friendly" initiative. |
| Lauren Crawford | Austin, TX | 2016-01-14 | As a physician, I fully support women in their decision to feed their babies in any way that works best for their family assuming their baby gets healthy nourishment. This totalitarian view on breast feeding should cease. Supplementation should happen when needed and this should be part of the education of new mothers. |
| Laura Buck | Iowa City, IA | 2016-01-14 | I am a physician and a mother. The dangers of underfeeding a newborn before mother's milk come in are real. It is terrifying to think of the consequences of this in other wise perfect and healthy newborns. Please issue official warnings on this topic. |
| Lien Tran | Alamo, CA | 2016-01-14 | Mothers should be encouraged to supplement with formula as needed for their babies' health instead of forced to believe they should exclusively breastfeed. |
| Michelle Muza-Moons | Ann Arbor, MI | 2016-01-14 | This could have been my baby without supplementation. |
| Farah Husain | Portland, OR | 2016-01-14 | As a new mom, this was a fear of mine. Thankfully, as a physician, I wasn't afraid to supplement until my milk let down. Very mother should know this information and that it is ok. We are teaching too much 'you are a failure if you can't breastfeed exclusively'. It makes mothers feel sad and weak when they should be their happiest with a newborn. |
| Tiffany marum | Durham, NC | 2016-01-14 | I totally agree. Formula should be given from birth til breast milk comes in to prevent jaundice |
| Daisy Nieto | Pearland, TX | 2016-01-14 | Poor babies... |

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| Christi Hughart | South Boston, VA | 2016-01-14 | Agree. I am a physician. |
| Robin Hauser, MD | Tampa, FL | 2016-01-14 | I'm a pediatrician and have seen this. I agree! |
| Maria Echavarria | Miami, FL | 2016-01-14 | I am a pediatrician and believe this is important. And that "baby friendly" hospital policies are not so "baby friendly" after all |
| Jennifer Hill | Hot Springs, AR | 2016-01-14 | My niece is 5 days old. She's jaundiced and dehydrated for this very reason. |
| Lakshmi Mudambi | Houston, TX | 2016-01-14 | I am a physician and a first time mother. I have been able to breast feed my baby since birth. But I strongly believe that there are rarely absolutes in medicine. Breast feed if you can. Be guilt free if you can't and feed formula. What's the big deal? Evidence shows breastmilk helps in many ways but if there is no choice, feeding the baby somehow is more important (obviously). |
| Elizabeth Locascio | Spokane, WA | 2016-01-14 | This is a real issue for some mothers and babies. I am a pediatrician |
| Stacy Strehlow | Spring, TX | 2016-01-14 | I had a similar (but not as profound) experience and appreciate the cause. |
| Antoinette Smith | Baltimore, MD | 2016-01-14 | I am a SCN nurse. I see this happen all the time, lactation tells them to exclusively breast feed . They return to the hospital either jaundice or significantly weight liss. |
| Nicole Laloy | New York, NY | 2016-01-14 | I am a physician and have seen this avoidable tragedy. |
| jessie murphy | Hudson, NY | 2016-01-14 | In my heart of hearts when I was nursing my newborn I knew something was wrong. The lactation consultants at the hospital were militant, the le-leche advisor was even more excitable and all put the pressure on me as if I were not doing enough. Simple biology, I was not producing enough milk. The pediatrician was far more understanding than any of the "nipple nazi's" I encountered who made me feel like garbage for something that was completely out of my control. I understand and agree that breast is best but only if it's working! The pressure put on new mothers is far too great. |
| Lacey Parker | Little Rock, TX | 2016-01-14 | I would have had a similar experience had I not been warned. After two days of exclusive breastfeeding, we chose to supplement with formula and I'm so glad that we did, because my supply could never have been enough for my baby. Lacey Perrin Parker, M.D. |
| Lauren Kagan | Whittier, CA | 2016-01-14 | They are pushing too hard with breastfeeding, harm to infants but to so many mothers suffering with guilt and depression |
| Dheepa Balakrishnan | Roseville, CA | 2016-01-14 | This could easily have happened to my first born, and I am an Ob gyn physician. |
| Laura Gruskin | Franklin, MI | 2016-01-14 | Obgyn. Completely agree. Pendulum swung too far |
| Vera Boutros | Arlington Heights, IL | 2016-01-14 | I care about babies! |

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| Sanjivani Kolge | Medford, OR | 2016-01-14 | My baby starved for first three days. I am a physician, we were dischsrged on Friday. We had no support over the weekend from pediatricians. On Monday, during appointment we found out that she was starving. She did not have any complications. But I had given her only 10cc of formula over the weekend out of super motivation to breast feed!! I was not prepared for formula feeding- had no bottles or formula except from samples. Till date my family blames me for not nursing her, but Me and my husband are sure We did the right thing by introducing the formula. She was underweight baby and she lost significant weight over that weekend! |
| Brooke Eastham | Nashville, TN | 2016-01-14 | To prevent infants from being underfed and sustaining brain injury |
| Rebecca Schroll | New Orleans, LA | 2016-01-14 | This could have been me. I had almost no breast-feeding support for the first week at home despite practically begging to see a LC; I knew something was wrong. Thank goodness my baby is not brain-injured. There but for the grace of God go I. |
| Emily Porter | Georgetown, TX | 2016-01-14 | I was medically unable to breastfeed from the get-go. Despite it being the absolutely right choice, I was lectured and shamed by hospital staff and treated like a failure from the get-go in my "baby-friendly" hospital. |
| Karen Zemel | Hingham, MA | 2016-01-14 | Similarity to my first baby, love supply and jaundiced unhappy baby. Luckily used formula instead of waiting too long. Am pediatrician in favor of feeding your baby however it works best for you but making sure the baby is getting enough |
| Rebecca Kuhns | Durham, NC | 2016-01-14 | My baby had to be held in the NICU for hypoglycemia because of low milk production. Grateful that I was at a hospital that, while very supportive of breast-feeding, also recognized that my baby was not getting enough milk. Signing on behalf of mothers who may not have gotten similar information as I did. |
| Emily Martin | Metairie, LA | 2016-01-14 | As a mother and a pediatrician, I used to believe fervently in 'breast is best'. Yes, it is, but the stress it puts on new moms is substantial and we need to accept that in this day and age there are safe and reliable means to supplement and support your infant without sabotaging breastfeeding all together. Mothers need to feel like they are safe to say when it's not working and not be shamed or ignored. |
| casey HERRFORTH | Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, HI | 2016-01-14 | Babies cannot speak. |
| Kristin Egan | Manhattan Beach, CA | 2016-01-14 | my child was underfed too and did not realize until DOL 3, hospital never warned me. |
| Alba Cook | El Paso, TX | 2016-01-14 | Babies, need to eat! |
| Thanh Lan | Chicago, IL | 2016-01-14 | I'm a physician and a mother who also struggled with low breast-milk supply and was told by everyone that I should just keep on offering my breast because that's how milk is made. I felt extremely guilty after supplementing my baby with formula. I blamed supplementation for my low supply. BUT now I'm so happy |

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| | | | that I gave him every chance possible to gain weight and be healthy. This country is obsessed with breast feeding. This has got to stop. |
| Lay Har Cheng | Concord, NC | 2016-01-14 | I am a pediatric gastroenterologist and mother, and feel that this is an important issue, and preventable cause of infant morbidity and mortality. |
| Laura Harvey | Blacksburg, VA | 2016-01-14 | Took a week for my milk to come in and my child was jaundiced and starving. Supplementation saved his life and we were still able to feed for over a year once the milk came in. |
| Morgan White | Auburn, CA | 2016-01-14 | We should support new mothers in whatever feeding methods they choose! |
| Aarthi Chandarana | Troy, MI | 2016-01-14 | As a new mom and physician, I know how confusing and overwhelming it can be. There needs to be education that babies need to be FED! |
| Kimberly Campbell | Drexel Hill, PA | 2016-01-14 | Personally experienced issues due to lack of milk supply. We need to support mothers who cannot breast feed, whether it be personal or medical reasons. |
| Sally Miller | Land O Lakes, FL | 2016-01-14 | I never produced enough for any of my four children and was told everytime to keep at it, it would take. It's horri to have such pressure when you can do nothing to change the situation and your child is failing to thrive. My husband and I joke about starting MALL (mothers against leLeche league) to follow in the room after them to tell the mom to keep trying but also to supplement and not beat herself up over it. Not every woman can adequately breastfeed, and it's not for lack of desire or effort. |
| Kelsi Froom | Redlands, CA | 2016-01-14 | No one should ever have to feel guilty for supplementing with formula |
| Sarah Oltmann | Grapevine, TX | 2016-01-14 | I had similar issue but did not get to this degree |
| Hedwige Saint Louis | Roswell, GA | 2016-01-15 | I am a mother and a physician and though I believe in breastfeeding, it can not occur at the expense of the health of the newborn. |
| Nisrine Atieh | Providence, RI | 2016-01-15 | I had few patient's with similar outcome. |
| Heathet Davis | Minot, ND | 2016-01-15 | I see this far too often as a physician!!! |
| shilpa shukla | Glen Oaks, NY | 2016-01-15 | I am a mother and a pediatrician. |
| Melanie Lachman | Burr ridge, IL | 2016-01-15 | Pediatrician. |
| Vikki Stefans | Little Rock, AR | 2016-01-15 | Dogma instead of thoughtful application hurts people. Breast feeding is good, but it does not always work out. Good support is flexible support and not a cookie cutter pile of guilt-inducing stock advice to be given regardless of the reality of an individual situation. |
| Padmaja Malladi | New York, NY | 2016-01-15 | This could easily have been my child had I not had the proper instructions even though I am a physician. |

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| Stephanie Misciasci | Muskegon, MI | 2016-01-15 | I am a pediatrician and a breastfeeding mother and I recognize that in an effort to encourage higher rates of breastfeeding our society is guilting mothers into blindly nursing without always providing adequate support or supervision to the point it can be dangerous. |
| Ivette Sosa | Rochester, MN | 2016-01-15 | My daughter developed dehydration and newborn jaundice as well. Fed is best! |
| Dale Tylor | Nashville, TN | 2016-01-15 | The same thing happened to my baby until I supplemented. |
| Stephanie Corey | New York, NY | 2016-01-15 | There is tremendous pressure to exclusively breast feed. Supplementing feels like failure. But the most important thing really is that the infant receives adequate nutrition and that should be the main emphasis that hospitals teach new mothers. |
| Jennifer Saks | Portland, OR | 2016-01-15 | I am a huge proponent of breastfeeding, but I am even more concerned that parents are tuned into their babies and don't miss signals that something is amiss. |
| Jodi Carrillo | Brookfield, WI | 2016-01-15 | I am lucky. My husband talked sense into me and we supplemented when our irritable baby hadn't had much of anything for 2.5 days because my milk hadn't come in yet. I felt like such a failure but then realized how much he needed it. I was too tired from lack of sleep to think clearly. And I'm a doctor! We need to educate new mothers. |
| Najla Ahmadzia | Visalia, CA | 2016-01-15 | Could have been my baby. |
| Jennifer Maender | Houston, TX | 2016-01-15 | This is tragic |
| Doris Chan | Houston, TX | 2016-01-15 | I'm signing because my baby was hospitalized for starvation and jaundice. I was told that exclusively breastfeeding is best and giving formula is not good. The hospitalization could have been prevented and who knows if my baby suffered any long term effects from that event. |
| Tanique Jackson | Mount Vernon, NY | 2016-01-15 | I'm a mother of 3 and I was able to successfully able to breastfeed them. However I was never made aware that something like this could happen. |
| Michele Hargreaves | Jacksonville, FL | 2016-01-15 | I had a similar but much less severe experience after my son was born. I was not told that when I said yes when asked if I planned to breastfeed, that the hospital would withhold any supplemental formula without my consent. Signed, another MD |
| Stacy Shomento | Bozeman, MT | 2016-01-15 | Because I am an OB GYN who witnesses the crazy Lactation consultants warning pts of the evils of supplementing |
| Lu Lau | Prospect, KY | 2016-01-15 | Any healthy baby is better that a hungry breast fed baby |
| Kelly Larson | Olympia, WA | 2016-01-15 | Breast bullying sometimes takes over common sense! |
| Mary Barsanti-Sekhar | Oak Park, IL | 2016-01-15 | I have seen this happen to multiple babies even within my family. My daughter and a neice and nephew were underfed and dehydrated while excludively breastfeed. I am a pediatrician and my sister a NICU nurse, both of us committed to breastfeeding but |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | lacked adequate supply and our children suffered. While we should all continue to be taught "breast is the best" for infants, it should be with the understanding that formula is not evil and quite necessary for some infants to receive adequate nutrition. |
| Sheila Adan | Corona, CA | 2016-01-15 | I am glad to say that my daughter, who was born with a kidney condition, was supplemented in a timely manner with formula when I started breastfeeding. Our lactation consultants were awesome in making me not feel like I was a failure because I couldn't exclusively breastfeed right away. In a couple of days my milk came in and my daughter never took formula again. She is now a happy, healthy, 2 year old. |
| Brittney Terry | Morrison, TN | 2016-01-15 | I am a pediatrician who struggled with breastfeeding and starved my baby to the point of dehydration as well because I felt breastfeeding was so important. Most mothers do not know better and we are guilting and shaming them. Breast may be best but healthy fed babies are better! |
| susan wietlisbach | Cincinnati, OH | 2016-01-15 | I had the same issue. My son was 4 weeks preemie and my milk didn't come in the way it should have. I supplemented then went to straight formula. |
| Mei Fong | Pelham, NY | 2016-01-15 | I am signing this petition because I am a registered nurse that have saved a lot of newborns from this condition. I am an advocate for exclusive breastfeeding who knows how to monitor signs of dehydration because I am a pediatric nurse practitioner by trade who works as a staff nurse on a Post-Partum unit. I have worked with mothers who made up their mind that they were going to exclusively breastfeed even though their newborn were showing signs of dehydration. For most of these mothers, they would change their mind only after the pediatrician and I had extensive conversations with them warning the harm they they were causing their newborns. For some, their newborns had to be admitted into the NICU(neonatal intensive care unit) for treatment.I believe that parents who are caretakers should be warned of this issue. I am sure that they did not expect their newborn to be in this condition because most people are aware that breast is best for babies. Thank you! |
| Deborah Lindner | Oak Park, IL | 2016-01-15 | I feel there is far too much pressure to breast feed exclusively and, as an OB/Gyn, have witnessed countless cases of depression and anxiety in new mothers who feel shamed and degraded by society because they cannot exclusively breast feed |
| Amy Chused | New York, NY | 2016-01-15 | I was able to feed my kids, but I still remember the terror when I pumped and pumped and got less than an ounce. It took time for my milk to come in and I supplemented just enough in the first few days. No one should feel embarrassed to use whatever supplements they need to make sure their kids are fed. |
| Camille Lucito | Lone Jack, MO | 2016-01-15 | I'm a PNP and a soon to be a mom of 4 and this is a problem! It is OK to supplement!! |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Miriam Rahav | New York, NY | 2016-01-15 | The push to exclusively breast feed in the first few days of life before breast milk comes in can put new borns at risk, and new mothers are simply not aware |
| Samantha Serum | Cleveland, TN | 2016-01-15 | It is important that infant health isn't sacrificed to the political agenda of organizations with a vested interest in promoting breastfeeding. Pro-breastfeeding is wonderful... but not "at any cost." |
| Nilong Vyas | New Orleans, LA | 2016-01-15 | Although Breastfeeding is Best, it is better to have a well fed baby that can grow sufficiently and get what it needs. Providing families with the knowledge that this outcome is possible, helps prevent terrible outcomes. Just think of formula as medicine, to use initially, if needed. Thanks for signing, if you agree. |
| Jessica Stark | San Leandro, CA | 2016-01-15 | I'm signing because I have friends who have stressed terribly over not being able to produce enough milk and have waited to start supplementing until their little ones were dehydrated, very glad not until they were severely ill. And when did finally give formula they felt they had failed. I do believe breastmilk is favorable it fed is best and a recognition that every body does not perform the same has nothing to do with adequacy of a mother. |
| shannon staples | seattle, WA | 2016-01-15 | I am a pediatrician. So sad that I see this unnecessary situation all too often. Women are so pressured to exclusively breast feed that time and time again babies are needlessly starved and put in life threatening situations. This is a serious and urgent health care issue. |
| Kelly Meehan | Norfolk, VA | 2016-01-15 | I'm a mom and a physician. |
| Saima Rashid | Brooklyn, NY | 2016-01-15 | The overwhelming pressure to exclusively breastfeed can and has injured newborns. Breast is best, until it isn't. |
| Linda Collazo | Wake Forest, NC | 2016-01-15 | There needs to be more awareness. It's gotten out of control with pushing breastfeeding so much that moms are afraid to supplement if the baby is not getting enough milk. |
| Melissa Bell | New York, NY | 2016-01-16 | I felt the same pressure to exclusively breastfeed when I had my children. This worked out well for my first son who I had through natural birth, no drugs. My younger son was a very large baby, 10 lbs 5 oz, delivered via caesarean. I tried to exclusively breastfeed the first day and a half in the hospital but he just kept crying and crying. I finally let the nurses give him formula and he drank 6 oz in seconds and was able to sleep comfortably. I kept nursing and was able to do so very successfully for a year when I chose to wean. He really needed that formula when he was first born, as he was clearly starving, and I'm thankful the nurses at my hospital were there to help. Supplementing with formula is not only fine, but sometimes necessary, and mothers should not be made to feel like failures for doing so. |
| Veronica Ramirez | NY, NY | 2016-01-16 | I am a pediatrician and a mother. While I fully support and endorse breastfeeding 100%, the most important thing is that your baby is feeding adequately. There is nothing wrong with fully breastfeeding, supplementing, or formula feeding if it means that your baby will be |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | healthy. As women we pressure ourselves way too much, especially with motherhood. While I agree breast is best, it should not come at the expense of your child's health or mom's mental health. I know I struggled with breastfeeding in the beginning and felt like a traitor the first time I gave my baby formula however thanks to supplementing, I was able to breastfeed to some degree up until one year of age and enjoy it incredibly. Every woman has their own story, bottom line is the most important thing is that baby and mom are healthy!! |
| Tana Pradhan | Chappaqua, NY | 2016-01-16 | I experienced something similar with trying to exclusively breastfeed my first child during the first week after she was born. |
| maria del mar plata | NY, NY | 2016-01-16 | I'm a neonatologist and a mother. My son couldn't breastfeed well at birth because of his tongue. Being at a "baby friendly hospital" we're I also happened to work at, I was discouraged to supplement with formula and to continue to try to breastfeed. I knew he wasn't eating, but I felt like a failure as a mother and as a neonatologist for not being able to feed my son the "natural" way. He lost 10% of birth weight and became jaundice and irritable. I looked at my son as I would assess one of my patients and realized I was starving him. I supplemented him right away and he improved. I was lucky I could snap out of it and fix the problem before it was too late. I'm absolutely in favor of breastfeeding and I recommend it to all of my patients. But I educate my patients on dehydration, jaundice, hypoglycemia and brain damage as well. |
| Brittney Terry | Kingsport, TN | 2016-01-16 | Signed for me and all the babies I see everyday! With my first I was a Peds resident at the time and I certainly should have known better, but I was so fixated on breastfeeding only I didn't see it. Our son lost 15% and had a bili of 20, but even then I just "nursed more". Finally by day 5 he was lethargic with urate crystals in his diaper and my non medical husband intervened and said we have to feed him something! I tried Reglan, power pumping an hour at a time, Domperidone, and intranasal oxytocin and still barely any supply. I had postpartum depression and felt I was a horrible mother because I could not naturally feed my baby! Not a single lactation consultant or physician ever said maybe you should give formula! We treat it like its poison. Some women truly cannot exclusively breastfed, now I know for sure and being judgemental is certainly not helpful. I am outpatient Peds and while my story helps my understanding, I still see starving babies everyday and mothers who refuse to supplement again |
| Simi Ramachandran | Wesley chapel, FL | 2016-01-16 | For some moms, breast feeding can't be the option (production issues, have to be on certain meds etc). You should not be made felt less of a mom because you couldn't breast feed.a good mother makes sure her child is fed no matter what |
| Jessamine Hippensteel | Hoagland, IN | 2016-01-16 | As a physician that takes care of moms and babies, we have to be diligent that while breastfeeding is a great option , it's not the only answer. Fed is best. |
| Dyan Hes | New York, NY | 2016-01-16 | I am a pediatrician and there is a ridiculous amount of pressure on new mothers to breast feed. I find the hospital staff would rather |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | my patient end up in the NICU with hypoglycemia before allowing the mother to use formula and I am the doctor in charge!!! |
| Niyati Skaria | Rancho Cordova, CA | 2016-01-16 | I have similar experience except that I refuse to starve my child after the 2nd day since he was getting very agitated. I am so happy I decided to supplement! |
| Jessica Thomas | Brentwood, TN | 2016-01-16 | It is important to let mothers know there is another way |
| Gabriela Valdes | Miami, FL | 2016-01-16 | I am signing because I am a NICU nurse who sees this problem all to often unfortunately. Luckily most of the time it is caught with plenty of time to correct the issue but the IV fluids, phototherapy, and NICU admission are all avoidable with a little bit of awareness and education on the matter. I am also a mom of three who breastfed all three kids and my last baby breastfed till 10 months. So I am probreastfeeding I just think people need to be educated on the matter that for some people it takes longer for the milk to come in and some woman just never produce enough. But babies need to eat. |
| Shelly Gerber | Decatur, IN | 2016-01-16 | I'm signing because my milk didn't come in for at least 4 days and I am thankful my hospital allowed me to supplement while I was in there. While I breastfeed my kids, there were definitely times I needed to supplement. I don't believe all women are helped like I was and I would like to see more education around it. |
| Kristen Stuppy | Overland Park, KS | 2016-01-16 | As a pediatrician I have seen too many parents refuse to feed babies who are starving. I believe strongly in breastfeeding, and support it as much as I can, but some babies need formula. Some parents think I'm evil because I worry that their baby is too far below birth weight to be safe. Others refuse to supplement despite a low blood sugar because they feel formula is unhealthy. There needs to be awareness of this issue because well meaning parents are harming their kids. |
| Lauren Creecy | San Francisco, CA | 2016-01-16 | This is important and knowledge of the dangers must be shared. Women must be educated on the catastrophic damage that's possible. |
| Martha Williams | Santa Maria, CA | 2016-01-16 | Parents need to realize that feeding their child is critical to the childs life. Supplement feedings are not hurting the baby at All!# |
| Gina Mangine | San Diego, CA | 2016-01-16 | I'm a mom and a pediatrician who agrees- fed is best. |
| Melissa Mizesko | Corpus Christi, TX | 2016-01-17 | Fed is best! People are putting too much pressure on mothers to breastfeed and babies suffer! |
| Elizabeth Harry | Dover, MA | 2016-01-17 | We were also sent home after being told all of these same things when my milk hadn't come in. Fortunately our pediatrician encouraged supplementation and he got his first bottle in their office. He drank 4 oz in 15 seconds. He was starving. We had no idea. I am also a physician. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Mialena Higgins | San Diego, CA | 2016-01-17 | The exclusive breastfeeding movement is not only hurting some babies but also causing severe psychological issues in some mothers |
| Bobbie Green | Columbia, MO | 2016-01-17 | I am 100% for breastfeeding. I have and am currently breastfeeding my 28 month old son. The pain the mother's must feel, feel like it being their fault that their babies weren't getting enough milk. Breastfeeding is becoming more normalized in the U.S. and this should be something that mother's know, doctors should educate the symptoms of this. |
| Martha morales | Bakersfield, CA | 2016-01-17 | Something similar happened to me !! And it makes me mad no one warns you!!!! Luckily I did not listened to people pushing me to breast my baby only!!!! |
| Eileen Herbert | Knoxville, TN | 2016-01-17 | This is so important for the healthy development of all newborns. |
| Priyanka Govindan | Seattle, WA | 2016-01-17 | I delivered my first baby recently and before myilk came in he went a entire 24 hours without having a wet diaper only because re hospital told me to keep him at the breast and not give me any supplementation. Thankfully there was no serious damage that we know of because we took him to the Er and gave him formula. I just wish we were given the advice to feed him formula of three milk didn't come in by 24 hours. |
| Nancy Wei | Cambridge, MA | 2016-01-17 | Fed is best. I had similar issues for both my kids, both in the NICU for neonatal jaundice shortly after birth, and insufficient breast milk production on my part. Supplementation saved them. Thankfully I was strong enough to withstand the pressures and negative messaging to exclusively breast feed and "breast is best" early. The "guilt" of supplementing and not breast feeding took many months to get over. Breast is good. Fed is best. That should be the message. |
| Jaclyn Miller | Denver, CO | 2016-01-17 | I went through something similar though not this extreme. Formula shaming needs to stop. |
| Jamiel Lotz | lancaster, CA | 2016-01-18 | Breast fed is best, but it doesn't always work out and it's not ok to pressure a new mom to feel bad because she can't and it is important to know the dangers if a baby isn't getting enough to eat. Jayden spent 2 days in icu as a baby because of this |
| Jacqueline Blackburn | Oceanside, CA | 2016-01-18 | My baby almost starved |
| Tristen Tagliaferri | Bay Shore, NY | 2016-01-18 | The pressure to breastfeed and the shame and guilt for not being able to or simply not wanting to is too great. Perfectly healthy mothers with perfectly natural births and perfectly healthy babies that do everything recommended for establishing and maintaining milk supply still struggle to feed their babies. Supplementing should never be discouraged. Breast is great but fed is better. |
| Rene Poole | Overland Park, KS | 2016-01-18 | As a NICU nurse I have witnessed firsthand the horrible issues the push to exclusively breastfeed at all costs has caused. I have cared for several infants that required admission to the NICU because of this dictate |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Linda Fong | South Pasadena, CA | 2016-01-19 | All babies need to be fed, formula transition to BF is fine. |
| Adrienne Ackermann | Sherbrooke, Nova Scotia, Canada | 2016-01-19 | My son also suffered the effects of prolonged malnutrition/dehydration as a result of my low breast milk supply; despite the fact that I drove 45mins (one way) every second day to see an IBCLC (who was also an RN) at the hospital where I delivered. My son also had persistent jaundice and had to have his levels checked every 48 hours. This went on for 3 weeks, at 3 weeks old he was STILL 4oz below his birthweight. That is when I finally started supplementing with formula on the strong advice of his pediatrician (she said we would need to admit him immediately if we didn't or if he was too weak to eat it, we had to give him that first bottle right there in her office). Before I started supplementing, he was weak, lethargic, never smiled, and was yellow like a simpson. Within 24 hours of beginning to supplement his jaundice was no longer in the danger zone and it was completely resolved after a week of supplementing. Within a week he was 5oz ABOVE his birthweight and gave us his first social smile. He was a diff |
| Donna Fusco | mount Sinai, NY | 2016-01-19 | i am a maternal child RN a Certified breast feeding consultant and also a mother that breastfed 6 babies. I am all for breastfeeding of course but there is a lack of education, communication and understanding between patients and the professionals that are trying to help. |
| Adell Lichtenberg | Redmond, WA | 2016-01-19 | This almost happened to us and our firstborn. |
| Julia Padiyedathu | New York, NY | 2016-01-20 | My baby developed newborn jaundice from under feeding..no one told me when to supplement. Information about the implications of under feeding in the first few days of life should be made widespread..not hidden in an attempt to force exclusive breastfeeding! It's absurd! |
| Laurel Schooler | Santa Barbara, CA | 2016-01-20 | I too planned to exclusively breastfeed but unfortunately the milk supply needed to support a newborn baby didn't come in for 10 days after my daughter was born despite nursing & pumping every 2-3 hours. On day 3 postpartum my nurse discovered that my baby was jaundiced, malnourished and hypoglycemic. My daughter and I had been up all night for the last two nights crying. She was starving and we were both exhausted. I was a first time mom and thought this was normal. I had to supplement a little formula for a few months but was then able to exclusively breast feed after a few months. I'm happy to report my daughter was BF 8 months and my son 12 months. |
| Samantha Durham | Springfield, MO | 2016-01-20 | I have a 3 month old and would be devastated if this happened to her. Mothers need to be informed. |
| Priscilla Mendez-Mathis | Philadelphia, PA | 2016-01-20 | I was a first time mom exclusively breastfeeding my son and found myself exhausted and miserable. I was told that my sons cluster feedings every hour were normal and to be expected and to avoid supplementing to avoid nipple confusion and low production. It wasn't till after almost a month that I visited with a lactation consultant to find I was only producing 1.5 ounces which was why my son was nursing so frequently. Reading this article it brought |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | back the sound of my sons cries and it made me realize how fortunate I was to seek help. If I was supplied with this information I would have sought out help sooner and would have enjoyed my breastfeeding journey with my newborn. |
| Leah Smith | Trenton, NJ | 2016-01-20 | It's 2016, we live in the United States of America. It is unacceptable that any neonate receive insufficient nutrition. Parents and caregivers should receive full and accurate information from health professionals during this especially vulnerable time. |
| Chelsea Levinson | New York, NY | 2016-01-20 | Being a new mother is hard enough, without the crushing pressure of doing everything "perfectly." New moms should be educated about all of their options, not force-fed breastfeeding as the ONLY option. It's simply not true. Fed is best! |
| Jacquelyn Wiand | Sicklerville, NJ | 2016-01-20 | My baby's health improved tremendously when I switched to formula on day 10. I wonder if this would have happened to her if I gave in to all of the breastfeeding peer pressure. |
| Antonio Hernandez | Honolulu, HI | 2016-01-20 | I'm a Neonatologist. The war on formula has to stop. The evidence for exclusive breastfeeding is questionable, and the consequences such as this are unacceptable. |
| Jill Ang | Davao, Philippines | 2016-01-21 | I've underwent the same experience of exclusively breastfeeding my baby because "they" say your milk supply will go up if you Unlilatch your baby to you. I've put my baby at risk because at 4 months he was gaining weight very slow and he was all skin and bones. I could see the form of his ribs and his tummy was always concave. My decision was to exclusively breastfeed him because it was instilled in my mind through breastfeeding support group online that you just have to keep trying until you'll have more breastmilk. There should be no formula supplementation because it will decrease your milk supply. They would also say that a baby's weight is not an actual gauge for his health as long as he is happy and active since there are babies who are inherently skinny. I think there should be proper & balanced information on mothers who belong to the 5% with low milk supply not only to those with abundant milk production in their bodies |
| Jasmine Furnish | Ketchum, ID | 2016-01-21 | I'm signing because we should never shame mothers or women... we all want the same thing: healthy babies. |
| Devon Alvaro | Upton, MA | 2016-01-21 | This almost happened to us, had I not been practically forced to going to a lactation consultation the day after discharge from the hospital. I had no idea I had low supply! No one every told us that was even possible, and the lactation consultants in the hospital refused to let us leave the hospital without a follow up the next day, but never explained why they felt we needed it. Not until I noticed no wet diapers overnight that first night after continuous feeding did I think there was anything wrong. So glad it didn't get this far with us! |
| Yazmin Garcia | Mexico | 2016-01-21 | Estoy de acuerdo |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| H Leabah Winter | Alameda, CA | 2016-01-21 | As someone in public health, I find it heartbreaking that we are not fully informing mothers of the best practices to ensure their babies will thrive. This is malpractice. |
| Jody Segrave-Daly | Harrisburg, PA | 2016-01-21 | I am gravely concerned about how we are not protecting the babies who are being harmed from exclusive breastfeeding at all costs. Infant hunger signs are being denied from hospitals policies developed for exclusive breastfeeding, while not protecting voiceless, vulnerable newborn who do not receive enough breast milk. In addition, mothers are educated that breastfeeding is enough-when cleraly it isn't --for every single baby. I see starving babies and distraught mothers in my private lactation practice every single week from lack of intake at the breast. |
| Sarah DiBella | Richmond, VA | 2016-01-21 | I'm a mom to 2 little girls, one 2 years old and one 7 weeks old....I pumped for my 2 year old and am pumping now for my 7 week old. Latching didn't work for the oldest and the youngest could only latch on one side. More mom's need to be made aware of the potential dangers as well as the other options they have if they're determined to give their baby (ies) breastmilk. |
| Fariesa Baraichi | Poughkeepsie, NY | 2016-01-21 | I believe new parents need to be better educated on breastfeeding and what an infant really needs to eat. To many assume or are told that they are making enough when intact the baby is failing to thrive or worse. |
| destiny spicer | Lexington, KY | 2016-01-21 | i think it is important for people to be informed and if the baby is not getting enough they need to be told formula is NOT poison!! FED IS BEST! |
| Angela Tison | Woodstock, GA | 2016-01-21 | I have low supply and thankfully my nurse at the hospital suggested formula supplementation. When I followed up with lactation three times, I was encouraged to stop formula and exclusively breastfeed, even though my supply has remained very low. |
| Vanessa Bingley | Albany, OR | 2016-01-22 | I tried breastfeeding my newborn but was having problems. The pain was unbearable despite me and the LC making sure she had a correct latch. She would suck, cry, suck, cry. It became a pattern. I knew something was wrong. On her 3rd or 4th day of life, I went to the store to buy bottles and formula. She sucked down that formula like there was no tomorrow with eyes wide open and a look of desperation in her eyes. She was starving. She must have taken about 3 or 4 ounces within a few minutes. Thank God I didn't fall for the lactivist lies that breast is the only way and I trusted my mommy instincts by giving her formula before her health suffered. I don't understand why lactivist think that the breast are one part of the body that always work perfectly. Our bodies are not perfect and many times they just don't work right. |
| Revathi Sabbani | India | 2016-01-22 | My kid was diagnosed with jaundice..coz i had insufficient breast milk during the first 2 days.. |
| Rosalia Stone | Franklinville, NY | 2016-01-22 | All babies need to eat. |
| Maureen Haley | Newbury, MA | 2016-01-22 | I am signing because I am an RN and I care. Yes, breastfeeding is best, but as you well know, not everyone can exclusively breastfeed. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | So breastfeed what you can and supplement the rest, but please FEED YOUR BABY. 25 years from now it wont matter if your then adult child was breastfed or not, but 25 years from now it will matter if he/she has a brain injury from hypoglycemia. Feed your baby. |
| Kathleen Hofmann | Columbus, MS | 2016-01-22 | More education needs to be given on how many wet/dirty diapers per day to look for as well as what they should look like along with signs to look for due to dehydration and starvation. Also encouraging supplanting via pumped breastmilk should be listed as a possibility (not just formula supplementation). |
| Katherine Terrell | Utica, NY | 2016-01-22 | Katherine Terrell |
| sarah giles | Portland, OR | 2016-01-22 | Thankfully I had a lactation consultant who gave us the tools to supplement very quickly. And was able to block out all the materials and friends that kept saying my baby was getting plenty of milk from me and supplementing would just ruin my ability to breastfeed. |
| Danielle Roe | Midland, MI | 2016-01-23 | Knowledge is best. |
| Rebecca Kaiser | Sioux Falls, SD | 2016-01-23 | Fed is best |
| s P | Iowa City, IA | 2016-01-23 | This issue greatly concerns me. Thank you for your consideration. |
| Amanda Harris | Orlando, FL | 2016-01-23 | I gave birth to twins. My milk supply was not enough during the first few days after birth and my daughters stared crying incessantly after the first 24 hours, even after I fed them. Out of pure exhaustion of my husband and I, we called on the nurse and she brought us formula. The babies had lost 10% of their body weight, which caused a longer hospital stay. But once I start supplementing when necessary the stopped crying, slept fine, gained weight and passed their bowels normally. Do not assume you make enough milk for your child and always have supplementation on hand in the case for multiples. |
| Jaclyn Renner | Chicago, IL | 2016-01-24 | I wanted and tried so hard to breastfeed, but did not produce enough due to previous breast reduction surgery. Fed is Best!! |
| joseph skrine | palmdale, FL | 2016-01-24 | My daughter breastfeeds. |
| Rebecca Hamilton | Davenport, FL | 2016-01-24 | Fed is best, not breast.... |
| Mindy Roberts | Arp, TX | 2016-01-24 | Enough is enough! |
| Jaele Rollins-McColgan | belfast, Northern Ireland, UK | 2016-01-24 | Fed is best!! |
| Samantha Saldana | Philadelphia, PA | 2016-01-24 | My baby had little poops and pees And I was so scared of dehydration that against my will gave formula but the shame on formula should not exist |
| Kelly Lisachenko | Center Valley, PA | 2016-01-24 | I am signing as the child we tried for years to conceive would have met the same fate if we had not started supplementing early. I tried |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | so hard to give her everything I had, but I was not enough. Others need to know. |
| Erin Hinek | Decatur, GA | 2016-01-24 | We struggled with this issue early on and luckily had an amazing pediatrician who helped us intervene. |
| Katie Gleboff | Palm Harbor, FL | 2016-01-24 | Fed is best |
| Mary-Anne Allen | O'Fallon, MO | 2016-01-24 | My baby could have been one of these babies if my dr hadn't caught the signs early. |
| Andrea Benvenuto | Toronto, Canada | 2016-01-24 | I'm signing because my little one started showing early signs of dehydration and I was lucky enough to have a public health nurse say that I should supplement. I did so reluctantly because society makes mothers feel like they shouldn't need to supplement. At the time I only minimally understood the severity of the situation. This information needs to be shared!! |
| Bonnie Davidson | Alabaster, AL | 2016-01-24 | My son was kept in the hospital for several extra days because of excessive weight loss due to lack of supply. The pressure to breastfeed is so unnecessarily strong for mothers, and so much dangerous misinformation is rampantly spread ("breast milk is always available in perfect amounts", "all women can breastfeed" and "giving a single bottle means they'll never breastfeed" among the worst). We later found out that he has a rare metabolic disorder. If we had kept on the path of attempting to exclusively breastfeed and "building supply", my son would almost certainly not be here. This petition is a great first step to start the spread of information parents need! |
| Crystal D | Albuquerque, NM | 2016-01-24 | I was never told at the hospital that not producing enough milk was even a possibility, so I wasn't prepared to recognize the warning signs. My daughter was hospitalized with severe jaundice. I wish someone had told me. I want people to be more aware of low-supply to prevent babies from being hurt. |
| Amanda Huneke | El Paso, TX | 2016-01-24 | I'm signing because this was almost my son. I thought I was doing right, I thought he was just new and needed a lot. Then, I thought he was just sleepy. Very sleepy. All the time. In truth, I had no idea he'd been starving for three days. He was rehospitalized for hypoglycemia and dehydration, on a glucose drip and I finally found out about my lack of production. Women who breastfeed need more support in the first days of going home, and more assessment of their production before going home. |
| Diana Baines | Carlsbad, CA | 2016-01-24 | I had a similar experience |
| Austin McCabe | Olathe, KS | 2016-01-24 | Every mother's experience is unique. All should be honored and supported according to their need. |
| Katariina Rautio | San Francisco, CA | 2016-01-25 | I had a very similar experience with my baby, although no seizure |
| Steph Montgomery | Bennet, NE | 2016-01-25 | I'm signing so babies get fed no matter what! |
| Jocelyn Piper | Springfield, VA | 2016-01-25 | This reminds me of my first born. EBF for three months. Worked with multiple lactation consultants. Fed for an hour every two |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | hours. I pumped in between feeds multiple times a day. I was in so much pain I could not wear a shirt. They kept telling me not to supplement. My child was entering failure to thrive at his three month appointment. So I bought him formula. He is now three years old. He is mostly healthy, but has had several seizures and has a slight speech delay for which he is receiving therapy. If only I had fed him... I was trying so hard. |
| Aimee Tomas | La Puente, CA | 2016-01-25 | I'm signing this because this too happened to my first born and she was readmitted on day 3! |
| Michelle Luzaba | Toronto, Canada | 2016-01-25 | I'm signing because I am a mother |
| Toni Smith | Barberton, OH | 2016-01-25 | This is very scary and all risk factors should be taken seriously when related to a newborn baby |
| Sarah Cain | Barberton, OH | 2016-01-25 | My breastmilk never came in. Lactation consultant said just keep feeding him. He got so dehydrated at 3 days old we had to take him to the emergency room. He could have died from dehydration because of the lack of knowledge about breastfeeding. It can be so dangerous. Luckily we have a healthy one year old. |
| Hillary Bishop | Framingham, MA | 2016-01-26 | My daughter was hospitalized for hyperbilirubinemia and dehydration just one day after discharge. Her bili levels were 20 mg/dl. If her discharging pediatrician hadn't recommended that she be seen for a follow up the day after discharge, just in case, she could have suffered a severe brain injury. Please, we need to make parents and providers aware of these conditions. We should not be prioritizing exclusive breastfeeding over the health and safety of infants. If I had known she was at risk, I would have supplemented her with pumped milk or formula, but all of the breastfeeding materials said we should avoid bottles completely. My strict adherence to the instructions almost severely injured my baby. |
| tiffany anderson | Akron, OH | 2016-01-26 | I breast fed my babies and I believe this is very important information for mothers to know. |
| Sarah McVey | Ballston Spa, NY | 2016-01-26 | Fed is best. |
| kirsten henry | Kissimmee, FL | 2016-01-26 | I have been in a similar situation twice before. Thank God I am "rude" enough to tell a doctor to "F" off and do what I thought to be best. God bless these babies. |
| Patricia French | Lincoln, NE | 2016-01-26 | Because I was told just to feed my son more, spend more time nursing. I worry every day that I caused my son's learning disabilities by trying to exclusively breastfeed. |
| Charlotte Wakefield | Salt Lake City, UT | 2016-01-26 | To raise much needed awareness. |
| Kelly Meninno | Fall River, MA | 2016-01-26 | I'm so thankful for the one nurse who listened to me and sent my son to the NICU when things weren't quite right. The NICU team was so supportive of breastfeeding AND supplementing to correct my son's hypoglycemia. They saved him from what could have been a terrible outcome because I had no idea that could happen. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Stephanie Klein | Port Orange, FL | 2016-01-26 | I have seen kernicterus. It is preventable and should be ended. |
| Adrienne Chase | Tampa, FL | 2016-01-26 | I am a breastfeeding mother of a 2 yr old and an almost 3 mth old! With both I supplement! |
| Shannon Zajac | Scottsdale, AZ | 2016-01-26 | We need better education so our babies don't pay the price. |
| Heidi Osborn | Lake City, MN | 2016-01-27 | No one should have to go through something like this when it is completely preventable through a little education. |
| tina powless | Anderson, IN | 2016-01-27 | I breastfeed my son and had to supplement at least 2x a day. Do to low supply. |
| Beth Dunn | Newport News, VA | 2016-01-27 | My first two babies had feeding problems and/or elevated bilirubin. They were exclusively breastfed and I when I expressed concern that they weren't getting enough milk I was assured that that condition was rare. Breastfeeding mothers need support! |
| Bennett Ulmer | Taylor, TX | 2016-01-27 | My oldest son nursed almost constantly after being born, and at his first appointment, he had lost 12% of his body weight. Fortunately, we were able to start supplementing at that time, and he avoided any severe trauma. However, the hospital staff told us very similar things with both him and our second son, even going so far as to refuse to check his blood sugar because his "weight loss was normal" when they checked him. My wife ignored them and started supplementing immediately, and our second son is able to sleep and rest like our oldest never could. |
| Bridia Morgan | Clayton, OH | 2016-01-27 | When I was pregnant with my first son, I fully planned on exclusively breastfeeding him after birth and was excited for the experience. After he was born though, I lost a lot of blood. I tried pumping and nursing for three whole days while in the hospital without producing a single drop. On day three, after being told and told to "just keep at it" and "he's surely getting what he needs", my mommy senses told me otherwise. The cry of a hungry baby is one a mother just knows. I chose then to start him on formula and we had a great experience afterwards and I fully agree with this idea!! |
| Shelly Anthony | Rialto, CA | 2016-01-27 | I had a wonderful feeding clinic associated with my hospital who made me supplement. I was so focused on "breast is best" that I feared supplementing would be worse than my baby being hungry. I know so much better now. Fed is best!! |
| Janice Brown | Shreveport, LA | 2016-01-27 | Babies need to grow healthy and live. |
| Jennifer Carlson | Frankfort, IN | 2016-01-27 | First time mom, who didn't know she wasn't producing enough until son wasn't gaining weight and we were talking about supplementing with a milk fortifier and tried pumping. I only got 2 oz out of pumping 4 times. |
| Maureen Cox-Shourd | Lapeer, MI | 2016-01-27 | My daughter experienced the same thing with her first born son. |
| Amy Kotthaus | Bridgton, ME | 2016-01-27 | I'm signing because I experienced this horror with lactation consultants telling me that it was better that my newborn daughter |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | lose 20% of her body weight and fail to thrive, then be admitted to the hospital than to supplement with formula. |
| Angelina Bodine | Colorado Springs, CO | 2016-01-27 | I wasn't diagnosed with IGT until my 4th child. The struggle and potential harm we faced in the name of breastfeeding at all costs was needless. I want to see new parents presented with complete unbiased information on all infant feeding methods so moms can take the best care of their babies possible. Pediatricians are supposed to be for the child, not mom's preferences or a political movement to normalize something. Fed is best. We're counting on you to help us make the best health decisions possible for our individual babies. |
| Sarah Gibbs | Macomb, MI | 2016-01-28 | My child could be one of those children. It's time we do what is best for kids and realize each situation is different. |
| Kathy Borelli | Framingham, MA | 2016-01-28 | Someone in my family had a similar situation |
| Mallory Hardin | Mackinaw, IL | 2016-01-29 | I had similar difficulties with my baby. I am frequently told that I gave up too early (at 8weeks) but she constantly wanted to nurse, had a perfect latch, and was still very skinny. |
| Lisa Matthis | Littleton, CO | 2016-01-29 | My son Benjamin was read admitted to the hospital through the ER just 12 hours after being discharged at 3 days old. My milk had yet to come in, but I was totally unaware of this and the hospital nurses never suggested supplementing until my milk did come in. Our Don was severely dehydrated and it took over 20 attempts before they could get an iv in him. He is 3 years old now and thankfully doesn't show any signs of brain damage. However. I think it is ridiculous that first time mom's aren't better educated regarding how long it can take for your milk to come in post delivery. |
| Maranda Brush | Alexandria, MN | 2016-01-29 | Babies deserve to be happy and healthy and parents should know the risks associated with breast feeding. |
| Michele Hansel | Beloit, WI | 2016-01-29 | I'm signing because I was told to "just nurse nurse nurse" by the breastfeeding community. I supplemented because I felt my child was hungry and couldn't watch him suffer. Maybe he would have been fine but maybe not. Either way, I was not warned about this. I was made to feel guilty for feeding my child formula. |
| Clairessa Mack | Kapolei, HI | 2016-01-29 | This is horrific! I've always supplemented until my milk came in because I couldn't stand the thought of my children going hungry. I'm certainly glad I did. |
| Resavic Baldomero | Iligan City, Philippines | 2016-01-29 | Because not all first time moms have the capability to well feed their newborn thru breast feeding in the first few days. Delayed lactogenesis is a real thing. |
| Josephine Carroll | North Bend, WA | 2016-01-29 | How Many Wet Diapers did you baby have every day? If a baby is dehydrated that number would be way below the 6-10 they should have. Breastfeeding 101 is you count the wet diapers. How many times did a lactation consultant see your baby after you left the hospital.?You are looking for someone to blame for your own incompetence.ALL breastfeeding educators cover how to make sure that baby is getting enough to eat. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Sandra Hoops | Palmyra, PA | 2016-01-30 | I feel too many mothers do not know the signs of danger with too few calories and too little fluid. There is also so much guilt if someone has to give formula. It's lifesaving!!! |
| Elaine Dev | New York, NY | 2016-01-31 | When my son was born I had an instinct he was not getting enough from BF, but hospital did not want to provide formula for supplementation and instead provided lactation consultant for a short visit. Formula denied until jaundice reading came and finally I was allowed to supplement and did so for a week until I was certain my supply was coming in and continued to monitor weight on my own at home. |
| Carol Landry | Hummelstown, PA | 2016-01-31 | I agree with it |
| Barbara Ritter | Hummelstown, PA | 2016-01-31 | Because this is real! In efforts to become Breastfed Best fed, hospitals fail to teach mothers common sense and skills to read their baby's needs. In efforts to be the perfect mother and give no formula, they fail to recognize the signs of hunger. |
| Tiffany Breininger | Marysville, PA | 2016-01-31 | I believe they should have breastfeeding mommas come back and check to see if they are transferring milk. No babies or parents should have to go through this. |
| Jamie Graham | Carlisle, PA | 2016-01-31 | I want women to be free to chose supplementing and use of formula as their own choice....and not not use it because we bully them to breastfeed. |
| Sandra Chapman | Carlisle, PA | 2016-01-31 | With so many hospitals pushing "baby friendly" and strongly discouraging supplementation, this is a wake up call. |
| Yovanka Hoover | Mechanicsburg, PA | 2016-01-31 | The health and safety of our newborn babies is of utmost concern. We are missing opportunities to properly educate breastfeeding moms because they are discharged from the hospital so quickly today. Some of them before their breast milk comes in. Our approach to breastfeeding needs to change. |
| LANE ROCKS | Virginia Beach, VA | 2016-02-01 | This is a real issue! |
| dana Unangst | Raritan, NJ | 2016-02-01 | Because family's around the world need to know |
| Antoinette Nyambo | sd, SD | 2016-02-01 | Awareness is key to good health for babies and their parents. |
| Brian Nicholas | Little Neck, NY | 2016-02-01 | My 3 week old son required NICU admission for hyperbilirubinemia and dehydration. |
| Megan Lewis | Vidalia, GA | 2016-02-02 | This almost happened to me. Luckily I started supplementing once I knew my child wasn't getting enough from me. As soon as I gave her a bottle she started wetting diapers and perked up! Always follow your instinct! |
| Mary Paone-Colon | Bayonne, NJ | 2016-02-02 | I felt like a failed and judged mother when I had to formula feed. The "breast is best" campaign makes those of us who can't breast feed feel shamed and inadequate as mothers. I believe is fed baby is best. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Spencer Stone | Florence, KY | 2016-02-02 | I am tired of new mother's being made to feel ashamed that they have chosen not to breastfeed. There shouldn't be any shame in not legitimately being able to breast feed or if you have chosen not to breast feed exclusively |
| Amanda Brouwer | Lakewood, CA | 2016-02-02 | As a new mother to a nearly two week old baby this happened to me. Not to that extent but we got a phone call from our doctors office that they had a room in NICU waiting for us and that our son had to be there right away. Turns out he developed pretty serious jaundice because he wasn't eating the breast milk I tried feeding him. I had no idea this was possible until it was almost too late. Luckily the doctors caught this early and my son is ok. Who knows what would have happened had we not gone to the doctor the day that we did. I want more mothers to know this aspect of breast feeding. |
| Laura Baratta | Long Beach, CA | 2016-02-02 | New mother's and the medical professionals need to be more informed about all of this! |
| Erin Kraus | Carpentersville, IL | 2016-02-02 | I tried to breast feed my daughter & didn't know until her first doctors appointment when she had lost a full pound after birth that she wasn't getting enough milk & that my supply couldn't keep up with her needs. The pediatrician recommended supplementing until my supply increased, but a week later it had not & I only knew this because I tried pumping to understand how much milk I was making. It was not nearly enough! We began formula only feeding & my daughter improved in her weight & her mild jaundice went away. I was never told about the severe impact that could happen from her accidentally not eating enough from my milk supply not being what she needs. So thankful my pediatrician talked through some solutions & I never felt pressure from her or my OB-GYN to only breast feed. FED is BEST! |
| sarai preslik | Citrus Heights, CA | 2016-02-02 | My son and I had problems initially with breast feeding he was nursing constantly I knew he wasn't getting enough milk despite what my lactation consultant was saying. My husband and I decided to supplement with formula when he was 2 days old and he gulped 4oz in a matter of minutes. From then on we still nursed I pumped in between feedings And would mix with the formula just so I knew he was getting enough. We did that until he was about a month the I continued to pump and nurse (I wasn't the best at breast feeding in public) then finally when he was 6 months old we were able to cut out the pumping all together. And we ended up ebf until 22 months. Yes breast is best but babies being fed is even better!! |
| Melanie Wojcik | Orchard Park, NY | 2016-02-03 | I tried to breast feed my daughters after having had breast reduction surgery and I couldn't produce enough milk. It caused me a great deal of stress and guilt and my daughter was not getting enough to eat. Luckily, she did not suffer any permanent damage. |
| Robyn Werdehausen Collier | Rolla, MO | 2016-02-03 | FED is best! Babies need fed, period. |
| Shannon Smith | Cork, Ireland | 2016-02-04 | I'm signing because the same thing happened to my Mum with my little brother. After a normal birth she was sent home from hospital 2 days after having him, thinking all was well and good, then got |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | sent into hospital 5 days later, not knowing why baby was losing so much weight! After many tests were done over 3 days, they finally realised that my Mum couldn't express, and that my little brother wasn't falling asleep after "feeding" it was from pure exhaustion trying to get milk. She said as soon as they doctors gave her formula in a bottle for him that he had it gone in seconds as he had been starved for about a week. Scary stuff! |
| kathy Slatter | St. Clement, Jersey | 2016-02-04 | I care what happens with our little one's |
| Farrah Orap-orap | Tarlac city, Philippines | 2016-02-04 | Iam a mother with no milk in my breast after giving birth and I dont want my child to suffer from starvation and stress |
| Tricia Garrison | Raleigh, NC | 2016-02-05 | We were dangerously close to this due to my milk not coming in for 5 days. Thank god for a good pediatrician who forced suppliments. |
| Wendy Marcus | Woodland Hills, CA | 2016-02-06 | There has been a disconcerting shift in thought in America. It has moved from "breast is best" to "breast is best at all costs", wholly ignoring the needs of the mother and in cases like this the needs of the infant as well. We need a more balanced approach. Fed is best. Taking adequate post partum care of our mothers is best. This would be a start. |
| Snezana Jurosevic | Cleveland, OH | 2016-02-06 | More nursing/breastfeeding support & education is needed! |
| Salve Bautista | Gardena, CA | 2016-02-06 | I truly believe in the cause. Your baby is not going to be permanently impaired because you supplemented with formula, but she may have brain injury for reasons as this article stated. How tragic. |
| Nanette Bacongallo | Bacolod, Philippines | 2016-02-07 | I want babies to be saved. |
| Laura Tabor | Austin, TX | 2016-02-08 | I am so sorry this happened to you. You said "I had no doubts that I would exclusively breastfeed my child. " I found the rabid pro-breastfeeding group to be very emotionally harmful for me to interact with. They are so forcefully pro-breastmilk they can actually contribute to a mom not realizing what is happening. Thank you for the warning to new parents. I did a mix of formula and breast feeding. |
| Isabel Torres | Downey, CA | 2016-02-08 | I'm a nurse and believe these injuries to newborns are preventable. |
| Sarah Wentzel | Plymouth, MI | 2016-02-09 | Too much pressure is placed on new moms to exclusively breastfeed. Historically moms had help from community - all of the lactating women shared the responsibility of feeding the babies - literally, it took a village. For a single lactating woman to be solely feeding her infant is an enormous task, both physically and emotionally. To supplement with formula or another woman's breast milk is very necessary and normal for many newborns! I hate the slogan "breast is best"- thank you for creating "Fed is best". |
| Haley McNeil | Reno, NV | 2016-02-09 | When my daughter was a newborn we struggled with breastfeeding. I even requested to stay an extra day in the hospital to make sure she was latching and feeding properly. 3 days after her birth we noticed she was jaundiced. We took her to the ER |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | and found her bilirubin to be 16. We were sent home and asked to get her labs redrawn in 2 days. We were educated to continue to breastfeeding and not to supplement. Her next bilirubin was 19.8 she had lost too much weight, and was dehydrated. She was admitted for phototherapy and fluid resuscitation. During this admission the lactation consultant came to her hospital room. I asked for feeding options including renting a hospital grade pump so my daughter could still receive breastmilk. The lactation consultant advised against it as it "was not as good as normal breast feeding and nutrients are lost when pumped into a bottle and then fed". Luckily we had nurses that supported and advocated for our decision. I pumped the breastmilk I could produce and then supplemented |
| Eric A | Potomac Falls, VA | 2016-02-09 | I have this sudden urge to rush our 2 year old to the Dr. since she was exclusively breastfed. |
| Linda Ponder | Miami, FL | 2016-02-10 | Please give this information to all new mothers. These terrible things don't have to happen. Please teach about this. I beg you. |
| Emily Bennett | Florence, MS | 2016-02-10 | I have been a mom that has breastfeed and bottle feed. This issue needs to be addressed. All my nurses, & lactation consultants told me not to bottle feed when I breastfeed my 2nd child. Not every mother produces enough milk & people should realize extra help with formula is needed. |
| Caroline Frances | Huntington Station, NY | 2016-02-10 | I breast fed my daughter and also supplemented wit formula. Worked out great! Education and monitoring by a competent pediatrician is essential! |
| Zehra JL | moradabad, India | 2016-02-11 | I agree with fed is best. |
| Chrisliebeth Madayag | Iloilo city, Philippines | 2016-02-11 | I am signing this petition to show my support and because I am a mother too. I wasn't able to experience this situation with my now 4month old baby but as a mother I feel how difficult and painful it is. |
| Stephanie Shader | Louisville, KY | 2016-02-11 | I believe there is a great pressure for a breastfeeding mother to succeed by todays society, and hate that they could miss the signs associated with not getting any milk. |
| Josephina Navarrete | Las Vegas, NV | 2016-02-12 | Wow, I never knew about this and I myself strictly breastfeed. All my kids were fine but I still would have liked to know this information as well. |
| Lynette Browne | Terre Haute, IN | 2016-02-12 | My daughter was almost one of these children. |
| Jacqueline Barton | Saint Joseph, MI | 2016-02-12 | I have been an OB nurse for many years and new parents need to have this info available. |
| Melanie Collazo | San Diego, CA | 2016-02-14 | I agree with this petition. Everyone should know all there is to know about how to handle their newborns especially when it comes to feeding. I breastfed my baby and sometimes felt like it wasn't enough and this happening is just scary. |
| Kay Phelps | Akron, OH | 2016-02-14 | 3 years later I'm still judged for switching my son to formula. Because 3 years later, still no one besides close family & friends |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | believe me that my baby was hungry. I was lucky enough to have a close support group (including his family doc) tell me "F*ck it, give that baby a bottle!" Not everyone is that lucky. |
| barbara pestien | Austin, TX | 2016-02-14 | I wish I had been aware of this! |
| Courtney Marker | Atwater, OH | 2016-02-14 | What a heartbreaking thing to go through just because of bad information! |
| Stacy McGuire | Escondido, CA | 2016-02-14 | I'm signing because I believe that every newborn should be sent home after completing weighed feedings to ensure they get enough milk. This would ease mother's minds and ensure that every baby is receiving proper nutrition (either formula or breastmilk) in those critical early days! |
| Jeannelle Albert | Everett, WA | 2016-02-14 | Breastfeeding is good, but when your doing your best, and things still don't work out liked you hope, its good to know other ways are okay. |
| Rand McGuire | Escondido, CA | 2016-02-14 | This happened to us with put newborn. Thankfully we discovered it after about a day. |
| Melissa Vejraska | Milligan, NE | 2016-02-14 | Luckily my pediatrician has us supplement at 10% weight loss after each feeding and daily doctor visits to monitor weight. The percentage of kids that are effected can be greatly reduced with education. |
| Carolyn Cleveland | Coopers Plains, NY | 2016-02-14 | Just became a GreatGrandma & mommy is breast feeding. I heard she is also giving formula. Thank goodness. Maybe she has seen this article. Hope others do. |
| Tanya Malhotra | Accra, Ghana | 2016-02-15 | I went through a period of insufficient milk supply during the first few days after delivery, probably because I was indicted early and also had postpartum hemorrhage. Thankfully HUP (UPenn) administered bilirubin and glucose levels of my baby so I was able to supplement right from day 2, although I died of guilt for not feeding my baby anything during the first 24-36 hours of life!) Despite all the studies suggesting that exclusively breastfeeding during the first few days near guarantees success, I was able to transition my baby from bottles to exclusively breastfeeding by week 2/3. In fact my baby's ability to develop an effective latch, suck and effectively transfer milk was sub par until then, so I highly recommend reattempting to nurse your baby after a few weeks if you are unsuccessful at first. I also want to advocate free weight checks for babies during their first week of life. I landed up taking my baby to the pediatrician's office everyday for a weight check during week 1 and then hiring a private |
| snehal shetty | India | 2016-02-15 | Because I fed my baby best and not just breastfeeding. . |
| Rebecca Lundquist | Southborough, MA | 2016-02-15 | This could have been me and my daughter. |
| Elise Krejci | Old Lyme, CT | 2016-02-15 | Fed is best! |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Gayathri Srinivasan | Abudhabi, United Arab Emirates | 2016-02-15 | Coz I am a Mother myself and want all mothers to be aware of such dangerous situation and not to be ignorant its your child's life... |
| Jeff Levy | Livingston, NJ | 2016-02-15 | Am a pediatrician who checks babies 2-3 days after discharge and encourages supplemental formula if required. |
| Gelon Madison | Kenner, LA | 2016-02-15 | Although I breastfed both my children with no problems, I think women should know all the risks as well as the benefits. |
| Harshitha Phaniraj | Sunnyvale, India | 2016-02-16 | It is very important to make a rule on when formula should be supplemented for exclusively breastfed babies |
| Jomy joseph | Prospect Heights, IL | 2016-02-16 | This could have been our baby.. |
| Tamar Lipof | Manchester-by-the-Sea MA | 2016-02-16 | I think this is important information for mothers and if a baby gets discharged prior to mother's milk coming in, vna should help and/or lactation consultants should be part of vna. What a sad story for any mother & father. |
| Omar Khan | Houston, TX | 2016-02-16 | Dogma needs to be challenged |
| Amanda Cox | Locust Grove, GA | 2016-02-17 | I'm signing because I was told that I was producing enough 28th my first daughter, but I instinctively knew they were wrong. I stopped BF altogether and bucked the system. I also angered my medical team. I didn't care then and I feel vindicated today. Thank you. |
| Anneliess Bodell | Hesperia, CA | 2016-02-17 | I don't feel that breastfeeding mothers are given proper information about breastfeeding and supplementing. |
| Heather McGuire | Bend, OR | 2016-02-17 | Both of my kids ended up being formula babies bc I could not produce enough milk, even pumping for weeks gave me minimal milk. Although most of our hospital experience was positive, the whole breastfeeding aspect was very frustrating and very unsupportive of supplementing, especially the second time around...we were told continually it was a "baby friendly hospital" and supplementing was discouraged. I tried really hard with our second child, but after both of us being awake for hours and him continually agitated I came to my senses and grabbed the formula...happy baby. Thankfully my husband was supportive of my decision to move forward with formula. |
| Christopher Smedley | Beaufort, SC | 2016-02-17 | Babies must be healthy, for our world's future to carry on. |
| Uma Sista | Irving, TX | 2016-02-18 | I am signing this petition because my child went through this trauma. He was born healthy and was fed continuously from me for the first two days. He was irritable and was always rooting in spite of being fed continuously. 24 Hours later he became un-responsive and was taken to NICU where they stated that his blood sugar dropped to 0. The baby didn't get any milk from me at all. The hospital staff didn't even care to check if I was producing any milk. They blindly suggested me to feed the baby continuously and didn't recommend formula. He had a brain injury because of this. One third of his brain got affected due to severe dehydration and hypoglycemia. I really want all the Doctors, Nurses and parents to |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | educate themselves in this area as this could lead to very serious consequences. |
| Jane McIntire | Fredericksburg, VA | 2016-02-18 | I'm a pediatrician |
| Rowen Robinmarie | Los Altos, CA | 2016-02-18 | WOW! Can U Believe a Doctor Wasn't Told This about her own child?! EVERYONE Should BE INFORMED about the risk to exclusively Breast-Fed Babies!! |
| Diane Lilly | East Stroudsburg, PA | 2016-02-19 | This is important knowledge for all mothers. Please sign. |
| Cyndy Johnson | Prospect, KY | 2016-02-19 | I'm signing because I breastfed my daughter but did not produce enough milk and did the supplementation with the formula tube taped along side my breast. I was not informed of this issue I just had a nurse say that my baby was not getting enough nutrition. Those who advocate for breastfeeding say to just keep it up and your milk will come in and my milk was never enough on its own. I tried everything. I hope when I was trying desperately and I was not producing enough it did not impact my child. But I was never warned of these dangers. |
| Bunny Goodrich | Wenatchee, WA | 2016-02-21 | I'm an L/D RN and mothers need the truth. "Baby Friendly " has become a way to bully mothers! |
| Monika Hernandez | Stockton, CA | 2016-02-21 | a balance in perspective, education, and nutrition is what is best for babies and mothers! Women should never be made to feel guilty or ashamed for supplementing. |
| Sharon bastis | Wayne, NJ | 2016-02-22 | sharon bastis |
| Leslie Thornton | Kalamazoo, MI | 2016-02-23 | I am a mom with igt. |
| Kristin Zehner | Boone, IA | 2016-02-23 | More awareness and support for low supply issues. I experienced this myself. |
| Jane Burgess | Kitty Hawk, NC | 2016-02-24 | Suggestions to help this petition: 1) take the names of those being petitioned out of the title seen by a possible singer - before the link is opened.2) get the words NEWBORN BABY BRAIN INJURY PREVENTION in front of everything else, and perhaps DUE TO a Mother's Insufficient Breast Milk for INFANTS in the title too. More people will actually see what the stakes are and this will also help it pop up first for those searching for petitions about newborns or babies or infants. May God Bless you in your grief and for reaching out to help others. |
| Kelsey Rose | Three Forks, MT | 2016-02-25 | As a new parent who's child did have jaundice within the first few days of life, this presentation still taught me many things I was not aware of. This should be made common knowledge to all new parents. |
| Katy Hughey | Charlotte, NC | 2016-02-25 | No mother should feel like she can't give a few ounces of formula to her baby to help protect and support him or her. Formula is not evil, and everybody needs help once in a while, and shouldn't be made to feel "less than" because of it. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| linden wicklund | Lauderdale, MN | 2016-02-25 | Underproduction is not talked about enough and too many mamas aren't educated on what to do if there isn't enough. In my breastfeeding classes I asked about underproduction and was told mamas just needed to try harder. Our first baby was underfed and under birth weight for the first month of life. We were at the doctor almost every day and followed every bit of guidance. |
| Hans Hoffmann | Miami, FL | 2016-02-25 | No breast-fed baby should ever have the dangers of not getting enough of their mothers milk. This is a problem that has the solution for it if the mother is aware that it can exist!! |
| Samantha Farnham | Charlotte, NC | 2016-02-25 | My child was not getting milk from me and did not have food for 2 days |
| Alicia Hartner | Beattie, KS | 2016-02-26 | I experienced this with my second child after exclusively breastfeeding. With my first child, I thought the hospital set me up for failing with breastfeeding because they made me supplement. I am now pregnant with my third and it is in my plan to supplement. |
| Christie del Castillo-Hegyi, M.D. | Little Rock, AR | 2016-02-27 | This mother found out at 12 days that her child was getting virtually nothing from her, had starved and became lethargic from exclusive breastfeeding. Enough is enough. http://www.fearlessformulafeeder.com/2016/02/fff-friday-please |
| Geetha Beers ragavan | Smyrna, GA | 2016-02-27 | I was facing similar issue with my first baby |
| holly iverson | Eagle, ID | 2016-02-29 | Because it's the right thing to do |
| Michelle Lawrence | Louisburg, KS | 2016-03-01 | Please share this life saving information. |
| Alexandra Leis | Minneapolis, MN | 2016-03-02 | My son also suffered from severe hypoglycemia, which wasnt detected until 37 hours after he was born |
| Dena Ohnesorge | Delmar, IA | 2016-03-02 | This information NEEDS to be made available, with all the other information on breastfeeding. |
| allan morris | Senoia, GA | 2016-03-02 | My child was born 2 weeks early and I was told that the hospital would have everything that I would need. I was not prepared to bring formula. After delivery my baby lived on the breast in the hospital. After 4 hours of nursing and still a fussy baby I asked for formula to help supplement. I was told by the nurse that they do not provide formula and the baby would be okay and she has gotten all the milk that she would need. |
| Sharon Peck | West Falls, NY | 2016-03-02 | For personal reasons- i was very concerne about producing enough milk to breastfeed. I made the best decision by myself to suplement right from the beginning. Everyone makes you feel like uou r doing this wrong but its not the same for everyone. I raised 4 healthy kids & breastfed all to varyin degree with a large amt of stress but i am thankful u used my own common sense & did not wait for a doctor to tell me what to do. Women should know they have more options & not have to make these decision on their own |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Tammi McKenna | St. George, VT | 2016-03-03 | I breastfeed all three of my children exclusively, often wondering after continuous feeding, whether or not they were receiving what they needed. All three have some form of hypoglycemia, ADHD and anxiety. All are severely Vitamin D deficient and have methylfolate deficiencies. I eat healthy, exercise, do not drink or do drugs - yet, life is a challenge for all of us. If some of this was known to me I would have demanded testing and more information. My 7 year old was speech delayed, struggles in math and reading and experiences severe emotional dysregulation. I had never heard of this before I read this petition today but often wondered if there was a correlation and if I provided enough early nutrition. PLEASE get the word out! |
| Gauri Sharma | San Jose, CA | 2016-03-04 | I care |
| Diana Asberry-Whitt | Indianapolis, IN | 2016-03-04 | In a civilised country, this should NOT be happening. These warnings must be issued! |
| Caroline Arden | Ithaca, NY | 2016-03-07 | There are so many ways to love and nourish a baby. Let common sense prevail over lactivism. |
| Crystal Dennis | Mayville, MI | 2016-03-09 | I have a four month old baby n my breast milk dried up at 4 weeks n thanks to my family i started suplamenting. I was not going to let my baby starve even know i was told the more i tried the more i would produce cause that was not the case. I ended up having to completely formula feed. |
| robin phillips | Naguabo,PR, PR | 2016-03-09 | I believe women deserve equal rights! |
| Sakkhara Falcon | Boynton Beach, FL | 2016-03-10 | I am not producing enough milk & I was failed by the system |
| Karina Kassidy | Incline Village, NV | 2016-03-11 | I also did not produce enough breast milk and fed my baby for hours and he was crying so much. The nurses insisted that I continue to breast feed and told me formula was bad. These nurses strongly discouraged pumping as well. I went against their advice and followed the doctors. He is on formula and I pump what very little milk I produce. These nurses need to teach woman and understand that we are all different in our milk production instead of insisting that their knowledge is the end all. |
| Crystal Phillips | Jacksonville, FL | 2016-03-12 | I am exclusively breastfeeding my child. I breastfed my oldest (almost 3) for a 11/2, & am breastfeeding my youngest who just turned 10 months. I plan to have another child and an grateful that they are ok |
| Nina Espinosa | Castaic, CA | 2016-03-14 | When my first baby was born, I was bullied by hospital employees to breastfeed exclusively. I do believe that breastfeeding is best. However, my milk did not come in until 4 days post delivery. I practically begged for the nurses to give me formula while in the hospital because I can see signs of my baby crying for food. They kept insisting that I was not trying hard enough since I was a new mother. Fortunately, I was kept in the hospital for 4 days because of signs of PIH when I delivered. On the 4th day was when my son became jaundiced. He was admitted into the NICU and given phototherapy. If I was discharged only 1 day post delivery instead of 4, I am pretty sure that the jaundice would not have been |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | detected as early and possible organ damage may have occurred. With my next 2, I stood up against hospital staff and asked for supplementation when needed. I breastfed my first 2 for 1 year and is currently breastfeeding my 6 month old baby. |
| Tonya Meunier | Chester, VA | 2016-03-17 | My youngest child had failure to thrive while breastfeeding, which resulted in her having to switch to formulas at 2mo. |
| Nilanjana Palit | India | 2016-03-17 | My daughter was born on 35th week, with 1.5 kg of birth weight. I had less amount of breast milk, which was not sufficient for my daughter. My ped advised for exclusive breastfeeding. But after 2days she developed jaundice, and got admitted to the hospital for phototherapy. That time I was told, more the breast milk, faster the recovery. So I tried my level best to give her more breast milk. I used the pump but without results, then I had to use a 10ml syringe inverted, to produce more vacuum to get maximum milk. Although it was a very painful method, I had to do this for her. After discharged from hospital I started nan, and touch wood, she is 3 now, and completely fit n fine. |
| Amanda McClintock | Chicago, IL | 2016-03-18 | I'm signing because I didn't produce enough milk and I was shocked hour so many people told me to just stick it out. My child lost two pounds in 3 days!! More education is desperately needed. |
| charlyn alvarez | Downey, CA | 2016-03-19 | I am a mother and agree to raise awareness to this topic. |
| Mae Rose Bentulan | Oakland, CA | 2016-03-20 | I am signing because I breast fed all my 3 kids, and I for sure want to ensure that babies that are being breast fed are protected! |
| Stacey Pot | Lodi, CA | 2016-03-20 | Nurses where I delivered were so pushy and adamant to having me breastfeed when my son refused to latch and I was producing no milk even at day 3..baby had very few wet/soiled diapers. Nurses refused to give me some sort of supplement in the mean time and would only give me one nursette bottle after I begged them for it since I was worried of his intake... |
| Alexandra Murillo | Chicago, IL | 2016-03-20 | I think that no baby should go hungry due to the lack of misinformed mothers. |
| Sakthi Hasini Selvam | Smyrna, GA | 2016-03-21 | I faced a very similar issue, healthy pregnancy, healthy baby and baby not getting enough milk. I had to mixed feed. But started it early (on the second day of birth) which prevented any mishap. |
| Jaymie Miller | Live oak, FL | 2016-03-24 | I'm signing because I was one of those mother's who was told that my son was getting enough breastmilk even though I had yet to see a drop of milk EVER come out throughout my whole pregnancy. They told me as long as he was producing wet diapers it was fine however, luckily after reading this I am so thankful that my mother's intuition kicked in and I literally had to demand a bottle and then they attempted to make me feel bad about my decision, like I wasn't a good mom for giving in! I have always second guessed myself because I didn't stick to it, I always wondered had I of just not given my son that bottle would my milk have adventually dropped and produced enough to sustain him. After reading this I am so glad I didn't just listen to the nurses and that I decided a well fed baby was better than a breastfed baby! |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| michelle wilkerson | Orange, CA | 2016-03-24 | my son spent time in NICU due to not enough milk from me. we left the hospital not well informed and ended up back in the emergency room with him the next day |
| Jocelyn Caong | Delano, CA | 2016-03-24 | When my second daughter was born, I planned to exclusively breastfeed! We were discharged from the hospital three days after she was born! Since she was born, I've only breastfed, by the fourth day, she was crying sooo hard, I knew my breast milk wasn't producing enough to fulfill her! She's been crying for about 24 hours on and off! My significant other and I were arguing at 3:30am, I was against supplementing with formula and he wanted to purchase formula for her! My newborn's cries were even louder and I felt awful that I had no control of my milk production! I gave in and told my S.O. it'll be your fault if our newborn doesn't like my breastmilk or if I don't produce as much! THANK GOODNESS he purchased the formula, because she was a very satisfied baby after eating her formula! Currently, she is four months and eight days old and, I'm exclusively breastfeeding! I'm proud, yet thankful that I'm able to do as planned, which is exclusively breastfeed! |
| Danielle Simmons | New York, NY | 2016-03-25 | I exclusively breastfeed now but I didn't always because my now 7 month old daughter was jaundice and anemic after delivery due to our blood types not being the same. I'm O positive and she is B positive. The little bit of formula that she received while in the NICU helped her when I couldn't get to her for feedings and the extra iron in the formula helped her jaundice. |
| Chrissy Perlak | Wakefield, ME | 2016-03-26 | My daughter was starving when she was born!! I was trying to breastfeed, but she was becoming dehydrated! I gave her formula and she guzzled it down. She was starving!! I support this! |
| Christina Grosvenor | Verona, WI | 2016-03-26 | When my son was born, I was told it is normal for babies to lose weight and not to worry about the fact that my milk hadn't yet come in and that my son might not be able to eat for 4 days. The lactation specialist was less than helpful and I feel that new parents should be given options and informed of all possible options and risks with regards to nutrition for new babies. I am glad we chose to disregard their telling us to basically allow our son to starve and started supplementing with formula, and even at that point he had developed jaundice. New parents need to be fully informed so all infants have a chance to start life getting all the nutrients they need. |
| Ekene Chukwu | Bakersfield, CA | 2016-03-26 | It's important to educate people on this subject |
| Kevin Kathrotia | Matthews, NC | 2016-03-27 | I believe supplementation ultimately increase chances of breastfeeding success in motivated moms. |
| Brittany Hurst | Washington, NC | 2016-03-27 | We struggled with breastfeeding at the beginning. After 2 weeks of little to no weight gain, we supplemented for a month. I was heartbroken until I realized it was the best for my daughter at the time. We are currently back to breastfeeding only and are almost 5 months into our journey. I am lucky I had the opportunity to meet weekly (more if i needed it) with a lactation consultant and a place to weigh her whenever I want to. You can breastfeed, but you always need to do what's right for you and your precious little one. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Crystal Chetwood | Murray, UT | 2016-03-28 | I see it everyday at work. |
| Eunice Goetz | Norcross, GA | 2016-03-28 | I didn't produce enough breastmilk and wasn't made aware for a few days so my baby was underfed initially. He thankfully had no complications from it but this is an important issue that needs to be communicated to new mothers. |
| Sue Christensen | Draper, UT | 2016-03-28 | I'm signing because I am a NICU nurse. I have seen this happen. It is so preventable with proper education. |
| CAROL CRUZ-ROBINSON | Mount Kisco, NY | 2016-03-29 | I'm a NICU nurse and have this discussion all the time |
| Collette Arredondo | Wichita Falls, TX | 2016-03-29 | There needs to be more awareness! I believe in the cause. |
| rebekah Hogue | Manitou, OK | 2016-03-30 | I also had a new born who was hospitalized twice for failure to thrive and now is strictly goat's milk feed one year old. He is healthy and happy since being on natural goat's milk. |
| Jamie Kollar | Onamia, MN | 2016-03-30 | I'm signing because I feel glucose levels should be monitored in newborns very closely. The risks are too great not to. |
| Kathryn Coiro | Wilmington, NC | 2016-03-30 | I was made to feel that breastfeeding was the ONLY way to feed my child. My child suffered from lethargy, jaundice and hypoglycemia while still in the hospital AND they discharged us anyway. We spent the next 2 weeks taking her to the pediatrician and hospital DAILY. Once we started formula, she began to thrive. I supplemented with the breastmilk I pumped. A FED baby is BEST. Stop guiltning women into starving their children! |
| Shelly Trim | Frederick, OK | 2016-03-30 | I believe women should have a choice in how they want too feed their new born |
| Keri Garner | Southaven, MS | 2016-03-31 | Pressured by breastfeeding community to starve my baby due to conflicting "research" from kelly mom.com |
| Iacristin wells | Bogalusa, LA | 2016-04-01 | I am singing because my 4 month old shows similar to this |
| Kathy Caylor | Hope Mills, NC | 2016-04-04 | This is exceptional research and I support this 100% as a NICU nurse! |
| Sheri Shine | Fort Frances, Ontario, Canada | 2016-04-05 | I've seen it happen. Poor moms thinking they are insufficient and feeling like they bad moms as other moms are telling them to keep going. Babies need sufficient food just like everyone else so why are so many moms encouraged against supplementing? # |
| Leah Bennett | Australia | 2016-04-05 | My baby suffered extreme weight loss and hospitalization from low breast milk supply |
| Ava Laboy | Lumberton, NC | 2016-04-05 | I'm signing because I'm a NICU nurse and have seen this happen. |
| Jennifer Heig | Gaithersburg, MD | 2016-04-06 | I wasn't aware that you can be nursing but child not getting anything. No one in hospital warns exclusive breast feeding moms of this. You don't know until you come in for a two day old appt and basically told your baby has been starving. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| maricel mulcahy | Cicero, NY | 2016-04-06 | I have the same experience with my 1st baby. |
| Alissa L | San Diego, CA | 2016-04-06 | I'm in support of this petition. I'm a mother of two. When my first child was born in 2014, he did not have a good latch (we had his tongue "clipped" and it later resolved); in the hospital I decided to pump and after having feeding problems at home I decided to pump regularly. At 14 days old my son was admitted to NICU with phenomena, we believed this happened with his first breaths of life due to him did not crying at birth (the Doctor and nurse did not try to make him cry to let the fluid out of his lungs. This is also something that should be common knowledge to first time parents, but is not).During our 10 days at a Children's Hospital NICU, the lactation consultants constantly urged me to stop pumping and told me my milk would dry up, I would stop lactating, my son will not be able to take the bottle and breasts which did make me feel like a bad mother. I feared my milk would dry up, but I continued to go back and fourth pumping everyday and breastfeeding when I could. I found pumping to actually help w |
| Tamara Cooper | Searcy, AR | 2016-04-07 | A fed baby is a happy baby, regardless if it is breast milk or a supplement. |
| Beth del castillo | Los Angeles, California, U.S. Outlying Islands | 2016-04-08 | I am signing because I personally saw the terrible effects of breast milk starvation for newborn babies that lead to brain injury. This brain injury caused delayed speech and autism . |
| Melissa Lee | Charlotte, NC | 2016-04-08 | I would have liked to have had this information when my son was born. I was not producing enough and he was starving. The nursing staff blamed it on a latching issue, but I knew in my heart that was wrong. I was scared and did not know I could get formula from the hospital. Had I known I would have demanded it to supplement till my milk came in. |
| Melissa Swanson | Mullica Hill, NJ | 2016-04-10 | I have been saying this for years! if a breastfeeding Mother isn't pumping and measuring, how do you know how much milk your child is receiving. |
| Jennifer Fernandez | Houston, TX | 2016-04-12 | I breastfed 2 of my 3 children till way past 12 months.For unfortunate reasons they both needed supplementation in the first few days. They both were bottle fed with formula or EBM. Now as a post partum nurse it scares me to read all these testimonies because they are listing exactly what we are teaching. We do teach parents to keep BF, to count wet and dirty diapers, if baby seems content then he's gotten what he needs. All those thing that can lead to a starving baby. I would like moms to know that giving a bottle at the beginnning didn't change my BF experience with both my little ones. |
| Stacey Ambrose | Jacksonville Beach, FL | 2016-04-15 | I had a similar experience with my son but I knew something wasn't right when we got home from the hospital and I supplemented two bottles and pumped colostrum to feed through a bottle. My son was so lethargic he could not suck hard enough to get milk out. I noticed he was yellow when we got home and decided to make my follow up appt the next day at the Peditrican. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Anita Kanitz | Stuttgart, Germany | 2016-05-02 | "The way people treat you, is a statement about who they are as a human being. It is not a statement about at you."-Anita KanitzThe connection between women's human rights, gender equality, socioeconomic development and peace is increasingly apparent.-- Mahnaz AfkhamiWomen's empowerment is intertwined with respect for human rights.-- Mahnaz Afkhami "I raise up my voice-not so I can shout but so that those without a voice can be heard...we cannot succeed when half of us are held back."— Malala Yousafzai"No nation can ever be worthy of its existence that cannot take its women along with the men. No struggle can ever succeed without women participating side by side with men. There are two powers in the world; one is the sword and the other is the pen. There is a great competition and rivalry between the two. There is a third power stronger than both, that of the women."— Muhammad Ali Jinnah |
| Jillian Johnson | Simi Valley, CA | 2016-05-05 | My son died because breastfeeding was pushed and he wasn't supplemented at the hospital. |
| Dennell D'Ambrosio | Redondo Beach, CA | 2016-05-06 | In memory of Landon Johnson |
| Deidre Riddle | Tunnelton, WV | 2016-05-06 | I was bullied to breastfeed. If I hadn't realized it wasn't working and made a trip back to my pediatrician my son would have been in major trouble (she immediately gave him a bottle) |
| Jarrold Johnson | Simi Valley, CA | 2016-05-06 | I lost my son because of this. |
| Jessica van Wijk | San Diego, CA | 2016-05-10 | I completely agree |
| Nicole Perez | Simi Valley, CA | 2016-05-13 | I know too many mother's who've been shamed for supplementing |
| Lillian Lee | London, England, UK | 2016-06-02 | my milk came in on day 7 , thankfully the nurse and doctor insisted that i supplement with formula, otherwise he most definitely be damaged. |
| Anat Trarbach | Brooklyn, NY | 2016-06-05 | I am so grateful for Dr. Christie del Castillo-Heygi for spearheading this campaign to protect future newborns, and making the medical community aware of the inadvertent newborn starvation that occurs with all of its negative sequelae, that could so easily be prevented. I'm sure there are many mothers who have also, with all of their best intentions to successfully breastfeed their children, have not realized the harm caused, and would have benefited from the changes that Dr. Del Castillo-Heygi proposes. |
| Alix Fernando | St Albans, England, UK | 2016-06-06 | As a mother who experienced low milk production and continued exclusively breastfeeding due to the pressures of today's society, I know what it's like to be told my body would produce enough when I knew it wasn't. I started combining BF with bottles at 3 months and my baby finally smiled and finally slept. I wish I had combination fed much earlier. I've never ever heard of these risks before. People need to know and mothers should be taught how to protect their babies. Breast milk is proven best for baby, yes. Still, if breast milk isn't coming, fed is definitely best. Many women I know gave up breastfeeding when they started bottles as they believed their milk would stop if they gave bottles. My milk production actually increased when I started combining. For me, less stress and more sleep = more breastmilk. It is possible to breastfeed and give |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | bottles. I'm just glad I had a bit of milk. The risks are astounding for those with no milk. This information should be common knowledge. I'm shocked. |
| jillian burne | New York, NY | 2016-06-07 | I want more safety studies. I want to see control groups of non-vaccinated vs vaccinated. |
| Shruti Gadhia | Budd Lake, NJ | 2016-06-08 | I just had a baby one month ago and have realized the same thing, that fed is best. Breastfeeding may be the most optimal choice however it is most important that your child is fed and satisfied. |
| Nisha Mukherjee | Durham, NC | 2016-06-08 | Fed is best! |
| Bee Koon Poh | Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia | 2016-06-08 | I'm signing this because I know it's true. My eldest son had hypoglycaemia and jaundice in his first few days of life. His eyesight is very bad, has dyslexia and performed poorly in primary school. I'm glad though that he's more fortunate than a lot of other babies who had hypoglycaemia due to lack of breastmilk. In our major hospital which is supposedly baby-friendly, newborns have died due to insufficient breastmilk hypoglycaemia! |
| shameem azizad | hartford, CT | 2016-06-08 | My child was born at 35 weeks and I will say my child and I left the hospital in worse condition than we both entered it . Within 4 hours of discharging a late preterm baby without any of the proper guidelines used (confirm she can eat 40 cc, isn't lethargic, has appropriate weight gain) we were at Dell Children's with an unresponsive baby who got admitted to the NICU for 4 days with rebound jaundice, dehydration, hypothermia and lethargy. So a baby she thought was healthy enough to send into the real world, was actually barely hanging on within hours of leaving the hospital. Pediatrician also was condescending and rushed and offered zero support even when I sobbed in panic about whether we were really ready to go home with the baby. She blamed me for "not feeding the baby enough," never once hearing me when I said it's taking the baby hours to feed, not my lack of trying. She also wrote me feed instructions on a piece of paper saying "let me write this down for you so you understand it." She had zero symp |
| Casey Bauer | Alexandria, VA | 2016-06-08 | I was told our BF was going well at a baby friendly hospital only to find that on day 3 of life, my son had lost over 10% birth weight and was dehydrated. I saw 4 IBLCs in the hospital telling them something was wrong and was never told to give a bottle. |
| Lauren Charlip | New York, NY | 2016-06-08 | I am a clinical social worker and work with developmentally disabled children. This is such important information to have and share. Also I was unable to exclusively breastfeed my now-6-month-old healthy daughter, and strongly believe that as said here: Fed Is Best. |
| Melissa George | Delaware, OH | 2016-06-09 | Thank you so much for sharing As a doula and a mother, this information will be helpful and valuable to many. |
| Mona Buyyala | Torrance, CA | 2016-06-09 | I believe people should know about how ebf can complicate the baby's development, if under fed. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| jennifer jones | Grand Bay, AL | 2016-06-09 | My son lost 11% of his weight in hospital because the nurses refused to allow me to supplement, while simultaneously threatening to keep him and make me go home. |
| Rosanna Mitchell | Valrico, FL | 2016-06-09 | Too many mothers are under increased pressure to exclusively breastfeed from the beginning. This can put a lot of babies in danger. |
| Jaimie Kennedy | Albuquerque, NM | 2016-06-09 | I was never taught what to look for in failed breastfeeding. My daughter went newly 3 full days without eating. We were fortunate that things did not turn out worse for her. She was weak, but only slightly jaundiced, & did not become severely hypoglycemic. I know we were lucky with her & she began being supplemented at 3 days old. I never made milk naturally. I was never taught the complications associated with failed breastfeeding & insufficient milk intake. I want for women to be taught these dangers & what to look for when breastfeeding doesn't appear to be working. We need to be armed with these tools to make the best decisions for our babies. |
| Kerry Hunter Mark | Sewell, NJ | 2016-06-09 | My newborn was admitted back to the hospital and nicu for dehydration. I was also instructed all the red flags I saw before going back to the hospital were normal and not to supplement. I'm glad I followed my gut and supplemented so my baby was able to recover. We are still nursing at 7 weeks and supplementing never hurt her ability to nurse later. |
| Rachel Bartels | Miami, FL | 2016-06-09 | I am signing because I was taught breast is best. It was forced on me during the parenting classes my husband and I took. We always said no expectations when it came to breastfeeding that what mattered most was that our son was fed. I see how we as a society force ideas on each other and how I even obsess over am I producing enough. In every part of the videos we watched the baby was attached to the mothers breast (NEVER ONCE was formula being made for the baby, NEVER ONCE was a mother pumping, and NEVER ONCE was a baby bottle fed). FED IS BEST why aren't we teaching that? I as an under-supplier supplement for my son, when I see him getting upset when he is on my breast I know he isn't getting what he needs and that I need to feed him another way. THIS IS WHAT NEEDS TO BE TAUGHT. This information needs to be taught and shared because there are so many First Time Parents who don't know this information. I was not told that this could happen, thankfully my husband and I made our minds up first before our son |
| suraya Jackson | Belleville, Canada | 2016-06-09 | Because it happens and fed is better then starvation! |
| Trisha Boyles | Cincinnati, OH | 2016-06-09 | I'm signing because it is important for the baby to be fed, it doesn't matter whether it is from the boob or from formula. These poor children need to be fed, and having too many people pushing for breastfeeding and not more concerned about everything else is going on. FEDISBEST! |
| Cassandra VanDunk | Chicago, IL | 2016-06-09 | It is essential to keep our motheres educated and supported and our newbiens healthy and fed. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Florencia schade | Edmonton, Canada | 2016-06-09 | This is a massively important issue. My milk came in late, and my baby was jaundiced despite my occasionally supplementing! I was so fatigued and overwhelmed with the new baby I didn't even notice that 4 days is too long for one's milk to come in, I would have supplemented more if I had been given more guidance. Breastfeeding and formula don't need to be mutually exclusive. Fed is best!! |
| Elizabeth Bocich | Allentown, PA | 2016-06-09 | I'm signing because formula is very much looked down upon now. A fed baby is a happy baby and it should not matter how they eat as long as they do! |
| Kati Schweigman | Pasadena, MD | 2016-06-09 | My baby was breastfed in the hospital and they refused to let me try to pump for the first 3 days (C-section momma here). At the time I was supposed to go home, I had a team of doctors in my room telling me he lost weight, he's slightly jaundiced, we probably should supplement, etc. They sent me home with formula. I pumped for the first couple of weeks home with NO success but he was drinking formula just fine. NEVER enough for a full meal. I stopped because I could no longer take seeing only a few dribbles in there. I wish hospital lactation consultants would do weight checks before and after feeding so we can see that they are drinking or SOMETHING. "Weight loss is normal".. yes, I get that.. but I was concerned I wasn't making enough. They told me I was because I could squeeze out a small drop myself.. well. That's basically all that I was making. Not fair to those little babies to be without food! |
| Jill Moore | Manchester, TN | 2016-06-09 | This nearly happened to my child. She did suffer negative effects but as she is only 4 weeks old, we just pray none are permanent. After expressing my fear to numerous medical providers who told me not to supplement, she was severely dehydrated, hypoglycemic and emaciated. |
| Jeanette Murillo | Baton Rouge, LA | 2016-06-09 | Although breast is best, fed is bestest. |
| julia dillon | Quantico, VA | 2016-06-09 | Because every mom needs to know this. |
| Christina Love | Blackwood, NJ | 2016-06-10 | This almost happened to us... But doctor's thankfully stepped in and encouraged supplementing before it was too late. |
| Susan Reuther | Sewell, NJ | 2016-06-10 | I'm signing this petition because the hospitals are so focused on breastfeeding they sometimes don't use common sense. My grandson had no wet diapers for 48 hrs and they still said that was ok! Not ok! |
| Yvonne Allison | Stranraer, Scotland, UK | 2016-06-10 | To raise awareness!! |
| Lauren Janssen | Elkridge, MD | 2016-06-10 | This could have been my baby if not for one wonderful, realistic pediatrician and the grace of God |
| Paula Glowacki | Milwaukee, WI | 2016-06-10 | I had to supplement with formula so my baby girl didn't lose 11% of her birth weight. I was breast feeding her every time she was hungry and still wasn't enough. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
|------------------|------------------|------------|--|
| Chris Morra | Monroe, CT | 2016-06-10 | I'm signing because I believe FED IS BEST!! Mothers need to be educated not just about breastfeeding but formula & supplementing when necessary need to be included. Too many mother suffer from depression when they give a bottle because they have been told how awful that is if you're breastfeeding. A mother needs to confidently follow her instincts not fear of failure. Babies shouldn't be starving because mothers weren't taught about options!! |
| Jessica Berger | Titusville, FL | 2016-06-10 | Fed babies are best! |
| Lindsey schwarte | Cincinnati, OH | 2016-06-10 | I produced no milk for 8 days but was continually told "no no, it's there, it's just not coming out". It really wasn't there and when it did come in, I was unable to pump more than one ounce in an entire day. My child could easily have starved to death. |
| Amy Kinkade | Riverside, CA | 2016-06-10 | Fed is Best # |
| Lindsay Hamilton | Yardley, PA | 2016-06-10 | #FedIsBest and often early supplementation results HIGHER long term breastfeeding rates! |
| Alicia Paz | Portland, OR | 2016-06-10 | I am signing because if my husband didn't flip his shit my son could have died after 8 hrs with no food and being denied formula! |
| Jody Mullen | Gillette, NJ | 2016-06-11 | #fedisbest #lovedisbest #noshame |
| Elizabetg Yirak | Steubenville, OH | 2016-06-11 | My child suffered FTT as a result of being underfed through breastfeeding. I sign in her honor, that no baby or mother should ever have to experience that. |
| Judith Stover | Grand Rapids, MI | 2016-06-11 | I am a grandmother who watched by my go to NICU for IV glucose because of no breast milk or colostrum. Please help us change the protocol. |
| Jennifer Wise | Thibodaux, LA | 2016-06-12 | I exclusively breast fed my daughter, but I feel like mothers should be told about the risk. |
| Ilene Grossman | Decatur, GA | 2016-06-12 | Couldn't agree more! |
| Gina Khristo | Walnut Creek, CA | 2016-06-12 | I had a similar experience; I starved my baby for two days before my doctor told me to feed my baby formula. However, the advice nurses I spoke to on the phone suggested that I wait for my milk to come in and even said that the baby was hungry, but was getting enough nutrition!! It was a horrible experience for me and I'd hate for anyone to go through this. |
| ilia rosales | Bell, CA | 2016-06-12 | Ilia Rosales |
| Pamela Bretza RN | Covina, CA | 2016-06-12 | I'm am a NICU RN and I could not have said this any better. It is so sad for me to care for so many infants who could never have had to be admitted to the NICU because parents were told they are doing the right thing. It is never good when any situation goes to the extreme... And Breastfeeding only is at the extreme right now. Thank you |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
|-------------------|----------------------|------------|---|
| Cindy Kelley | Millersburg, OH | 2016-06-12 | Because I'm concerned of incomplete info that young mothers are receiving when breast feeding. |
| Lorene Ramirez | Queens, NY | 2016-06-12 | These are important medical factors to consider. Myself having breastfed 3 children already - my first I knew wasn't getting enough so I supplemented without hesitation against lactation consultant advice. Luckily she is a smart bright child now aged 9 whom I feel I did right by. |
| Debra Slusarenko | Milton-Freewater, OR | 2016-06-12 | I feel this is valuable information. My oldest child had high bilirubin and was breastfed. |
| Amy Lao | La Crescenta, CA | 2016-06-12 | I had intentions of exclusively breastfeed my son as well. However, my milk supply did not come in until day five. I was gravely concerned that he was underfed and has not produced another dirty diaper since discharging from the hospital. After consulting with my son's pediatrician, I supplemented with formula. Few hours later my son had his first bowel movement since three days being discharged. After reading this article, I can't help but think of the "what ifs". What if my son had become severely jaundice, what if my son became dehydrated or had seizures, what if my son ended up with long term neurological damage as a result of starvation due to lack of milk supply . I was completely guilt ridden for supplementing in fear I would ruin my chance of exclusively breastfeeding my child. I felt completely inadequate due to my lack of and delayed milk production. My motherly instinct of wanting to make sure my son wasn't underfed and my supplementing in the first few days were finally validated. First time mother |
| Arthur Fritz | Alto, MI | 2016-06-12 | My wife, an OB nurse for nearly 30 years, breastfed our 3 children, and I credit their continued great health to that great star. That said, I am becoming more and more aware of "Lactation-Nazis" proliferating the WHO's medieval recommendations in modern US hospitals, and with a totally unbalanced approach. THIS HAS TO STOP! |
| Rachael McCarty | Bessemer, AL | 2016-06-12 | "Breast is Best" led to me starving my twin girls for 6 months without knowing it. They didn't get enough and were (|
| Krista Kirkland | Tempe, AZ | 2016-06-12 | I am a nurse and I experienced failure of lactogenesis 2 with my own son who lost 12% in his first 3 days and was rescued by formula in addition to breastfeeding. |
| Maria Linco | Long Beach, CA | 2016-06-12 | I am a Postpartum nurse. I do believe and witness in my professional work that mothers DO NOT produce milk uniformly adequately that is sufficient to meet the safe healthy feeding demands of their newborns. I have seen a considerable number of newborns who want to breastfeed for two hours straight only to wake up in 30 minutes again screaming bloody Mary. Breastfeeding and supplementing with formula after breastfeeding is the safer way to go. |
| Brandi Geogahagan | Jay, FL | 2016-06-12 | I'm signing this petition as a NICU nurse that has seen an increase in newborn transfers since our hospital went Baby Friendly with |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | breastfeed only initiates. Too many abides are being admired for something that can be completely prevented. |
| Araceli Anderson | Beaumont, CA | 2016-06-12 | I am an RN. My daughter will be 3 next month. When we brought her home we received a call that same day to take her back into the ER because of jaundice. We brought her in and were told about supplementation and were all for it. And thank God we were. Luckily she has no impairments and we did notice I never produced enough milk to begin with. More people need to be educated with supplementation |
| Carol Vigna | Alexandria, VA | 2016-06-13 | I just had a son at a WHO Baby-Friendly hospital and had no idea of the dangers of insufficient feeding. The focus was on prioritizing/protecting breastfeeding and I'm now forced to question if my son was fed enough until my milk finally came in. |
| Monique Lee | Houston, TX | 2016-06-13 | I am signing because as a mother-baby nurse, I believe current breastfeeding education puts babies at risk. |
| Maila Hermosa | Cranford, NJ | 2016-06-13 | I believe in changing the guidelines and protocols when it comes breastfeeding. No baby should be left hungry. |
| Ann still | Nashville, TN | 2016-06-13 | I believe! |
| Martha Wilson | Spring Branch, TX | 2016-06-13 | As a neonatal nurses from 35 years I have seen the entirely preventable complications of starving a baby by exclusively breastfeeding when mothers have no milk. Supplementation does NOT prevent babies from breastfeeding but it could prevent brain damage! |
| Brenda Holmes | Napa, CA | 2016-06-13 | I witness this every day as a Labor and Delivery nurse. The promotion of exclusive breastfeeding has gone to far and it's practice is definitely not "baby friendly". |
| Nancy Bryant | Collierville, TN | 2016-06-13 | I was a newborn nursery nurse for over 20 years. I was continually frustrated by not being allowed to supplement babies that were obviously hungry. |
| Jennifer Crow | Ruckersville, VA | 2016-06-13 | I am signing this petition because I experienced the same thing where it took me 6 days for my milk to come in and by day 3 my child had low glucose levels and had lost 14% of her birth weight. I finally supplemented at day 4. But until i supplemented she cried and cried. I wish somebody would have educated me to Pump or make sure I had a milk supply |
| Holly Woodruff | Quincy, IL | 2016-06-13 | I work as an OB inpatient nurse and I've heard a starving baby be inconsolable. |
| Robin Ybarra | Wichita, KS | 2016-06-13 | I work in NICU which I think sometimes stresses breastfeeding to much let the parents decide |
| April Delchamps | Montgomery, AL | 2016-06-13 | Because it is the right thing to do. Please share all information with new moms, we deserve the information to make decisions for our children based on fact |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Melissa Record | Point Reyes, CA | 2016-06-13 | Babies need to eat. |
| Julie Bible | Lafayette, IN | 2016-06-13 | I am an RN certified in Inpatient Obstetrics. I work as a labor and delivery nurse that breast is best, but most important is making sure our babies are fed. |
| Jenna Watkins | Saint George, UT | 2016-06-13 | Every child deserves the best start in life that a parent can give, and it is shameful that our medical practices do not account for the percentage of babies that do not receive enough milk from their mothers in the first few days of life. Simple steps are taken at each birth to check for and prevent rare illness, but nothing is being done to inform parents of the possibility that their child may not receive what it needs during the critical first days of life through breastfeeding or to watch for signs and care for these babies so that they come to no harm. This is unacceptable. |
| Melody Diaz | Anaheim, CA | 2016-06-13 | I'm signing because my baby was sent to the NICU from my lack of breast milk. We thought he was being fed when he wasn't. It took me a while 2 weeks of pumping before I was able to produce milk. Formula saved my baby. Although I exclusively breastfeed now, my little one would have starved without formula. |
| Sandra Cunningham | Fenton, MI | 2016-06-13 | I am a NICU nurse and babies deserve to be fed. Mothers should not be made to feel like failures for not having enough breast milk for their baby. |
| Christine Bure | Gilbert, AZ | 2016-06-13 | I am a NICU nurse. I see these dehydrated and starving babies first hand. FED IS BEST |
| Rene Rodrigo | Mandaluyong, Philippines | 2016-06-13 | I am a mother |
| Charlotte Akor | Abilene, TX | 2016-06-13 | Supplementing is okay |
| Jessica Sadler | Juneau, WI | 2016-06-13 | I am signing because no baby should go hungry and no hospital, doctor, nurse or lactation consultant should be able to tell a mother how to feed her child. |
| Amanda Marcucci | Traverse City, MI | 2016-06-13 | I know that I was repeatedly told to "trust the process" and that every mom can make enough breastmilk, even though it was obvious that my baby was extremely agitated. We were basically told to ignore the instinct that our baby was hungry, which put her health at risk. I think health professionals can do a lot better in monitoring babies for feeding problems, especially for first time moms, and for moms with a history of insufficient milk production. Additionally, more research needs to be done about why this occurs, and what can be done to treat the problem. |
| Debbie Raymond | Warminster, PA | 2016-06-13 | Breastfeeding is wonderful and natural. This is such a tragedy, and preventable. Moderation is important in everything. If it had been somehow discovered that this mom was not producing adequate milk, there could have been some intervention. |
| Sumena Thongrod | Bergenfield, NJ | 2016-06-13 | I'm signing because my child developed jaundice after being exclusively breast fed in the first 48 hours of life. I demanded that |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | she be supplemented with formula to the dismay of the lactation consultants. Patients need to be informed that not everyone produces enough breast milk. |
| Jackie Watson | Camp Verde, AZ | 2016-06-13 | This almost happened to my grandson, but he was caught soon enough. |
| Bree Eaton | Atlanta, GA | 2016-06-13 | M.D. |
| Yvonne Ezeala, MD | Rosedale, MD | 2016-06-13 | Because this almost happened to my baby... |
| Kim Reynolds | Cincinnati, OH | 2016-06-13 | I am a physician who supports breastfeeding. But I also support safe mother-infant dyads. I support families that are equipped with the knowledge to feed their babies successfully, whether it be with human milk or with formula. |
| Amy Skelton | Conway, AR | 2016-06-13 | I am a nursery nurse and this is important to me! |
| Cara Riley | Columbia, TN | 2016-06-13 | My first child was exclusively breastfed the first week of life. She cried constantly. I was told again and again to just keep feeding, that it was normal. It wasn't until I saw a Lactation consultant that I found out she was basically starving, receiving barely any milk at all with each feeding. My heart still breaks when I remember her cries. |
| Jennifer Ellsworth | Howell, MI | 2016-06-13 | I strongly believe in giving your baby what they need in the first days of life and not starving them. Moms don't go without a meal so why should your innocent baby. Really hits home for those who can't breastfeed or who don't make enough milk like myself. My babies could of be victims. |
| Rebecca Davis | Paris, KY | 2016-06-13 | Neonatal nurse |
| Caroline Soyka | Cleveland, OH | 2016-06-13 | Because I was forced into EBF and my child almost died from fpiis. |
| Michelle Linder | Parker, CO | 2016-06-13 | My milk also took a long time to come in with both children. Both my kids lost too much weight and my son ended up extremely jaundice. Lactation nurses kept telling me everything was fine and that they were cluster feeding but I knew something was wrong and they were being satisfied. Proper education is really important and to receive it without the guilt of not strictly breastfeeding. |
| Wanda Laramore | Bear, DE | 2016-06-13 | I am a former parent educator and LC(now retired) that experienced and watched this phenomenon of failedfeeding time and time again As my hospital strived to attain the coveted Baby Friendly status. At the time I was appalled and sick about shoving this " education" down my patient's throats when I personally did not believe in its merits and beliefs irregardless of what literature was shoved in my face to robotically cram into new mothers. It caused tremendous turmoil and anxiety with a my personal value system which screamed daily these babies needed to be fed more substantially even if it was formula. Thank you for writing this article and the research you put into it! Hopefully people will listen and push for change in the established rigid world of Baby Friendly! It's anything but! |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Amrita John | Cleveland, OH | 2016-06-13 | I am a physician. I am not a pediatrician. I bought into the concept that breast is best and a woman's body would produce sufficient milk for her baby. Was fully committed to exclusive breastfeeding. But my body did not produce enough, my preterm, low birth weight jaundiced baby was back in the hospital less than 24 hours after discharge. For a full 24 hours before discharge my baby was crying inconsolably, and I brought up my concerns with several lactation consultants and nurses that maybe I was not producing enough, that maybe I should supplement and was given false assurances. This is unethical. Mothers can be encouraged to breast feed but the possibility that this may not always happen successfully should also be acknowledged and alternate plans should be in place for when that does not happen. I am a physician and it happened to my baby. What about all those people with no medical background, no family support and who trust the medical establishment not to drop the ball. |
| Stephanie Baucom | Locust, NC | 2016-06-13 | I FULLY support breast feeding, BUT also fear the pressure many new mother's receive can do more harm than good. Ultimately, we need to be doing what is best for the baby and what is realistic in that household. Fed is best! |
| Tiffanie Moore | Riverside, CA | 2016-06-13 | Fed really is best. |
| Debbie Buchanan | Plano, TX | 2016-06-13 | I believe breastfeeding exclusively has come to outweigh its risks and parents are not aware of the risks associated with it. |
| Emmy Ludwig | New York, NY | 2016-06-13 | My daughter almost died bc I was convinced not to give her formula. And her blood glucose was 11 and she turned blue. Subsequently spent 9 days in the NICU. |
| Katherine Alconcel | Rancho Cucamonga, CA | 2016-06-13 | Breastfeeding isn't for everyone. It is a woman's choice how to best take care of her baby. |
| Tammi Stevenson | Saint Louis, MO | 2016-06-13 | I am a mother/baby nurse and see this kind of problem way too often! |
| Katherine Cole DO | Pueblo, CO | 2016-06-13 | I'm signing this because even as a physician I was unaware of the risks of hypoglycemia and dehydration in the breastfed newborn. If not for our diligent pediatrician who recognized my newborns crys as starvation, this could have been my story. Instead, we supplemented until sufficient milk supply was achieved.Fed is best. |
| Megan Chiarelli, MD | Seattle, WA | 2016-06-13 | Ina May Gaskin is wrong, not every mother can produce enough milk. They shouldn't be shamed or driven into a frenzy with pumping and Fenugreek while they're trying to adapt to life with a new infant. |
| Jennifer Jones | Marietta, GA | 2016-06-13 | Optional |
| Bernids Helander | Bismarck, ND | 2016-06-13 | I have seen this in my own practice |
| Betsy Schwering | Westport, IN | 2016-06-13 | I was bullied into believing I had done wrong by my child for supplementing |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Magen Sanchez | Downey, CA | 2016-06-13 | I am a mother who has insufficient glandular tissue and supports the idea of further educating every mother to better serve her baby. |
| Mical Raz | Philadelphia, PA | 2016-06-13 | I am a physician and know that while breast is good, a fed baby is best. |
| Jennifer Sears | Scarborough, ME | 2016-06-13 | I believe in supporting supplementation of breast feeding and the need to recognize the health and hydration of our newborns. |
| Leisha Nepomuceno | Manvel, TX | 2016-06-13 | I am signing bcause I witness the bedside care babies that are starving due to exclusive breastfeeding. I felt that supplementation is a MUST rather than having this helpless babies being starved. |
| April Yoder | Winchester, VA | 2016-06-13 | Our babies need taken care of! |
| Uvie Ughwanogho | Cambridge, MA | 2016-06-13 | We need to stop this crazy breast is best bs. Babies are suffering because of it. Formula DOES NOT KILL...STARVATION DOES !!!BTW..I am a proud mother of a 3 week old HEALTHY 10 pound baby boy who gets formula and breast milk. He loves both equally. I am also a physician. Breast is NOT best...FED is best. |
| Claire Sollars | Mesa, AZ | 2016-06-13 | Fed is best. It is frightening how many mothers have experienced feelings of doubt and worry about supplementing when sometimes it is necessary. The false reassurance needs to stop as well as the shaming of moms who are just doing the best they can for their children. |
| Carolyn Roemer | Marysville, WA | 2016-06-13 | I have a newborn grandson and my daughter has been struggling to breastfeed. I am also expecting a second grandson in 3 months and his mother is also planning to breastfeed. I want these little boys to have the best chance for a healthy and productive life. |
| Debbie Miller | Pittsburgh, PA | 2016-06-13 | My grandson had the same experience with low birth weight from breastfeeding and thankfully my daughter began to supplement immediately and today he is a healthy 2 year old. |
| Mallorie Tener | Kansas City, MO | 2016-06-13 | I'm signing because I am a Neonatal ICU & Pediatric ICU nurse and I've seen these exact outcomes. |
| Rebecca Hardie | Lake Stevens, WA | 2016-06-13 | My milk production was insufficient, being a NICU nurse I knew that supplementation was the best and safest practice. I was told by a lactation consultant that I shouldn't have given formula. |
| Ashley Beem | Los Angeles, CA | 2016-06-13 | As a physician at a baby friendly hospital I see the struggles some women have with exclusive breast feeding and as someone who did not make enough milk myself I believe that formula is amazing and sometimes the best thing you can do for your baby. |
| Karah Coker | LaRue, TX | 2016-06-13 | This is very real and now we are punishing hospitals for not exclusively Breast feeding. |
| Sheri Owens | Jasper, TN | 2016-06-13 | I am a 28 yrs certified pediatric nurse, I have seen lactation consultants and pediatricians shame Mother's into not supplementing when the babies are crying from obvious hunger. The poor babies and parents are so frustrated and miserable. I |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | have always reassured my parents that breastfeeding is a learning experience for mommy and back yard and that it is ALWAYS ok to offer a bottle, one, to make sure baby gets food and two to lessen the stress and anxiety that goes along with breastfeeding. It is pathetic the guilt that is placed on parents for not exclusively breastfeeding. Please continue this awareness! I enjoyed your article. |
| Kymberly Matamoros | Philadelphia, PA | 2016-06-14 | I'm signing because thriving babies is what matters. Parents shouldn't feel bullied to only breastfeed. A fed baby is better than a hungry baby. |
| Krista Hall | NEW MARKET, MD | 2016-06-14 | I feel the information given can save many lives from lifelong disabilities. Common sense tells us if the baby is hungry feed them, if not breast milk, then formula. |
| Karen Ballard | Stony Point, NY | 2016-06-14 | I care about this csuse |
| Amy Beavers | Sugar Land, TX | 2016-06-14 | I work as a nurse and the push and pressure to exclusively breastfeed babies is impractical. |
| Pauline Tirona-Yau | Pasig city, Philippines | 2016-06-14 | I believe that not all mothers are gifted with breast milk but it doesn't make them less of a mom if they choose to give formula. I have 2 kids who we're formula fed because I don't have enough breast milk and they grew up no less than perfect as those fed with breast milk. |
| Deena Sutter | San Antonio, TX | 2016-06-14 | As a mother and pediatrician I have seen the negative effects of baby-friendly policies - including weight loss, dehydration, maternal shaming and hyperbilirubinemia. My children were all fed some formula after birth and had supplementation after discharge. I successfully breast-fed all three to approximately 12 months of age. This Baby-friendly Thing is not in the best interest of mothers or infants. |
| Angie Chambers | Memphis, TN | 2016-06-14 | I'm a RN in couplet care or Mother/Baby nursing, and I see this daily. |
| Lina Yuen | Hong kong, Hong Kong | 2016-06-14 | Crucial information need toBe shared among parents |
| Sherry Lacey | Jasper, TN | 2016-06-14 | I was a mom of babies that went into the NICU and needed supplementation as my milk did not come in until 5 days after delivery. I epumped both children. My first child had formula and breast milk and my second has been exclusively on breast milk since 8 weeks. Reform is needed to show mothers that there are other alternatives for the livelihood of their babies. |
| Charlotte Radde | Sulphur, LA | 2016-06-14 | I am a neonatal nurse practitioner who is concerned that the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative is not in the best interest of the baby, as it does not provide education regarding potential complications. Further, the very name of the initiative is misleading in itself as if feeding an infant formula is unfriendly and potentially harmful. |
| Debra arnold | North Ridgeville, OH | 2016-06-14 | Im signing because I have for a long time believed breastfeeding has been taken to an extreme. And although I breastfed all three |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | of my children, my instinct kicked in when they weren't getting sufficient amounts and I supplemented. Sometimes to the dismay of my breastfeeding friends. My children never had issue with going back to the Breast after the occasional supplement. |
| Debra Lanning | Cartersville, GA | 2016-06-14 | I see the negative impact of forced exclusive breastfeeding happen to mothers and infants. We are inappropriately educating these families under the stance of helping hospitals win awards for being Baby Friendly. This has to change. FED IS BEST and we have to protect our babies. |
| Susan Murphy | Virginia Beach, VA | 2016-06-14 | I am an RN in the NICU and believe in supplementation! I successfully breast fed 3 children. The first for 14 months, the 2nd for 20 months and the 3rd for 36 months. I believe in breastfeeding but also understand the importance of the newborns need to eat. I can not stand to hear a hungry baby cry. |
| Allie Rodgers | Nixa, MO | 2016-06-14 | Awareness needs to be brought to new moms. |
| Sherry Wilson | Birmingham, AL | 2016-06-14 | I am a neonatal nurse practitioner & see the damage that the "exclusive breastfeeding" ideology has caused! Mothers are being bullied & shamed into never giving formula as their babies starve! How did we lose common sense? |
| Deidra Baldwin | Rosie, AR | 2016-06-14 | As A NICU nurse and a mom who breastfed three children I know that babies need nutrition from the first day of life! Fed is BEST!! |
| Rachel Roffall | Cypress, TX | 2016-06-14 | I'm signing as a dietitian and mom of three kids. All three were breastfed, but all three required supplementation in the beginning. My twins needed supplementation throughout to ensure adequate intake. |
| Susan Caugh | Cordova, TN | 2016-06-14 | Rehospitalization is imminent if we continue to push "breast is best." Parents need all the facts and not told there is only one way to nourish their baby. |
| Rebecca Sue | Salt Lake City, UT | 2016-06-14 | I couldn't produce enough milk for my baby. I thank God for he nurse who insisted on giving him formula! |
| Amy Mccay | Houston, TX | 2016-06-14 | I totally agree. I witness the craziness of Le Leche breast only - no pacifiers etc everyday in my work place and find it to be terribly detrimental. I supplemented my own child till my milk came in then exclusively breastfed for 13 months. I even did adoptive breast feeding for my adopted child - both my children are above average - they were fed first !!!!! |
| Kelly Huguenot | Springfield, MO | 2016-06-14 | I am tired of seeing mothers guilted into breast feeding when it may not be the best solution for mother and baby. |
| Alicia Pitts | Seattle, WA | 2016-06-14 | I'm signing because I wish someone had educated me on this before I had my baby. I ended up supplementing with formula until I was able to exclusively breastfeed my child, but I felt immense guilt and shame for doing so. No one should feel that way. There is already so much judgment around parenting, but, no matter how, fed is best. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Nancy Polychronopoulos | Houston, TX | 2016-06-14 | As a NICU nurse, I agree that breast is best but not for all babies/mothers. It has to work for all involved (baby and mother). If a baby is not getting enough from breastfeeding then supplement. |
| Lauren Sobotka | Middle river, MD | 2016-06-14 | This is so true ! I am a pediatric NP and it's like pulling teeth to convince a new mom to give her baby formula when she has her mind set on exclusively breastfeeding . It's not always the safest choice... |
| Jaime Ruddell | Seattle, WA | 2016-06-14 | I'm an NNP. I see babies re admitted with severe dehydration, hypoglycemia hyperbilirubjnemiab and hypernatremia all in the name of "baby friendly". Babies are smart. They know what's easy. Of course they get attached to a bottle. However that shouldn't stop us from finger feeding, syringe feeding, sns, etc. the new protocol allows for glucoses >35 being ok in the first 24-36 hours. How does that make sense. The human brain needs a minimum of 4gms/kg glucose intake to sustain homeostasis. I am absolutely pro breastfeeding, having BF my child for 18 months, but never at the price of a healthy infant. |
| Kristin Eskew | Oakdale, CA | 2016-06-14 | I'm signing because I agree with this article. I've been a NICU RN for 18 yrs. |
| Suzanne Schoeplein | Leander, TX | 2016-06-14 | I work in maternity nursing and as we as a profession are almost universally taking steps towards "baby friendly" status I feel like this issue keeps coming up as I am trying to do what my institution requests of me. But in my gut it feels WRONG to watch a baby SCREAM and sometimes stop even trying to feed because he is so hungry but he knows there is nothing in there for him yet. It just kills me to not be able to say anything besides - just keep feeding. And I feel like it puts parents at risk for extreme exhaustion that could trigger post partum depression before they even go home. |
| Angie Reynolds | Portland, OR | 2016-06-14 | This is critical information that needs to be disseminated to the public. Put dollars towards educating patients, families, and physicians about this matter. "Fed is best." |
| Ashley Mingo | Surprise, AZ | 2016-06-14 | I believe this would be beneficial to women and infants |
| Ginger Walters | Newfoundland, PA | 2016-06-14 | I was a neonatal nurse for over 25 years, before retiring. I was witnesss to thousands of breastfeeding babies and their mothers. It is true that some moms were unable to supply their babies with nutrition by exclusively breastfeeding in the first days and when supplemented they did better. Many times I was able to assist in lactogenesis II when an electric breastpump was utilized which was used after the baby had breastfed. I also did many home visits and assisted with extreme engorgement when the baby was unable to latch on by utilizing a hospital grade breast pump along with comfort measures for mom. A before and after feeding weight was also utilized to know how much the infant received during the feeding. If mom had no milk to offer then formula was recommended for at least one feeding until mom could supply some breastmilk |
| Priti Golechha | Dublin, CA | 2016-06-14 | I agree. I am a pediatrician. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Tali Gregor | jerusalem, Israel | 2016-06-14 | this lactivist nonsense is killing babies and making mothers' lives miserable for no good reason. shut them up! |
| Megan Sylvies | Rosamond, CA | 2016-06-14 | my child narrowly escaped the happenings in this article. |
| Barbara Power | Newhall, CA | 2016-06-14 | As an Nicu nurse I see babies admitted to the ICU because of the baby friendly initiative. Most of these ready issuing and admissions are due to exclusive breast feeding. Babies are jaundice, dehydrated or weight loss. Very sad. This initiative is neither baby friendly or mommy friendly. Very sad to see this happen when it can be easily avoided with supplementation. |
| Nabanita Debsarkar | Dublin, OH | 2016-06-14 | I believe in the cause |
| Gail Roberts | Stillwater, OK | 2016-06-14 | Babies lives r being destroyed, using the established practices. The evidence is in, debates not needs. Save the children, NOW! |
| Meeca Walker | Chattanooga, TN | 2016-06-14 | I support educating women about the dangers of inadequate milk production with infants who are ebf. |
| Angela McLane | Colorado Springs, CO | 2016-06-14 | I'm signing because my daughter was treated for jaundice after starving the first 4 days of her life (breastfeeding.) I didn't know she was starving. |
| Lonnie Kloc | Buffalo, NY | 2016-06-14 | This is huge! The breast fed only starving children started in late 70's and 80's. From this age group on we have a vast population of adults who are diagnosed with ADD, ADHD, bipolar etc and our prisons are full of heroin addicts and mentally confused , irrational people. I blamed it on soy formula... Hah . Never thinking it might be starving. I did it, took my son into pediatrician first few days, crying constantly, he lost 2.5 lbs they said keep breast feeding. Feeling like a failure but for his own " good" kept going, luckily caved and supplemented from both our exhaustion. I can't even begin to tell you the problems his whole life has been. Wow, time to research what we did to our now adult children. So sad.... |
| Crystal Toffton | Pinetops, NC | 2016-06-14 | It's the right thing to do. |
| ashleigh nichols | North Hollywood, CA | 2016-06-14 | Because I didn't produce milk and I was a crazy mom trying to breastfeed and when weWent to formula, I realized I had been starving my poor baby girl. Fed is best. Mom knows best. |
| Marcia Beassie | Brookhaven, MS | 2016-06-14 | I'm a RN and have seen this senerio over and over! |
| Sarah Shaffer | Hammond, LA | 2016-06-14 | I was a young mother who wanted desperately to solely breast feed. My first child could not latch on due to inverted nipples. I had no choice but to supplement while I pumped. Three weeks after pumping he was able to latch and I continues to supplement. My second child latched on immediately but never was full. I produced lots of milk (4 Oz per breast) but the milk was translucent and not satisfying to him. He nursed around the clock and my mill did not replenish fast enough for his starving body. I had no choice but to switch because I knew he was hungry and my watered milk was not providing him the nutrients he needed. With my third child I supplemented from the time she was born. I had |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | experienced barriers with my first two. My first two children have been diagnosed with neurological disorders...ADHD and tourette syndrome, and learning disabilities. My third child is brilliant and does not suffer from any neurological disorders. I have always said to my peers and even pediatricians I believe the lack of |
| Nathali Lozano | Los Fresnos, TX | 2016-06-14 | I have seen this so many times in my practice as a registered nurse working in the newborn nursery and newborn intensive care units, this piece of information changes everything. |
| Cheryl Hedgepeth | Woodbury Heights, NJ | 2016-06-14 | I am an RN at a baby friendly hospital and I have witnessed all of these factors! |
| Elizabeth Rank | Branford, CT | 2016-06-14 | As a NICU RN I have seen the consequences of exclusively breastfed babies that become severely hypoglycemic and jaundiced requiring multiple medical interventions. I believe these costly, invasive interventions could be avoided with a better feeding protocol in the first few days of life. |
| Rachelle Tuyls | Hazelhurst, WI | 2016-06-14 | I believe in Fed is Best over Breast is Best. Plenty of women do not get the supply they need to adequately feed their child in the early days of life. I breastfed and wanted to exclusively but realized early on that both of my babies were hungrier than what I could provide them. |
| Jenny Belew | El Reno, OK | 2016-06-14 | I'm a Fetal & Infant Mortality Review RN and this is so important to me! |
| Wendy Butler | Alexandria, VA | 2016-06-14 | I'm signing because this happened to me.... Hopefully we will not have long term negative affects, but my daughter lost 13% in the first 2 days, and was severely dehydrated/jaundiced. My milk took 5 days to come in and never fully did. Thankfully her pediatrician required us to supplement immediately, but we don't know if there will be long term effects. I am devastated that we thought we were doing the right and best thing for our daughter and may have caused her irreparable harm. This should absolutely be a part of breastfeeding education. Fed is absolutely best. |
| Jenny Ravenscroft | Nashville, TN | 2016-06-14 | I am a Neonatologist. I have been saying this for years. The trial that we put mothers and babies through in the first few days of life is inexcusable and dangerous! |
| Lisl May | Portland, ME | 2016-06-14 | I feel so lucky to have had doctors that supported the phrase "fed is best." I had a severely low milk supply that would never had been enough to support my baby and my doctors helped me see that MY own disappointment and guilt about not immediately succeeding at breastfeeding didn't matter - getting the baby fed and hydrated is what mattered. |
| Chris Cornetta | Winter Haven, FL | 2016-06-14 | I worked in a level 3 nicu, and have seen many babies readmitted for dehydration and hyperbilirubinemia. I understand breastfeeding is best, but until your milk fully comes in your baby is getting nothing or not enough milk to fill their stomachs. People need to be made aware of this detrimental problem. I now work with doctors in a different facility in florida who make people feel like a horrible mother if they don't breastfeed! I think this is horrible!! |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | This information needs to be published and made readily available to OBs, pediatricians, and mothers. We are seeing increases in autism and other neurological disorders, since this breastfeeding initiative has started. I'm not saying it's all wrong, but we need to use some common sense in feeding our babies!! Doctors need to stop pressuring mothers and making them feel like they're failures if they feed their babies formula. I would love to see mothers beginning to sue their doctors for insufficient information on this, and their child is diagnosed wit |
| Karrie Dunham | Granville, NY | 2016-06-14 | My newborn was diagnosed with jaundice within the first 24 hours after her birth. She remained in the Special Care Unit for two days, only allowed out for feedings every two hours for 45 minutes because I was breastfeeding. My baby wouldn't latch on my left breast so I decided to supplement feed her using a SNS system to make sure she was getting fed. |
| April Murphy | Youngstown, OH | 2016-06-14 | As a NICU Nurse I've seen this first hand. It's a mothers right to exclusively breastfeed but not to starve her child. I firmly believe more education is needed |
| Savanna Rees | Orem, UT | 2016-06-14 | What happened to this lady almost happened to me. My body just doesn't produce milk but every nurse, doctor and lactation consultant guilted me for feeding my baby formula. It made me mad and I wondered why no one could just have some common sense because a baby HAS TO EAT. |
| Ryan Nishihara | Las Vegas, NV | 2016-06-14 | It is difficult to determine if a mother is producing an adequate amount of breast milk shortly after delivery. My motto is "the more they eat, the more they poop" and I educate my patients about the need for bilirubin control with frequent feedings which means to supplement. "Once your breast milk is in, stop the supplementation unless you want to continue". |
| Kristina Schwerin | Davis, CA | 2016-06-14 | I am a physician and I believe that in addition to promoting breastfeeding, the public needs to be reminded that one size does not fit all. My babies both experienced this and thankfully it was recognized before it became a tragedy, but not before I was left with a rather traumatic memory of them having been starved. The well-meaning public health push for breastfeeding does leave some clinicians and moms blind to what is happening before their eyes. |
| Leah Enright | Albuquerque, NM | 2016-06-14 | I am pediatrician who was seen the physical and emotional damage done by discouraging and making mothers feel guilty about supplementing in the quest for breaat feeding promotion. |
| Grace Billiot | Gulfport, MS | 2016-06-14 | I am a concerned mother and citizen of the USA! |
| Jinan Mahmood | Mississauga, Canada | 2016-06-14 | I strongly believe mothers should be educated about supplementing with formula. |
| Faith Simmons | Romney, WV | 2016-06-14 | I wasn't making enough milk switched to formula by day 8 she was crying and I wsdnt making more than oz for her each time i believe she is fine but If i knew i coukd have supplemented andbit wouldnt "ruin" my EBF i would have started formula before day 8. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Robbie Scott | Dallas, TX | 2016-06-14 | I'm a registered nurse working in mom baby for years and often saw babies struggling with the new baby friendly imitative. Reading this article warms my heart and saddens me at the same time. Finally glad to see advocacy for the little mouths that can't speak. |
| Hillary Elins | Alexandria, VA | 2016-06-14 | Breast fed is best, but there needs to be some room for medically necessary compromise. We also need to support Moms and babies in their individual needs. Yes, I'm an OB/GYN. |
| Megan Olso | Tempe, AZ | 2016-06-14 | Survival shouldn't be any harder than it has to be for those who have just been born. |
| Erin Gasior | Phoenix, AZ | 2016-06-14 | I listened to my doctor and my own mom when they said that it was okay for my first baby who was born three weeks early and who was jaundice to have formula after breastfeeding if she wasn't full. She needed it and I needed the peace of mind that she was getting what she needed. |
| Sara Webber | Gainesville, FL | 2016-06-14 | I had a similar experience with my firstborn son. My milk came in several days late and lactation consultants told me my baby was fine and needed more skin to skin contact, despite his worsening jaundice and dry lips. We took him to his pediatrician who took us he had lost over 10% body weight and instructed us to supplement with formula. I am a medical professional, and I feel that the lactation consultants were merely following the terrible guidelines that are now in place. In the end he only needed formula supplementation for one day then breastfeed like a champ once my milk came in. Thank God for our common sense pediatrician! Change the guidelines!!! |
| Jeanie Lafferty | Wilson, NC | 2016-06-14 | I was a nursery nurse for many years. I so agree with what this doctor had to say. I have fought for all those years to feed babies! |
| Heather Uccello | Towaco, NJ | 2016-06-14 | As a nurse and an IBCLC, I agree our most important mission is to feed our babies. Yes, there is a place for formula with some of our breastfeeding population. |
| Mary Gump | Winston-Salem, NC | 2016-06-14 | I am a neonatal nurse and have seen the consequences . |
| Stephanie Herzog | Plano, TX | 2016-06-14 | I am well newborn and Special Care Nursery Registered Nurse who agrees that the current push for exclusive breastfeeding has increased the length of stay for babies due to hyperbilirubinemia and excessive weight loss. |
| Amanda Spersrud | Kenosha, WI | 2016-06-14 | I care about babies more than I care about breastfeeding. |
| Rachel Bryant | Garland, TX | 2016-06-14 | I am a NICU nurse and I see this over and over. Our babies get the glucose they need (because of where they are), but we see mothers with little or no milk production. we also see an increase in re-admits due to hyperbilirubinemia. Sad. |
| Lynda Riley | Baltimore, MD | 2016-06-14 | I don't want more babies becoming neurologically impaired because they were inadvertently starved as newborns while their mothers were trying to breastfeed them. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Shannon Ross | Columbia, Maldives | 2016-06-14 | I am signing because my son was born healthy and was discharged from a hospital after losing 11% of his body weight and no supplemental feeding until day 4 was introduced. 12 hours after coming home with my son we rushed to the ER and he was transported to a hospital that could deal with his dehydration, jaundice, and lethargy. I am signing because after 15 months I still feel like it was all my fault. |
| Tracy Wilton | Cape Coral, FL | 2016-06-14 | The 'baby friendly' hospital initiatives need to stop. |
| Alice Carabajal | Mesilla Park, NM | 2016-06-14 | I'm signing because this also happened to my son, his bilirubin level at 5 days was 25. I am a NICU nurse and knew better. I was lucky that I did supplement but my peers made me feel like a failure. |
| Reenal Patel | Long Island city,, NY | 2016-06-14 | All mothers should have the choice of what they want for their child. Pressure should not be placed on mothers after enduring hours of labor to exclusively breastfeed or room in with their child. My \$22k bill for my child's hospital stay, should then partially go to me, since I provided his meals and took care of him. |
| Mary Adams | Marietta, GA | 2016-06-14 | This could have easily been a story about us. Fortunately, I had proper guidance at the hospital to supplement and a lactation consultant that was able to help us safely get on track with breastfeeding. |
| Kristin McCormick | Lakewood, OH | 2016-06-14 | My baby experienced early signs on dehydration and starvation while waiting for my milk to come in. We were not given the option to supplement until he had lost over 10% of his body weight and went 4 days without eating, all while nursing around the clock. |
| Amanda Halbert | St Charles, MO | 2016-06-14 | all women should be fully informed and never shamed to provide alternative, adequate nutrition to their newborn child. |
| Chelsea Heard | huntsville, AL | 2016-06-14 | FED is best! |
| Rhonda Rickey | Yacolt, WA | 2016-06-14 | I'm signing because as a labor and delivery and post partum RN, the policies at all of the facilities that I've worked at have been to strongly promote breastfeeding and avoid formula, period. Know the info in this report, confirms my worries about newborn nursing and weightless with exclusive breastfeeding and lack of milk production in some mothers. |
| Caroline Gilmore | Vanleer, TN | 2016-06-14 | It is important that the well being of the baby be recognized as the priority not the outcome of successful exclusively breast feeding. Supplementation with formula should not be presented as a "failure" but as a component needed in some incidences to maintain optimum nutrition. |
| Kristina Markiewicz | Auburn, AL | 2016-06-14 | My son has Autism and his birth story sounds very similar to the writer of this article. |
| Nicole Pickle | Lewisburg, TN | 2016-06-14 | In had a similar experience with breast feeding my first born and ended up pumping and supplementing, then eventually moving to formula only.I did have regret and a feeling like I wasn't able to provide for my son because I could not breastfeed. Now as I am |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | pregnant with my second child, he or she will be fed with either and I am not going into this with the set idea of breastfeeding only. Thank you for this article! |
| Susan Krzyzek | Seekonk, MA | 2016-06-14 | My son ended up in the hospital 2 days after discharge with elevated bili levels and was exclusively breast fed. |
| maureen brous | Thorofare, NJ | 2016-06-14 | I am signing because I have worked as an OT with many children with unexplainable delays and history of poor breast feeding. I now ask myself could this have been the cause? If it was then how tragic to think that preventing these delays would have been extremely simple. We need prevent this from occurring. |
| Veronica Weber | Granada Hills, CA | 2016-06-14 | I am a "mother infant" RN who has worked for a hospital that went Baby Friendly while I was there and am currently working for a hospital going through the steps to become Baby Friendly. I have seen too many starving baby's with mothers who have been convinced by nurses, lactation consultants and doctors not to supplement with formula even when it is obvious through weight loss and other factors they are not getting enough to eat. The Baby Friendly initiative has caused a culture of fear of formula supplementation and needs to be changed to protect and promote healthy newborns, whether that includes formula or not. |
| Mary Iwanicki | Arlington, TX | 2016-06-14 | As a Neonatal Intensive Care Nurse I have seen the increase in hospital readmissions for severely dehydrated infants with critically low blood glucose levels. The CDC needs to revise the guidelines . |
| Brittany Schneider | Shawnee, KS | 2016-06-14 | this could have been my son if I had not insisted he wasn't getting enough milk. |
| Sue Mutie | Bakersfield, CA | 2016-06-14 | I'm postpartum RN. And I agree with Above article because I experience this exclusive b/feeding daily yet No attention is paid to mothers who are not able to produce enough colostrum. Many times mother can't produce a drop of colostrum yet they're told milk will come down in day five. formula feeding should be included to prevent this many jaundice/neurological damage relates to b/feeding |
| Sandra Barkye | Cape Coral, FL | 2016-06-14 | This is a real problem which can no longer be ignored by the breast Nazi's. |
| Tracey Gillispie | Chandler, AZ | 2016-06-14 | I am a nurse practitioner who has seen the ramifications of underfed newborns |
| Amanda Hughes | O'Fallon, MO | 2016-06-14 | With both of my children, we went through the WIC program. To say they "encouraged" me to breastfeed would be incorrect. They made me feed inadequate when I mentioned that I supplemented in order to fill my baby's belly. First time around, it caused me to go into deep postpartum depression. The lady in the wic office grabbed my breast and tried to "correct" my technique..... But my technique was NOT the problem. My baby was latching..... She just want getting enough. Second time, I wasn't letting them talk me out of it.... "it" meaning supplementing regularly. The lady made it VERY clear how dissapointed she was that I was making this choice. I was still giving my baby the breast milk.... But it wasn't enough for her. I absolutely |

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| | | | agree that we need to change the way we educate me moms in terms of FEEDING their babies.... And make sure the right things are being taught. |
| Joan Callao | Sacramento, CA | 2016-06-15 | I'm signing because i am a NICU nurse who thru my almost 30 years of experience in this field of nursing, have seen the outcomes and results of poor breastfeeding and have always been an advocate for supplementation for hypoglycemia and poor or no breastmilk production. |
| Marla Murphy | Green City, MO | 2016-06-15 | I feel that breastfeeding isn't monitored enough and these infants do not get enough liquid and they are hungry.mother's are told that they will have enough milk as soon as it comes in but that isn't always true and we don't do any weighing to see |
| Jennifef Prothero | Scranton, PA | 2016-06-15 | I almost had this happen, but had a doctor smart enough to tell me to give the baby formula until my milk came in. |
| Nicole Bowlus | Elmore, OH | 2016-06-15 | I struggled with producing enough milk. After a night of feeding my daughter for 2 1/2 hours straight I woke my husband up and we decided to give her a bottle. She sucked down the formula and was happy and went to sleep. She was 3 days old and I was devastated because I was not able to do the most natural thing a mother can do for their child. I wanted to breastfeed so bad that I continued to try breastfeeding for 3 months. The process was long and exhausting. I would feed on each breast for 20 minutes, then bottle feed and pump for 30 minutes. The most I could pump out of each breast was 1 ounce if I was lucky. This really hits home for me because if it weren't for my husband I would have continued to let my baby go hungry all while thinking I was doing the right thing. |
| sandee caminero | Cleveland, OH | 2016-06-15 | I am a L&D nurse and I work in a NICU. It makes perfect sense. |
| Susan Hastings | Jacksonville, FL | 2016-06-15 | Makes total sense |
| Jennifer henderson | Phoenix, AZ | 2016-06-15 | I was a new mom who wasn't producing enough milk for my baby. I was also told by the Dr and nurses to keep doing what I was doing because my baby was having the correct number of diapers. My baby was always crying and never slept when we were at the hospital. Our first night home we finally broke down and gave him formula and he stopped crying and actually slept. I felt like the worst mom ever and broke down into uncontrollable tears. I just kept thinking over and over, I was starving my baby. So glad we gave him formula before it turned into something more serious. I wish someone had encouraged us to do so at the hospital and offered me a pump to stimulate instead. |
| Rachel Cross | Tulsa, OK | 2016-06-15 | I had a baby with undiagnosed PTT and dysfunctional sucking pattern. She lost more than 10% birth weight within the first few days of life and then gained none until 3 weeks of life when I had to start exclusively pumping when it was realized she could not get milk at the breast. Heartbreaking experience as a first time mom (and pediatric nurse practitioner) who felt totally prepared and educated to breastfeed. Please keep sharing this story!!!! |
| catherine pinkley | Independence, MO | 2016-06-15 | Every baby deserves a chance at the best life possible. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Laura Wallace | Carthage, NY | 2016-06-15 | I did not produce enough and I figured it out on day 3 after using my pump. |
| Shirley Mayadewi | Winnipeg, Canada | 2016-06-15 | It's important to educate mothers that getting their babies enough nutrition that they need is what matters most, not achieving breastfeeding goal. |
| Rebecca McLean | Princeton, NJ | 2016-06-15 | My second child experienced starvation and jaundice and was hospitalized at 10 days old. I was an experienced nursing mother, but somehow had no idea that I was not making milk. It was a horrible experience. |
| Danielle Brent | Bloomfield Hills, MI | 2016-06-15 | My milk did not come in for 5 days and my newborn son was inconsolable and lost 10% of his body weight. The lactation specialist should have told me to use formula by day 2 until my colostrum and milk came in. Instead the nurses kept telling me the baby was fine and was getting what he needed. I feel horrible to this day that I starved my child as long as I did and made him suffer. Thank God my mother intervened and gave him a bottle of formula where he slept 3 hours for the first time in 5 days. I will always follow my instincts from now on instead of listening to so called medical professionals. I will do what is right and humane for my next child. I try to tell my story to other women who think strictly breast feeding is the best choice with low milk production. Supplementing with formula AND breast feeding is not wrong. So many women are misinformed and end up having underweight babies who may develop health issues due to starvation. Thank God my son is a healthy little 5 year old now but he did have some |
| Adam Hanna | Edmond, OK | 2016-06-15 | I'm a neonatologist and I see this issue all the time. |
| Jen Roth RN | Dawson, MN | 2016-06-15 | As an RN I feel we have been given the wrong facts on breast is best. This isn't always the case. A baby requires nutrition whether it be from the breast or bottle. Also I am a mother of 4. |
| Janet Gibson | Middletown, OH | 2016-06-15 | I support breastfeeding but, it is not black and white. Some babies need supplemental feeds and parents are not getting all of the info they need. I work at a baby friendly Hospital in the NICU. Some Lactation consultants go too far. |
| Barbara Davis | Henrico, VA | 2016-06-15 | I was a NICU nurse and infant massage instructor as well as the mother of preemie twins. My milk never came in. My children would have starved if I had not given them formula. I think too many mothers are pressured into exclusive breastfeeding when they are not really interested or have an inadequate supply of milk. |
| Mary Brasher | Laramie, WY | 2016-06-15 | My firstborn child has high functioning autism, and we were sent home from the hospital without any proof that he was getting milk. In fact, he wasn't. |
| Sandra York | Cape Coral, FL | 2016-06-15 | I am a Nurse. I have seen these complications myself. I have seen the babies with profound brain injuries from hypoglycaemia and jaundice. I support breastfeeding, but we must be smart too. |
| Amber Kearbey | Paragould, AR | 2016-06-15 | I have a 10 month old that could have been in this same position. Thankfully my mother informed me she wasn't able to breastfeed |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | so I was definitely more aware. I was able to breastfeed really well, but only for two days. After that I wasn't producing enough and we supplemented with formula. I only knew I wasn't producing enough because I was also pumping in between as told by my lactation consultant to do every so often. So again I thank my son was supplemented and that we were in such great hands at the hospital we were in and their NICU. |
| Denisa Harrison | Norman, OK | 2016-06-15 | I was lucky enough to have a doctor who told me that fed is best and that switching to formula didn't make me a bad mom. No body should have to see their child starve over this fantasy of an idea that their breast milk is all that the baby can have or they are ruining the child's life or feel like they are a failure as a mother bc they couldn't produce enough for their kid. |
| Ariane Dobson | Scottsdale, AZ | 2016-06-15 | I am a NICU nurse who sees patients like this frequently. I don't believe supplementation is as harmful as they try to make us believe and the important part should be that a baby is fed. |
| Elizabeth Buckley | New Braunfels, TX | 2016-06-15 | I am an RN. I worked L/D and mother/ baby for years. The huge push for exclusively bf every infant has been traumatic to many families and made so by physicians, nurses and mostly lactation consultants. Hospital administration is not to be excused!! It's ridiculous! I Mother's and babies were tortured! I am a rebel and do not always do as I am told when I KNOW it is wrong. If I saw an issue I encouraged Mom's to supplement. If labs were even close to abnormal I pressured doctors to allow supplementation. I was reprimanded for this. I continued to advocate for my patients. I saw so much of this articles facts occurring. I NEVER saw supplementation harm a child or breastfeeding capabilities. Please change this inhumane practice! |
| Diana Stein | Ardmore, OK | 2016-06-15 | Every word in this article makes sense. At the birth of my second son 22 yrs ago, one of my best friends was a certified lactating specialist. I chose not to breastfeed either of my children. My friend had a fit, although I chose to bottle feed, because of the severe allergies I have. She said everything everyone else said about breastfeeding & how much better breastfeeding is for newborns. Common sense tells u exactly what this article said--new babies should be supplemented with formula immediately at birth if the baby is not getting enough to eat to prevent what happened to this doctor's child. How stupid have we been now for years & years? |
| Amy Kathleen Smith | Shreveport, LA | 2016-06-15 | I have a son with special needs. Having never known why, this letter is prompting me to revisit his levels and weight since I can recall several of these examples in the first days of his life. |
| E. A. Robertson | Atlanta, GA | 2016-06-15 | Babies brains are fragile and if brain damage can be prevented by supplemental feedings this needs to be taught to mothers! |
| Natasha Reeves | Fremont, CA | 2016-06-15 | My daughter Jordyn |
| julie gildehaus | Union, MO | 2016-06-15 | I have believed for some time that there is too much pressure, fear, and guilt put on new mothers when it comes to breastfeeding, along with a fear of your baby being "over fed". I believe new mothers should be encouraged to, above all, trust their natural |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | instincts. I appreciate the science of this article and hope it makes a difference. |
| Julie Webster | St Petersburg, FL | 2016-06-15 | I believe this wholeheartedly. |
| Susan Marinick | Hot Springs National Park, AR | 2016-06-15 | I witnessed the same situation with my grandson. |
| Keri Ellison | Jacksonville, FL | 2016-06-15 | I had twins and could not supply what they needed. I was shamed at the hospital for not solely breastfeeding when my preemies could not latch properly. |
| Jea Moore | Beaver, WV | 2016-06-15 | I experienced the same but a nurse in the hospital snuck bottles to me against drs instructions, hiding them from sight. She understood my baby was hungry. My grandson cried excessively. At day 3 we offered him a bottle but he produced projectile vomiting with blood so we never did that again. He is 6 now, has ADHD , sensory processing disorder and developmental delays. |
| Pamela J Anderson | Apex, NC | 2016-06-15 | I am a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner and have to deal with this issue on a daily basis at work. Mothers refusing supplementation. Lactation Consultants wrongly reinforcing that supplementation is not needed or make mothers to feel badly should they not want to exclusively breastfeed. I 100% support breastfeeding, I breastfed my two children for a total of three years combined. More importantly, I 100% support feeding babies. |
| Sharon Vanord | Howell, MI | 2016-06-15 | It is important! |
| Sarah Howells | Stafford, VA | 2016-06-15 | I'm a NICU nurse and I want to see a change in this culture |
| Kristin Harbaugh | Raleigh, NC | 2016-06-15 | It is important that people are educated about this. No one should feel guilty about their feeding choices or having to use formula. |
| Micayla Fletcher | Edmond, OK | 2016-06-15 | NICU nurse |
| SyMBER Adlard | Kearney, MO | 2016-06-15 | My milk production was very low after my daughter was born, and I am certain that she was starving in the first few days. I had no support from lactation consultants at all, and was told to supplement as a "last resort". Once I did start supplementing, I felt like a failure. Like my daughter wasn't getting the best I could give her because "breast is best" and formula was portrayed as bad. She struggled to gain weight and was jaundice her first week. Now 7 months old, she is still on the low end of the weight spectrum. She now has a sort of tic or twitch that happens nearly every day which has me concerned. I completely agree with this article. Breast may be more nutritional, but it is not always "best". |
| Jessica Carter | Chicago, IL | 2016-06-15 | This is SO important. The "breast is best" campaign actually causes harm to new mothers and their babies when they refuse to supplement, too afraid that formula supplementation isn't "best", and also to those that formula feed for any reason - they start motherhood already feeling like they're not doing their "best" for their child. PLEASE do anything and everything possible to provide ALL the information about feeding newborns to the public. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Stephanie Torres | Ecorse, MI | 2016-06-15 | I'm signing because I think we need to be informed about things like this our babies lives are at stake here. |
| Shannon Kennedy | Redding, CA | 2016-06-15 | My first child suffered jaundice and low blood sugar because I was taught by lactation experts to avoid supplementation at all costs. He was inconsolable our first 24 hours home. No mother should be instructed to allow her child to suffer. |
| Carrie Rodriguez | New Braunfels, TX | 2016-06-15 | I am a NICU RN who sees this situation on a regular basis. The BFI was at my previous hospital and is now being pushed at the new hospital I am at. The BFI is a ridiculous, over-stepping and used to degrade and incite fears in new moms over the "dangers" of supplementation. Some moms don't get their milk in for almost 5 days!!! I get to start IVs on these sad, hungry babies and watch them in the hospital under phototherapy screaming from having to stay unclothed and exposed. It just seems cruel and idiotic. "BFI laws" are purchased by hospitals for "accreditation"- it is a waste of money that could be better spent . I also see mommas at 3am exhausted in the first couple of days post-partum begging for formula oly to be told that it is bad(so hospital adheres to the exclusive breastfeeding plan). Many unhappy moms :(|
| Julie Doty | Belmont, OH | 2016-06-15 | There is no sense in starving babies |
| Mary Joan Simon | Seal Rock, OR | 2016-06-15 | I want infants to be safe, and healthy. |
| Barbara Rainey | Redding, CA | 2016-06-15 | I'm signing because I work with Nicu babies and see this every day. |
| Misty Pidcock | Riverton, UT | 2016-06-15 | Because it's the right thing to do! |
| Christa Heffernan | Saint Paul, MN | 2016-06-15 | I am a nurse who cares for children and adults with developmental disabilities. |
| Stephanie Guzman | Mount Pleasant, TX | 2016-06-15 | After reading the article, I believe my second child was affected . |
| Laura Amos | New Palestine, IN | 2016-06-15 | I had insufficient milk supply for all 3 of my children. My oldest lost the most weight before I realized it was insufficient milk supply not my failure to breastfeed correctly! My oldest has ADHD and thankfully I followed up with great lactation consultants who encouraged supplementation or he would have much worse damage! |
| Jennifer Nash | Stuart, FL | 2016-06-15 | I was told to supplement my breastfed baby by my pediatrician at just one day old due to his large loss of birth weight and his inability to stay awake during a feeding. It turns out i just wasn't producing very much milk. He wasn't getting enough to eat and this made him lethargic and even less able to eat. It was a vicious cycle that was only broken when we began to supplement and fill his little belly. And although every fiber of my being said it was ok to feed my child whatever he needed to survive and flourish, all the breastfeeding consultants, internet sites, and social media told me that even a little formula would sabotage my chances of ever exclusively breastfeeding (something i so desperately wanted). After reading this story i was horrified to realize all the things that could have gone wrong for us if i had refused to supplement. I second guessed every ounce of formula i fed my son in those first few |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | weeks and months but i wouldn't have if i'd been aware of all the possible lifelong damage i was |
| Mary Collins | Crowley, TX | 2016-06-15 | I agree... Fed IS best... And that feeding doesn't have to come from a breast. A hungry baby just wants to EAT. |
| Valerie Richardson | Radcliff, KY | 2016-06-15 | This was my issue. My son was born via emergency C-section at 6.7lbs and was said to have jaundice with bilirubin levels of 17. He did not eat for two days and rapidly lost weight. Every two hours it was feeding time and by the time he latched on for a few minutes, they were coming to get him and take him back to the blue light unit. He stayed in the hospital 3 weeks before we could leave. |
| Lynne Connelly | Frisco, TX | 2016-06-15 | I believe fed is best. !!! |
| Lauren Martin | Saint Louis, MO | 2016-06-15 | I'm signing for Charlotte |
| Carolyn Walton | Dundalk, MD | 2016-06-15 | I want to help raise awareness! |
| Delilah Adams | Lone Star, TX | 2016-06-15 | I also was a breastfeeding mom and now work in the WIC program which wrongfully encourages moms to never give a bottle. |
| Jennifer Alford, Ph.D. | Sacramento, CA | 2016-06-15 | I am a pediatric neuropsychologist and mother of two babies who needed supplementation with formula to ensure they thrived with low milk production and difficulty with latching. As a neuropsychologist, I work with children with neurodevelopmental concerns and know that intervention at critical period is essential for long term outcomes. |
| Jewell Arbour | Narragansett, RI | 2016-06-15 | Way too important not to be addressed!!! |
| Leslie Mora | Tampa, FL | 2016-06-15 | As a newborn admission nurse at one of the busiest maternity hospital in Florida, I too often see moms who have been convinced that any type of supplementation is poison to her child. Please help stop this! |
| jaclyn Freedman | Phoenix, AZ | 2016-06-15 | I'm signing because #fedisbest |
| Patti Cornell-Nelson | Baltimore, MD | 2016-06-15 | If we cannot protect our babies, who will. |
| Marlene Bullock | Phoenix, AZ | 2016-06-15 | I'm a NICU nurse and am sick of the nazi Lactation consultants. and getting dehydrated breast only babies and crying guilt ridden moms.. |
| Mary Evans | Ogden, UT | 2016-06-15 | I am a nurse practitioner and a mother of 5. I have witnessed educated women afraid to give their baby a bottle. I had a wonderful mother who proclaimed "Hogwash" to such nonsense of "Ruining breastfeeding". My healthy children were given bottles of formula in the first days of life, then went on to successfully breast feed.Women need their doctors and healthcare workers to stop bullying them into starving their babies. |
| Regina Calabro | Edgewood, NM | 2016-06-15 | I have a very similar story. My let down of milk was delayed until day 7 of birth. We were send home at day 4 with almost no diapers to show as evidence of proper feeding and given no information on supplementation and when it may be necessary. My baby |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | latched and breastfed constantly throughout the first four days of life. After we went through an entire night at home of no diaper and constant attempted feeding we took our baby back to the hospital and were admitted to NICU due to dehydration, low heart rate, and to rule out meningitis. Even at the pediatric ER, I had a lactation nurse work with feeding my baby and tell me formula was not necessary, while we were in the process of having our baby diagnosed with dehydration! After four more days in NICU with my daughter constantly tested and poked and checked for every condition imaginable, I was very angry that we had not supplemented. While in NICU she was finally fed formula and had no problems breastfeeding after that. Now that I have milk we exclusive! |
| Leslie Conlon | London, Canada | 2016-06-15 | I am a Registered Nurse and first-time mother who experienced the fear of inadequate breastmilk supply due the use of formula, but chose to supplement because my little boy seemed hungry. After nearly six months of exclusive breastfeeding I continue to have an excellent supply and my son and I have a wonderful breastfeeding relationship. We are starting solids, but bringing him to the breast while supplementing with formula appropriately was the first step in feeding my little boy. Please help protect our babies rather than breastfeeding itself. |
| Danielle Allen | Issaquah, WA | 2016-06-15 | As a NICU nurse, I completely agree. This happens & it is inappropriate to guilt mothers into breastfeeding exclusively. I give mothers "permission" to not breastfeed when it is clearly not working (whatever reason). |
| Kathleen Huck | Scottsdale, AZ | 2016-06-15 | Fed is better |
| Martha Burnet | Pleasant Shade, TN | 2016-06-15 | As an RN for years, I was a big supporter of LaLeche League who did massive amounts of research regarding breast feeding. I am appalled at the extremism demonstrated these days regarding breast feeding. Yes, it is better for the baby and you, but don't be ignorant about it to the point that your baby is harmed. This kind of extremism turns women off who are questionable for whatever reasons regarding their ability to breast feed and their personal feelings regarding body exposure. Are we really willing to sacrifice our children to support our fanaticism? I'm not! Why must we go fanatically overboard with everything?! Feed those babies! Throughout history there were wet nurses (not the baby's mom) and finger tits (milk poured into the finger of a glove and the baby would suck on it to get fed). How many thousands of years have people been around? How many awesomely ingenious ideas have they developed? Let's use some common sense folks! These babies are our future. Let's not screw it up! |
| Martha Friesinger | Wilmington, NC | 2016-06-15 | I did this to my first born who developed jaundice, weight loss and has ADHD. |
| Susan Mattick | Cincinnati, OH | 2016-06-15 | I didn't produce enough milk either and felt pressured not to supplement my daughter. She has been diagnosed with sensory processing issues and adhd. |
| Lori Wood | Seattle, WA | 2016-06-16 | It is just common sense |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Susan Sanders | Allentown, PA | 2016-06-16 | I'm signing because I'm a NICU nurse and have been saying this all along. We see this all the time. Baby-Friendly guidelines can be dangerous!! |
| shira brym | Toronto, Canada | 2016-06-16 | My daughter dropped to 5.5 lbs on her third day of life. I was so desperate to breastfeed exclusively that I put off supplementing for far longer than I should have. |
| Kathy Haynes | Hendersonville, NC | 2016-06-16 | I am a therapist that works with these children tha develop neurological problems as the result of the condition described by this doctor. More education needs to happen with moms and doctors caring for these babies. |
| Merry Powers | Mechanicsburg, OH | 2016-06-16 | I'm signing because I am a neonatal ICU Registered Nurse and believe the current practices on breastfeeding should be closely examined. |
| Heather Dewey | Port Orange, FL | 2016-06-16 | I am a nursery nurse whom hears "hungry" babies on a almost nightly occurrence. Being the mother of three children of my own, one whom suffers from an undiagnosed learning disability and happens to be the child I exclusively breastfed for the longest (4 months) and was told she had "colic" when she cried constantly during that time frame. When I went back to work, my breast milk supply dropped quickly and had to start supplementing with formula as well and within a week, her "colic" was gone. I never related the two but now I am definitely thinking differently. My other two children were pretty much fed breast and bottle from day one and neither have an issue with developmental delays in any way. I had all of my children well before becoming a nurse and now it is my duty to ensure that the infants that I take care of get the best care possible. |
| Angela Manning | Corpus Christi, TX | 2016-06-16 | I'm a baby nurse, and I've personally witnessed this sad outcome for many helpless babies. |
| Mich Kess | Dobbs Ferry, NY | 2016-06-16 | After supplementing my daughter and struggling with it, I now know and believe fed is best. |
| Carolyn Johnson | Dallas, TX | 2016-06-16 | Because fed is best and hospitals should be "mommy friendly" too. |
| Celia Anthony | Birmingham, AL | 2016-06-16 | I am a special education teacher & concerned over our growing numbers |
| Christie Stormer | Scottsdale, AZ | 2016-06-16 | My son and I fell victim to the "Breast is Best". He was hospitalized for 2 days for severe dehydration and jaundice. |
| michele sands | White House, TN | 2016-06-16 | I am a nicu nurse, and feel mothers are made to feel they are bad mothers if they do not exclusively breastfeed too often |
| Michelle Lorenc | Novi, MI | 2016-06-16 | As an RN in a birthing unit, we are told by many pediatricians we are not allowed to recommend supplementation. So difficult after listening to a hungry newborn scream for hours. |
| Lindsey Riddle | Corpus Christi, TX | 2016-06-16 | I work with babies and have discovered this is a recurring problem, with lack of education, and a need for change. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Raelene Smith | Land O Lakes, FL | 2016-06-16 | I'm signing because this almost happened to me. The hospital used bullying tactics to coerce me into starving my baby all under the guise of "doing the best for my baby". If it weren't for my husband sticking a bottle into my son's mouth, he could have had severe consequences. |
| Jennifer Loupus | Lafayette, LA | 2016-06-16 | Of all the facts backing this up & it is an entirely doable and easy solution to a terribly uneducated current practice |
| Crystal Davison | Richland, WA | 2016-06-16 | I want my grand babies to be healthy! |
| Christy Clark | Medford, OR | 2016-06-16 | Every mom is different. Every baby is different. There is no "one way" to be a good parent. |
| Stephanie Willmore | Orem, UT | 2016-06-16 | As the mother of a newborn child, I have been surprised at the lack of information available about supplementation. My newborn has been fussy during the night since he was born and I gave him simethecone because I thought it was gas. Once I did a follow up appointment I realized he wasn't gaining enough weight. Once I started pumping and giving him more and more milk he seemed to calm down. Whenever I only breastfeed, however, he can latch for almost an hour and still be fussy. I felt immense pressure and guilt to keep trying although I an famished and extremely tired myself. I am now going to supplement with no shame and I hope a more balanced approached can be taken by hospitals. I really hope I haven't hurt my baby. |
| N A | Plainfield, IN | 2016-06-16 | I'm signing because these concerns with exclusively breastfeeding are not mentioned to new moms and because women should be taught about supplementation with formula without the guilt and fear that they will fail at breastfeeding. We can do both! |
| Audrey Kemp | Edmond, OK | 2016-06-16 | FED IS BEST! |
| Mary Chapman | Cranston, RI | 2016-06-16 | I am a LDR nurse and I want all my parents to have the information they need to have a healthy child. |
| Mariann Abbonizio | harpers ferry, WV | 2016-06-16 | Having been denied formula at the hospital after my third child was born and was having issues latching on and knowing that my previous two also had similar issues, I'm appalled at the ridiculous pressure put on moms (particularly new moms who are made to feel inadequate) to breastfeed. Just feed your babies, the breast is not the best for all children. |
| Nohemi Godoy | Los Fresnos, TX | 2016-06-16 | I believe it is important to attack from the root all this new neurological problems children nowadays have. If in fact it can be prevented from the first days of birth simply by making sure baby is eating then by all means we should all work together to prevent accidental starvation that can prevent newborn brain injury. |
| JACKIE MANNING | MIDLAND, TX | 2016-06-16 | EVERY life matters ,,, |
| Woody Coker | Lexington, SC | 2016-06-16 | I am a physician, and I know without doubt this is what occurred to my son. His case is exactly the same. My wife was pressured to breastfeed (even by me). |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Jennifer Bush | Helena, AL | 2016-06-16 | It's important for parents to be educated about all of their feeding options and to fully understand that fed is best without any stigma associated with how that child is fed. |
| Rachel Jones | Atlanta, GA | 2016-06-16 | I had no idea this was such a danger, and I agree with the author of this article that the education being given to first-time moms and dads out there needs to be altered to include some cautions about insufficient breastfeeding in the first few days of life! |
| Rebecca Hernandez | Herndon, VA | 2016-06-16 | My baby went with a near empty tummy for far too long without me or his father knowing the dangers of this, or our options. There is no need in this age, in this country for a newborn to go 3 or 4 days without eating. It's disgraceful and scary. I know other mothers whom this has also happened. We need to focus on the child's needs and respond appropriately. |
| Cynthia Burnett | Fulshear, TX | 2016-06-16 | Misinformation about breastfeeding must be corrected. |
| Anne-Marie Calder | Land O' Lakes, FL | 2016-06-16 | I'm a neonatal ICU nurse at a Baby-Friendly hospital, and since obtaining BFHI certification I have seen a marked increase in NICU admissions for hypoglycemia and hyperbilirubinemia. Most, if not all, of these ICU stays could have been avoided with judicious supplementation. Instead we have mothers who are so upset at the thought that they were starving their infants that they go home swearing not to breastfeed despite all the encouragement they receive from nursing staff, the medical team, and our lactation consultants. Breastfeeding should never be presented as all-or-nothing. Formula is not the enemy. Fed is best! |
| Stacey Stote | Stamford, CT | 2016-06-16 | It's the story told from another viewpoint. Needs to be shared. |
| Mary Puchalski | Lombard, IL | 2016-06-16 | I'm signing because as a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner I have been forced (by my organization) to promote exclusive breastfeeding with the "Breastfeeding Friendly" agenda. This is another example of agendas/treatments we impose on newborn practice without evaluating thoroughly the potential for harm. It is akin to "tolerance" for bilirubin levels we saw in the 90s, which resulted in hundreds of infant neurologically devastated from kernicterus! Please pay attention - we need your support!! |
| Erika Hunter | Pekin, IL | 2016-06-16 | I am signing this because I am a pediatrician and I struggle with convincing lactation consultants and parents to supplement infants with formula even when mom does not have an adequate milk supply and infants are not gaining enough weight or losing too much weight. I believe that Fed is Best also. |
| Gavin Smith | Saint Johns, FL | 2016-06-16 | This issue is one of great importance. As a father of a child recently born with transient hypoglycemia in the first 24 hours after birth that was associated IUGR, this hits close to home. My wife and I are both nurses and have been well educated on the benefits of breastfeedings, however I had no knowledge of it's potential shortcomings and risks. We were recommended supplementation with high calorie formula about 9 hours after birth when the hypoglycemia persisted and I am glad that we did. I realize now that this often does not happen and likely would not have if we wished to remain more diligent in our pursuit of breastfeeding only |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | as many parents are with the best intentions (it was recommended only if we were willing to, not as something absolutely necessary). When discharged, we planned to only breastfeed and were given no education on the possibility of inadequate feeds via breastfeeding. We were told that since the hypoglycemia had resolved, it should no longer be an issue and that formula should no lon |
| Stefanie Mockridge | Richmond Hill, Canada | 2016-06-16 | I was induced at 38 wks and didn't start producing until day 4 or 5. I was encouraged by my hospital to supplement with formula after each feeding until my milk came in. We fed our LO formula with a little medicine cup--if you've ever seen newborns drink liquids this way, you know how awesome it is. He was our little birdy. It was so cute. I never would've known to do that, though, without the encouragement from the hospital. We had no issues with breastfeeding once my milk came in. |
| Lizette Rodriguez Rivas | San Antonio, TX | 2016-06-16 | I'm signing this petition because my son suffered from hyperbilirubinemia after being exclusively breast fed. A lactation consultant never came to visit me during my hospital stay post birth. Everyone assumed I knew it all because I am a pediatric nurse practitioner. I would tell the staff to treat, talk, and teach me as if I had no education or medical background. I am a first time mom and there are no books to prepare you for this role. We were sent home on day 2 of my child's life. I did have an eventful vaginal delivery and I do have quite a bit of pre-existing medical conditions. My pregnancy was normal despite my medical issues and very well monitored. My breast milk did not come in till day 4 of my sons life but by then I had noticed the jaundice. His first follow up was on day 5 of life and he had lost 12% of his birth weight and his bilirubin was 18 initially. When we arrived at the hospital for the admission and his bilirubin was rechecked it was 22. They started an IV and gave him maintenance fluid |
| Sally Spelbring | Lawrenceville, GA | 2016-06-16 | I BREAST FED BOTH KIDS |
| Lee Haun | Saratoga Springs, UT | 2016-06-16 | I am a first time mom. My 1 month old baby is solely breastfed. I do produce enough for her. I don't want people I love and care about to be misinformed about how they can keep their babies happy and healthy. |
| Tammy Thornton | Kingston, OH | 2016-06-16 | Proper knowledge of breastfeeding and supplementation is vital to the health and survival of all newborn babies. This article provides evidence. |
| Jessica Mota | Gaston, SC | 2016-06-16 | Because I'm a postpartum/mother baby nurse and I feel something needs to change. |
| Alyssa Guthrie | Edmonton, Canada | 2016-06-16 | I can relate to this - some changes need to be made because the pressure to breastfeed on the mother, takes way too much precedence right now. |
| Sha Jackson | Corpus Christi, TX | 2016-06-16 | I am a nursery nurse & totally agree with this information. So often I hear, "I feel like I'm starving my baby." And, it very well may be true! Where I work we are supposed to promote exclusive breastfeeding--no supplementation! Nipple confusion! I've been a nurse for 25 years & it is my opinion that a baby will either breastfeed or |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | not, regardless of what nipple they have been exposed to. I also think that a mother wanting to supplement is perfectly fine & maybe her instinct to do so is right on target. I teach them to put baby to breast with each feeding & afterwards offer them a bottle. If mom is producing sufficiently, the baby will not want a bottle afterwards. Of course, if she's not producing, the baby still stimulates milk production & gets nutrition from the formula until mom's milk is available. Our hospital actually keeps up with exclusive breastfeeding percentages & we are constantly pushed to increase that number & strongly discouraged against bottle feeding or any supplementation. May |
| Carla Monti | Boca Raton, FL | 2016-06-16 | I firmly believe that FED IS BEST! |
| Taryn Cornelius | Airmont, NY | 2016-06-16 | I am a RN, with 35 yrs NICU experience and 8yrs as an IBCLC |
| Kaye Faucett | South Jordan, UT | 2016-06-16 | I had the same issue when trying to breastfeed. Despite trying everything I did not have enough milk. I had 9 lb babies also. I had to supplement the entire time. It was a horrible feeling to not be able to successfully feed my children. I was made to feel "less than" by others. |
| Melinda Robinson | Waco, TX | 2016-06-16 | I am a RN in a mother baby unit and have witnessed this with my own eyes. We have had babies with incessant crying, low blood sugars, and hyperbilirunemia and are instructed (unless doctors ordered) to continue to breast feed. That breast feeding will bring up blood sugar faster and more efficiently, that breastfeeding will bring down bilirubin levels, and that we should not be concerned with anything less than a 10 percent weight loss. We are told to teach the parents breast is best. Even when our own judgement tells us a bottle would help the mother and the baby. |
| Lane Brown | Birmingham, AL | 2016-06-16 | I want medical professionals to stop pressuring moms into solely breastfeeding their babies. Supplementing is necessary with some moms and they shouldn't feel guilty about that! |
| Cathy Heinzinger | Riverside, IL | 2016-06-16 | I'm a nicu nurse and seen way to many babies done in by baby friendly!!!! |
| Lindsay Uppling | Carpentersville, IL | 2016-06-17 | My milk didn't come for 4 days. My baby didn't have any dirty diapers. Thank God my pediatrician told me to supplement. |
| arleen willis | Suffern, NY | 2016-06-17 | Arleen Willis |
| Donna Reagan | New City, NY | 2016-06-17 | I work directly with newborn babies. We are encouraged to limit any formula per NY state. These babies do appear to be hungry. I would feel better if it wasnt such a crime to give these babies with borderline glucose and are jaundice, formula. Appears Hospital is penalized if babies are not strictly breastfed |
| Adtienne Kish | Leesburg, VA | 2016-06-17 | My newborn developed severe jaundice due to insufficient feeding in the hospital because we'd been taught that 'breast is best' and the mothers body will naturally provide for the child. She was put in a phototherapy machine for 2.5 days. This could have been prevented if the nursing staff helped ensure she was being fed enough. As first one parents we were essentially dropped in a room |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | and left to fend for ourselves. I agree that measures need to be taken to ensure proper feeding of newborns during those crucial first days, including developing a feeding plan to ensure proper nutrition. |
| Julie Gabel | Elgin, IL | 2016-06-17 | More women need to be aware of this. |
| Sydney Alexander | Kalamazoo, MI | 2016-06-17 | I have experienced this first hand. Unintentionally starving my newborn and walking a fine line of hypoglycemia, lethargy & jaundice due to lack of being informed and led to believe I could provide solely on my own!! This information is crucial & needs to be shared with mothers everywhere. |
| Denise Beatty | Fayetteville, PA | 2016-06-17 | I worked as a NICU RN for 20 yrs and saw 1st hand "starving" , hypoglycemic, hyperbili, babies, thankfully getting the medical intervention needed, hopefully not too late. |
| Allison Duggan | Cordova, TN | 2016-06-17 | I'm signing because I support breastfeeding. I'd like to support mothers and their children by learning more about the risks associated with breastfeeding. I am grateful to this mother who has shared what she knows. |
| Theresa Bender | Papillion, NE | 2016-06-17 | Going through the same situation. Breast IS best, but sometimes it's not enough. I hate the word "exclusively." What's wrong with a little extra calories from formula as long as baby is getting the antibodies from breast milk?? |
| Mary Seideman | Penn Valley, PA | 2016-06-17 | I am a pediatrician and immunologist who believes the pressure for mothers to exclusively breastfeed is preventing people from objectively making the right choices to keep both mother and child happy and healthy. The benefits of breastfeeding are primarily conjecture, yet the stress on women is immense. Formula is being denied to babies in hospitals. The pendulum has swung too far. |
| BARBARA Morgan | Tampa, FL | 2016-06-17 | to protect babies and their unknowing, well intending parents from a lifetime of suffering |
| Brendq Harpe | Manassas, VA | 2016-06-17 | I am a registered nurse with 30+ years experience working in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Since the baby friendly breast-feeding initiative was instituted at two different hospitals that I have worked at, I have seen a sharp increase in adverse events where newborns had to be rushed in to our NICU due to hypoglycemia or dehydration. I wholeheartedly agree with all the points this physician/mother highlighted in the previous article. My own daughter was starving her newborn-not realizing it of course, and caught me feeding him formula a couple times during his first month of life, and was horrified and very very angry at me. She would not even listen to me..... a nurse with 30 years of experience working with newborns in the hospital.....when I would tell her that her baby was malnourished. She finally realized when he was one month old, and was still below his birthweight that she was actually starving her newborn. And it was also not until that time that the pediatrician advised her to suppl |
| Brenda Johnson | Eagle Point, OR | 2016-06-17 | As a NICU RN I see these "failure to thrive" infants come back in, half DEAD. I've been a nurse for over 25 years and have seen this |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | problem increase with the move to "baby friendly" As a mother and grandmother, I've heard those cries of hunger...I see these babies and am told to tell the mother not to supplement, then I see them in the NICU with hypoglycemia, hyperbilirubinemia, and dehydration....and the magic of a bottle...Truth be told, I have "secretly" taken a baby to the nursery to "give the mom a break from the crying", and gave it a bottle...it invariably wolf's it down and sleeps....I'm glad I did it...many times... |
| jessica kelley | Virginia Beach, VA | 2016-06-17 | My son was not supplemented, developed jaundice, and suffers from adhd and speech delays |
| Dimple Amin | Evansville, IN | 2016-06-17 | I do not support the baby friendly initiative and feel the push to force mom's to exclusively breastfeed when there are issues in adequately doing so is causing more harm to mother's and babies. |
| Leslie Treece | Cookeville, TN | 2016-06-17 | I am a pediatrician and I agree with the above!! |
| Elizabeth Estersohn | Fair Lawn, NJ | 2016-06-17 | I'm signing because the stigma around not having enough milk needs to go away. |
| Jennifer Sloan | Anna, TX | 2016-06-17 | As a Neonatal Intensive Care Nurse with 14 years of experience in the field, I am in complete agreement with the author of this petition. Common sense is being pushed aside in many areas in obstetrics and newborn care. Safety is no longer the priority and it repeatedly puts the newborn at risk. I urge you to look more closely at the possible dangers that silly initiatives, such as the Baby Friendly designation, pose to newborn babies. I believe the medical community is losing sight of the idea that a healthy mom and baby should be the number one goal of maternal - newborn care. |
| casie parker | Dalton, GA | 2016-06-17 | I struggled with breastfeeding and ended up supplementing with formula those first 10 days. Glad I followed my instincts! |
| Sheryl Gamboa | Quezon City, Philippines | 2016-06-17 | I also feel the same way,. |
| smitha sonni | Denver, CO | 2016-06-17 | I'm signing this because formula saved my jaundiced, preterm baby. |
| Lynn Christianson | Lebanon, OH | 2016-06-17 | I work as a post partum nurse and I see babies starving because the parent has an idea in their head that formula is poison to the baby, and when their babies are screaming because they are starving, the mom refuses to breastfeed on demand, yet also refuses to give any type of supplement. It's sad, and totally unnecessary to put a baby through this. |
| Marife Aguilar | Mandaluyong, Philippines | 2016-06-17 | Mothers deserve to know. We are told that we CAN produce enough breastmilk. Exclusively breastfed my baby during the first 4 days until i noticed her relentless crying everytime i feed her and her skin having wrinkles. We deserve the truth about breastfeeding |
| Mary Noonan | Norwalk, CT | 2016-06-17 | Formula feeding and supplements are not the enemy!!! Don't shame mothers into exclusively breast feeding if they are not able. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Rebecca Moore | Houston, TX | 2016-06-17 | I'm a Neonatal NICU nurse and I see babies admitted to ICU simply because of unsafe feeding practice such as strictly being breastfed |
| Vicky Elkins | Maricopa, AZ | 2016-06-17 | As a postpartum nurse I understand this and see this happening at the facility where I work. As a Mom who wanted to breast feed only, I was informed by my Mom that "your baby is hungry Feed him!" Thank god for Grandmothers who know! |
| Brenda Bos | Crossville, TN | 2016-06-17 | Very concerned about a problem that is preventable! |
| Kim Sanchez | Richland, WA | 2016-06-17 | I am a labor and delivery and postpartum nurse. One of our core measures is exclusive breastfeeding. I see moms who cry in frustration as their poor newborn frantically cries out in hunger. |
| Amy Hellinga | Redondo Beach, CA | 2016-06-17 | The stigma and guilt associated with giving formula instead of breast milk sent me into PPD when my milk supply was inefficient. FED is BEST! |
| Heather Hynds | Katy, TX | 2016-06-17 | I'm signing because I believe there are risks associated with exclusive breastfeeding and that all Mom's should receive the full story to make an educated decision for their baby. |
| Brittney Burton | Madison, AL | 2016-06-17 | I believe so many hospitals and other parents are putting undue stress on new moms to exclusively breast feed, so much that these moms feel ashamed if they even consider giving their baby formula or wanting to pump to even check their milk production. My best friend just had a baby and her lactation nurse told her that she should continue to let the baby latch when she cried..even when she was doing so every hour. Most likely, the baby wasn't getting any milk but the lactation specialist never recommended my friend pump to even check her flow because "giving her a bottle will hinder her need to latch in the future" |
| Cynthia Guerrieri | Rochester, MI | 2016-06-17 | I believe we need to feed our babies properly more than we need to Breast Feed properly |
| Marlene Covin | McKinney, TX | 2016-06-17 | As a NBN/NICU nurse I see the things stated in this article everyday and couldn't agree more!! We have lost the mindset of what's safest for the infant and not government initiatives! I am pro breastfeeding but supplementation is NOT the enemy! |
| Editha Orlino-Oliva | Redding, CA | 2016-06-17 | I believe in informing the public this important data regarding newborn feeding and the danger of dehydration, starvation and hyperbilirubinemia in newborns |
| Susan Jones RN | Saint Charles, IL | 2016-06-17 | I am an RN and have been felt very uncomfortable with the Baby Friendly protocol |
| Amy Moskun | Long Beach, CA | 2016-06-17 | Babies need fed. How is not important! |
| Ruth Bowman | Redding, CA | 2016-06-17 | I'm signing this because I have experienced this with some patients also. |
| Kelly Campbell | Chandler, AZ | 2016-06-17 | I am a Registered Nurse with 16 years of taking care of newborns in both NICUs and newborn nursery school/couplet care. Too often |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | I see babies begging/crying to be fed who are "jittery" and only "supplemented" with drops to 5 mls of expressed breast milk. It's time we start educating parents on the WHOLE picture. Exclusive breast feeding isn't right for every baby every time. |
| kristen lewis | westhoff, TX | 2016-06-17 | I too did not produce breast milk. The hospital would not let me take home my son till I could feed baby right, get him to latch on. Later I found out at home that I wasn't producing any milk. |
| Tania Dantas | Saint Paul, MN | 2016-06-17 | I was not informed of the possibility of insufficient breast milk. I felt like a failure when my 6.5 lb son lost 11oz in the first three days. Thankfully my dr said to supplement and we started right away. This should not happen to anyone and babies shouldn't starve bc "breast is best" makes women feel that is the only way to feed their baby. My son has eating issues and motor delays. I never questioned why until I read this letter. Now I wonder why. |
| Sara Iobst | Miami, FL | 2016-06-17 | My daughter developed neonatal jaundice and was hospitalized for phototherapy - my milk production was also delayed and supplementation was discouraged by lactation consultants. Her hospitalization potentially could have been avoided with adequate feeding/hydration. |
| Elena Bush | Modesto, CA | 2016-06-17 | I'm lucky my son didn't suffer this fate. He easily could have, with the amount of misinformation and pressure out on me in the hospital as he lost weight. |
| Natalie Shipman | Las Vegas, NV | 2016-06-17 | My kids are healthy and bottlefed. |
| Andrea Varner | Jacksonville, FL | 2016-06-18 | More information needs to be provided to parents in those critical first few days of their baby's life. Awareness needs to be raised about the dangers of hypoglycemia. I feel that the current recommendations do not go far enough in protecting newborns and that parents are being given a false sense of reassurance by instructing them to focus so much on wet diaper count only. This is dangerous and it needs to stop. |
| Kathy Kauffman | Armstrong, MO | 2016-06-18 | I am a Labor nurse and I see this all the time. Babies are starving. Some hospitals (Baby Friendly) make parents have a Dr. Order to feed formula even if they request it. I think it's sad how this health care has changed to where hospitals get kick backs to go baby friendly. Wrong if you ask me. I breastfed but didn't starve my kids. I supplemented until my milk came in. |
| Zoe Harrington | Bakersfield, CA | 2016-06-18 | I have two adopted grandchildren that have developmental problems that I believe their biological mother starved them in infancy. |
| Jill Wilson | Englewood, OH | 2016-06-18 | I am a nursing assistant in a NICU and on Motherbaby, I have seen babies who cry constantly after breastfeeding over and over and if we keep taking them back to mom she finally will allow a supplemental feed and they both do better, or they do not allow it and baby's glucose drops and bili rises. I see a lot of bounce back babies for poor feeds and high bilirubin in the NICU. Lactation tells them the baby's stomach is the size of a bead and not to supplement but the nurse line gets lots of concerned calls from |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | newly discharged parents whose baby will not feed, won't stop fussing or has not wet for a day of so. It has definitely gotten worse in the last 10 years with the breastfeeding is best programs. I am not a fan of starving a new baby. |
| susan emberley | Kingston, Canada | 2016-06-18 | This happened to my granddaughter! Daughter had to scream at doctors. Diagnosed high functioning autism. Stupidity! |
| Kathleen King Materio | Scranton, PA | 2016-06-18 | I went through the exact same thing with my first child. I remember breaking down in tears because I knew she wasn't getting anything in the hospital and the nurses were appalled that I would even consider formula until mine came in. I felt embarrassed and canned the thought and struggled on for another few days. She dropped a pound and a half and developed jaundice. She was recently diagnosed with ADHD and is in the process of being tested for sensory processing disorder. |
| Sonia Matthews | Phnom Penh, Cambodia | 2016-06-18 | New mothers need to know this information. |
| Karen Holmes | Castle Hayne, NC | 2016-06-18 | I want women to be aware of this |
| Carolyn Riddle | Corpus Christi, TX | 2016-06-18 | I'm an advocate for breastfeeding. However, it's even more important for a baby to have proper nourishment. It's about health, not medium... |
| Nancy Watson | Lexington, SC | 2016-06-18 | I'm a NICU nurse who has seen too many mothers pushed to breastfeed and made to feed on demand in couplet care. Exclusive breastfeeding is great if and only when you know mother is producing sufficient amounts of milk. Easiest solution is to have mothers pump as well as breastfeed and if milk production isn't sufficient supplement with formula. No baby should have to suffer because of idiotic beliefs that all mothers produce the same and at the same rate. |
| Donna Byan-Hoos | Chicago, IL | 2016-06-18 | I had a similar issue and finally had given my son a bottle that was strapped to my boob through a tube. Which he quickly drank down. He was jaundice, Starving & I felt so guilty that I couldn't breast feed my baby. Thank God I finally gave up and bottle feed my baby! I never heard of this syndrome till 15 years later, today . Wish the hospital told me about this. I would have not felt so guilty and nearly starved my baby! I pray for this attitude to change & this information to be given. |
| Suzanne Jones | Charlo, MT | 2016-06-18 | I am a Registered Nurse. I have both witnessed underfeeding and experienced it. I believe fed is best. |
| Angela Meuhlen | Clio, MI | 2016-06-18 | I breast fed my 3 boys and the thought that I had prepared my best and still could have harmed my child, is very scary. Luckily, my hospital did send home formula and when I was uncertain the first time around, I fed my baby and kept on nursing too. I pray that all mothers can be adequately informed and enjoy a safe and healthy nursing relationship. Success, is not lessened by supplementation, success is a healthy child. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Merry Kruger | Pittsburgh, PA | 2016-06-18 | I have witnessed too many times mothers who refuse to supplement because they have been told that exclusive breast feeding is best. Often times because of this information even when I explain to them the dangers of neonatal starvation because of inadequate breast milk production they are still reluctant to try supplementation. The message must be FED IS BEST and if that can be exclusive breast feeding awesome but there should be no shame in providing supplementation |
| Kara Kimmel | Clarkston, WA | 2016-06-18 | I'm a healthcare worker (respiratory therapist) and a mother and this is a preventable tragedy. |
| Miriarm Higg-Clemente | Round Rock, TX | 2016-06-18 | I breast fed all four of my children for at least the first 2-4 months of life. I also read tons of material and got the same advice from the pediatricians as this article. Thankfully, I did not listen and used formula after every breast feeding. I shudder to think what could have happened to one of my children and what is happening to newborn children in the US. Please set forth procedures to protect the babies and take the pressure off of new mothers. |
| Ellen Shanahan | Suffern, NY | 2016-06-18 | I do not want to see one infant suffer from insufficient breast milk |
| Charmaine Castillo | Manila, Philippines | 2016-06-18 | I'm signing because my 1st born child also suffered from dehydration due to hospital policy of exclusively breastfeeding. |
| Joanna Hoyle | london, England, UK | 2016-06-18 | I had Low milk supply and my baby needed more food. |
| Lynne Rodgers | Warrenton, VA | 2016-06-18 | I am a labor and delivery nurse. I also care for postpartum mothers and infants and work in an ICN. I see too many infants that are hungry, not nursing well and mothers refusing to supplement with formula. This is what they are being taught and it is unfortunate. I have always believed that fed is best. |
| Emilie Bishop | Kenmore, WA | 2016-06-18 | My son was rehospitalized for dehydration and excessive weight loss after birth. I was discharged with known, unresolved breastfeeding complications but told to exclusively nurse him until a follow-up appointment two days later. I felt like a failure for months. This has to stop. |
| Frances Draper | Albuquerque, NM | 2016-06-18 | I am a retired NBICU nurse and I have seen this way to many times.We are pushing breastfeeding w/o thought of the baby not getting enough or any feeds |
| Sabha Khan | Brooklyn, NY | 2016-06-19 | Fed is Best! |
| Brigitte Moyne | San Francisco, CA | 2016-06-19 | I wish I had been strong enough to resist the exclusive breastfeeding exhortations and supplemented my baby as hindsight tells me I would have spared her days of hunger and stress and anxiety and exhaustion for me. Thank heavens we did not experience the consequences listed here. |
| Sarah McElroy | Anderson, CA | 2016-06-19 | I experienced low milk production and was told to supplement my by my pediatrician. After reading this I am glad that I did. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Ana Janof | Honolulu, HI | 2016-06-19 | Fed is best. Babies shouldn't go hungry. It's selfish and dangerous! |
| Kim Millama-Arsenio | Regina, Canada | 2016-06-19 | I'm signing because I am a mom who's concern with the health of my own baby and as well as the other babies. |
| Mevelyn Miller | Raeford, NC | 2016-06-19 | It's best to be informed. |
| Gene Reyes | Englewood, NJ | 2016-06-19 | I believe on it. |
| Jenna Greer | Benton, AR | 2016-06-19 | We need healthier kids. |
| Kristen Pastrana | Wellington, FL | 2016-06-19 | I agree with your research. I am a NICU nurse and have seen the traumatic effects of hyperbilirubinemia and dehydration in exclusively breastfed infants which end up readmitted to the hospital requiring an exchange transfusion. #FEDISBEST |
| Shyama Rosenfeld | Winchester, VA | 2016-06-19 | I am a concerned family doc |
| Heather Yoder | Sarasota, FL | 2016-06-19 | I am a NICU nurse - exclusive breastfeeding is great IF mom has enough milk. We are taking too many risks with our children's lives and brains. |
| Christine Moruza | Livermore, CA | 2016-06-19 | Dr. Castillo-Hegyí is exposing a significant public health crisis. |
| Leslie West | Austin, TX | 2016-06-20 | This happened to my friend's baby. He had a seizure from hypoglycemia on the 2nd day of life. |
| Denise McCausland | Voorhees, NJ | 2016-06-20 | I also have had a child demanding to be fed but I was unable to produce any milk for him. My hospital is Baby-Friendly and kept pressuring me into breast feeding. By the time we were discharged he was at my breast nearly continually. It was the end of our first day home, all of us exhausted from my son's fussiness that my husband asked why were we doing this. Wasn't there another way? I sent him out for formula and for the first time in 4 days our son slept soundly. Luckily we didn't experience seizures or jaundice(that we're aware of) . Our son is a teen now, happy and healthy but has suffered with ADHD . |
| Juanita Kostecki | Verona, WI | 2016-06-20 | I am an NICU nurse for the last 36 years and feel the bottom line is as stated in the artical, Feed Your Baby. I have first hAnd witnessed these complications and see no reason to subject any healthy newborn to the dangers of insufficient milk. My own babies were supplemented until my milk came in at day 3. They were then exclusively breast fed until they went to solid foods at 8, 9, and 10 months respectively. There was no nipple confusion and no starvation just happy healthy babies that have gone on to be happy healthy adults. Please put the well being of these little folks with no voice except a cry we are taught and expected to ignore. They deserve the best nutrition options to offer them the brightest future possible. |
| Bonnie Wong-Harano | Oakland, CA | 2016-06-20 | I have seen how easily babies can be put in harms way by people insisting breast only and the bilirubin levels becoming dangerously elevated. This can cause Kernicterus which leaves the infant with brain damage. There is absolutely nothing wrong with |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | breastfeeding and then supplementing with formula if the infant is still hungry. Enough of the narrow minded potentially harmful thinking that only breast is best. |
| Julie Bowker | Atwater, OH | 2016-06-20 | Huh I never knew that. yes they need to be protected. |
| Maria Gagliardi | Emmaus, PA | 2016-06-20 | I have a daughter who is VERY stubborn about not bottle feeding her newborn and it scares me. |
| Michele Gavin | Cypress, TX | 2016-06-20 | I experienced the pressure to solely breastfeed, even though it was painfully obvious my infant was hungry. I immediately provided a bottle and she thrived, but had ignored common sense, I shudder to think what could have happened to her. The amount of shaming and guilt I felt for being unable to produce sufficient milk was enormous. The lactation coaches made me feel terrible about my decision. |
| jayne meyer | madison, WI | 2016-06-20 | Our hospital is proceeding towards baby friendly and I would like to see these questions answered. I have concerns about this process for other reasons and this adds more to them. |
| Christene Santillan RN | Galt, CA | 2016-06-20 | Hospitals are forcing babies to get insufficient nutrition by banning supplementation of breast feeding for infants. |
| Eska Chen | Singapore, Singapore | 2016-06-20 | My daughter and I felt pressured from clinic nurse and social pressure from birth that we needed to breast feed for minimum period of 1 year, in Sydney, Australia. My daughter at 9 months mark had adverse conditioning, dislike breastfeeding (always a power struggle) so much that she didn't continue to drink milk for 2 years. Now she was diagnosis by dentist that she has insufficient calcium level in her teeth due to the problems we faced in the early years. |
| Susanne Giannella | Seaside Heights, NJ | 2016-06-20 | Because of personal experience and many years of working as an RN on Neonatal Units... |
| than kwee peng | Subang Jaya, Malaysia | 2016-06-20 | Breastfeeding is good but newborn has to have sufficient feeding especially in d 1st 2 weeks of age to excrete out d toxin in body & supplement after latching is just d temporarily measure while waiting for yield to kicks in. Not all d moms are able to latch correctly or manage her bf journey well, so alternative to 'top up ' after direct latch, ease mom anxiety which indirectly boost d yield . |
| Linda Hauersperger | Columbus, IN | 2016-06-20 | I completely agree and had a similar situation. I was lucky enough to have one nurse tell me that giving a bottle was not the end of the world. |
| Maeve Stronach | Dublin, Ireland | 2016-06-20 | My baby was discharged from hospital at 13% weight loss. I was not told anything about the risks of dehydration and was sure that to supplement with formula is terrible for the baby due to what I had learned about breastfeeding . Luckily the midwives gave me some ready made bottles of formula and I gave the baby a few tops ups, crying with guilt as I did so. I shudder to think of what might have happened if I had not. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Linda McKee | Fairfield, CA | 2016-06-20 | I am a NICU RN and mother of 4. I have seen problems and want to prevent damage in our babies. |
| Charlotte Brown | Ringgold, GA | 2016-06-20 | I'm signing because I do not believe that all babies should be only "BREASTFED" nor do I believe anyone should be pressured into breastfeeding. I work in the hospital & now it is becoming almost impossible to say NO to breastfeeding. |
| Cheryl Widman | Deerfield, IL | 2016-06-20 | My son was jaundiced, too. |
| Nurul Huda Mohammad Bokhari | Shah Alam, Malaysia | 2016-06-21 | I once believe I exclusive breastfeeding and wanted to do my best on my first baby. Despite was on prolonged jaundice and poor weight gain, he grew in length and seems content with his cluster feeds (sometime up to 5-6 hours) At 3 mo we were referred to paed and consulted for his poor weight gain. He was happy and skinny. I tried expressing milk out, power pumping, eat milk booster range of food but still struggling even to make some extra bottles for saving.. Eventually i open my heart(redha) with my baby intake of my breastmilk(rezeki) and start to mix feed. He instantly show positive weight gain. He enjoys his bottles and also breastfeeding as snacks time, and im just too happy he still benefits from it even just a bit.I strongly agree at your cause. Feed the baby. Why must them starve out of your pride in breastfeeding. Mix feed if you must. |
| D Krasnow | Scottsdale, AZ | 2016-06-21 | My granddaughter went through this because of the pediatrician's insisting my daughter had to breastfeed and not supplement until the baby was about a week old! They convinced my daughter it was the only way. She went to the pediatrician's office and I overheard one of the front office staff making a snide remark about how often we brought her in! |
| hucks hucks | Florence, SC | 2016-06-21 | this is important with baby friendly taking over many hospitals |
| Beth Hogue | Beaver Falls, PA | 2016-06-21 | I am an Ob nurse. |
| Megan Schweizer | Ashland, OR | 2016-06-21 | My son had hypoglycemia at birth |
| Kate Wilwert | Saint Charles, MN | 2016-06-21 | I am signing because this exact same thing happened to my first child. He had to go back into the hospital because his bilirubin was the highest levels that the doctors had seen at 28. As of right now he seems happy and healthy, but I am afraid of what damage it may have caused. |
| Camille Lee | San Diego, CA | 2016-06-21 | I just had a similar experience at hospital last week when my baby girl was born. I had a little milk but not enough to feed the baby. She was clam in the first day. On the second day, she became so fussy and we have ruled out every possible solutions except my breast milk amount. If I have not pumped on the third day, I would not know how little milk she had be gotten. At that point, her weight lost is 10% from the birth and jud |
| Jen Stephenson | Walnut Creek, CA | 2016-06-21 | I work as a NICU nurse at a hospital where we're discouraged from offering formula in order to meet exclusive breastfeeding scores. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Vicki Minor | Elkton, MD | 2016-06-22 | I am a nurse who has seen this and agree with this article. Best is fed. |
| Cailin Hochradel | Crownsville, MD | 2016-06-22 | My Pediatrician was thorough enough to tell us to supplement. Thank you! |
| Emily Ruth Terry | Vestavia, AL | 2016-06-22 | I am a firm believer in feeding your baby. My baby had to supplement and never lost any weight. She was in the NICU for respiratory issues (she inhaled some fluid at birth). She was given formula and my colostrum. She did not have a good latch so we pumped, breast fed (horribly) for a month, then we started supplementing with formula. Our NICU nurse said she always asks for formula when her children are born b/c she knows they are hungry and she wants to feed them. I had no clue the dangers until reading this letter. This is something that ALL mothers should be aware of at the birth of their child. This should be a mandatory check at the hospital and the days following. I am so sad that this information has not been made clear to new mothers that are just trying to do what their doctors are telling them. We trust the hospitals and doctors, so please make this mandatory so we can keep on trusting the hospitals and doctors. |
| Jennifer Dunsmore | Holly Springs, NC | 2016-06-22 | Fed is best. |
| Judy Clements | St. Petersburg, FL | 2016-06-23 | I am a Neonatal nurse who strongly agrees that babies must not be starved |
| michelle chancey | Fayetteville, GA | 2016-06-23 | FED IS BEST!!! |
| nicolas gourdain | London, England, UK | 2016-06-23 | As a father of two, I strongly believe that the 'breastfeeding lobby' acts more like a sect than a serious scientific organisation and ultimately their complete lack of open mindedness ends up hurting children and parents |
| alexia calogeropoulos | London, England, UK | 2016-06-23 | I am outraged to find out that in the 21st Century a baby can end up with severe brain damage because of poor judgement from the medical committee who are largely influenced by the breastfeeding associations. Breastfeeding is better probably but at what cost? Let's stop stigmatizing mothers who do not breastfeed, let's educate them on the risks of breastfeeding as we do so well on those of bottle feeding and this should never happen again. |
| Racheal Santarpia | Lakeland, FL | 2016-06-23 | I am passionate about protecting our newborns, and their neurodevelopmental outcomes!!! |
| Lisa Rinsdale | Saint Augustine, FL | 2016-06-23 | I am a pediatric nurse practitioner who has seen infants coming in for first visit extremely dehydrated. |
| Edwina Hughston | Sydney, Australia | 2016-06-23 | I have had two children who I believed were not getting enough breast milk, but was told to breastfeed through it. Both have ended up needing to be supplemented with formula by the age of 6 weeks as they were still at or below their birthweight. The first was classified as failure to thrive at 6 weeks before the paediatrician told us to start supplementing with formula, his words were 'do not call the Australian Breastfeeding Association, they will tell you to breastfeed through this, but you would be putting your baby in |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | danger'. I did not wait for a diagnosis with my second, I started to supplement when I felt she needed it. My eldest is 4 now so we were lucky, my youngest 22 months and seems to be developing normally. Our third is due in November, and having read this, I feel more empowered to trust my instincts as all mothers should be encouraged to do! |
| Lauren Watson | Bear, DE | 2016-06-24 | I am a new Mom who had trouble producing breast milk. I chose to bottle feed my baby, even with the lactation consultant to "give my body time, the baby is having enough wet diapers." I am glad I did, my baby is healthy and we are both happy. |
| Susan Mahoney | Houston, TX | 2016-06-24 | I experienced insufficient milk production at the birth of my daughter who now has diagnoses of autism and learning difficulties. |
| Jane Hamilton | Salt Lake City, UT | 2016-06-24 | I feel good about what I read. This Dr's research was well documented. Also, I am personally familiar with birth & breastfeeding practises. I feel, most completely, that we are designed to listen and go with our gut instincts, always. We know more at a natural level than we acknowledge, particularly when faced with the opinions of those who appear to and may have more education. My personal experience has proven to me that going with my instincts, sometimes in alignment with recommendations and sometimes instead of recommendations has always turned out for the best. Results are proof enough to me. I agree with what I have read and what she is petitioning for! |
| Andrea Cober | San Pablo, CA | 2016-06-24 | I see firsthand the pain/suffering these babies experience due to the so called "baby friendly" initiative. Common sense tells us nurses to look at the baby and let the baby tell us what it needs. The incidence of autism has skyrocketed since exclusive breastfeeding has become protocol. The once dream of bringing home a bundle of joy has become a lifelong nightmare for many. I don't recall having a hungry newborn to be as stressful as it is to today's parents. It's horrible, especially with all the resources that we have in this country. |
| Romelyn Lim | Singapore, Singapore | 2016-06-24 | I want to help raise awareness on the detrimental effects of under-feeding due to wrong information given to mothers in today's society about exclusive breastfeeding. |
| Barbara Collins | Horsham, PA | 2016-06-24 | I am a NICU nurse and supporter of breastfeeding but not at the risk of the baby or the mother |
| Sharon Walker | Mechanicsville, VA | 2016-06-25 | It is time for all mothers to be informed feeding their baby-both human milk and formula. The movement for breast feeding babies is important, but not at the sake of scarring mothers that formula is poison -making mothers feel bad if they choose not or can't breast feed. Honestly, if moms knew that hospitals get \$\$ back -the higher the breastfeeding rate-they would be appalled it seems like it's more about the money going to the hospital-or the good breastfeeding score being good-being more I, portent than what's best for the patient. Why does a good thing have to be swung so far to the left that freedom of information not be a priority? All moms should be provided the benefits and risks of both sides-and at the end of the day- isn't it all about nutrition for the baby. Formula companies |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | do so much research to provide the best nutrition for baby. It's not poison. Stop scaring Moms. Give them samples and info in the hospital. Give moms the freedom to choose. |
| Andrea Snider | Wilmington, NC | 2016-06-25 | I was hell bent on exclusive breast feeding. We were discharged from L&D after 4pm, The very next morning we were in the children's hospital, my son had a 19 billi count. I didn't know that I wasnt producing enough milk for my 9lb 6oz baby...it was his inconsolable crying and a pink blush color on his diaper (something to do with urine chrystalization during jaundice) that sent us to the emergency room. |
| Rachel King | Duluth, GA | 2016-06-25 | I'm signing because I care about stopping autism and brain injury. Do you? |
| Lisa Weaver | Okeechobee, FL | 2016-06-26 | I care! |
| Lindsey Brogdon | Tampa, FL | 2016-06-26 | I care deeply about protecting newborns from a possible brain injury |
| Dino Summers | Encinitas, CA | 2016-06-26 | I instinctively knew this and supplemented my baby as well. That was 31yrs ago. Kudos to this Mom/Doc. You are an eye-opener advocate for all moms/ parents and their babies. Bless you! Thank you for this information. I am a RN and will advocate for this to all women of childbearing age and others I come in contact in the field. |
| Misty Milburn | Allen, TX | 2016-06-26 | I wasn't producing sufficient milk for my son, and the hospital dismissed us after 4 days (emergency c-section) with significant weight loss, jaundice, and an order to not supplement at that point. My son was unhappy and nursing every 30 minutes or so; they said it was 'cluster-feeding' and perfectly normal. The next day we had our follow-up with our family doctor. He told me that the breast is great, but nutrition is better. He probably saved my son from having lifelong complications. That was 9 years ago. |
| Molly Louismet | Saint Paul, MN | 2016-06-26 | Starving an infant for days is unacceptable. |
| Lindsey Johnson | Salt Lake City, UT | 2016-06-27 | I have witnessed first hand with more than one of the children that what is being taught about breastfeeding in hospitals is not adequately meeting the needs of all babies. And this has led to the shaming of mothers who do want to supplement, and are told that they are making a bad choice if they do so. |
| Deborah Mckaig | knightdale, NC | 2016-06-27 | Nicu nurse that sees this too often. |
| Andrea Montgomery | Villas, NJ | 2016-06-27 | As an RN working in Maternal Child Health I see this happen too often in my daily practice. Our goal should be whatever works best for each individual child! |
| cyndy eaton | Shelton, WA | 2016-06-27 | I'm an RN and I BCLC, I've seen hyperbilirubinemia due to delayed lacto Genesis II with relative frequency . I note that moms and babies suffer greatly because of the separation caused by the baby having to be under the bill lights and other medicalizations because of dehydration and hypoglycemia. These are always the exclusively breastfed babies. I've felt for sometime that we are teaching breastfeeding wrong. Please study this issue. I believe |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | in the recommended feeding teaching and monitoring protocol suggested in this article. |
| Megan Mcleish | Shelley, ID | 2016-06-27 | I believe in feeding babies no matter how it's done. |
| Amy Vertin | Crete, NE | 2016-06-27 | I'm also a physician who was in a similar situation with delayed milk production and a dehydrated, hungry newborn. My child fortunately did not suffer any long term sequelae BECAUSE I DIDN'T FOLLOW THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUPPLEMENTED FORMULA. No woman should be brainwashed the way I felt I was into not recognizing and responding to a hungry child. |
| Deborah Johnson | New Bedford, MA | 2016-06-28 | I believe this is true .I worked in a nursery and Maternity Ward as a nurse for 29 years and I have seen many mothers poem with breastfeeding issues with babies that constantly cry that are hungry and end up being jaundice with hypoglycemia I believe people need to be educated that this is a possibility that their babies need to be fed a healthy baby is one that is fed regularly it is not the mother's fault if she is uneducated and put in a situation that it's either black or white there's no gray area that the baby should just breastfeed exclusively. |
| Jessica Samad | Oceanside, CA | 2016-06-28 | I'm signing this because I am a NICU nurse and I have seen a number of exclusively breastfed infants admitted for dehydration, hypernatremia and hyperbilirubinemia. This article hits close to home as I have often wondered what the developmental outcomes are for the little ones in years to come. When I had my children, I gave them supplementation right away until my milk came in. I had seen to much to put my own children at risk. |
| Sharonn Archie | Philadelphia, PA | 2016-06-28 | I am signing because I am a neonatal intensive care nurse who went through something similar. I delivered at a breastfeeding hospital who made you feel horrible about supplementation until my child bilirubin increase and he had to be place on double phototherapy in which I tried to prevent. |
| Melanie Tovar | Honolulu, HI | 2016-06-29 | I'm a NICU nurse and know the importance of feeding and adequate glucose levels for neos |
| Maria Crawley | Las Cruces, NM | 2016-06-29 | As a pediatrician in practice for 32 years, I have seen many starved newborns at 3-4 days if age. The most recent one was today: 8 lb 8 oz baby weighing 7-3 on day 4 and sent home on a bili blanket with no risk factors except "starving". He was immediately started on supplemental formula. Luckily he was vigorous & VS normal. It's usually a fight to get mom's to accept supplementing after nursing as our hospital nursing staff continue to push the concept of "nipple confusion". I'm grateful that I now only have an office based practice preventing the anger & frustration I experienced when making rounds and continually arguing with some (not all) of the staff. I always voted against striving for the Baby Friendly status for all the reasons stated in this petition. |
| Olga Sorensen | Las Cruces, NM | 2016-06-29 | I was an OB nurse for over 3 decades and a pediatric nurse Ten years now. Baby Friendly was never more than a competiition that caused nurses and mothers to feel judged and harrassed. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Pamela Santos | Edison, NJ | 2016-06-29 | I know exactly what she is talking about. I was also determined to exclusively breastfeed and tried to follow all the instructions I read, and they all tell you to avoid giving a bottle. I never realized how close we came to putting our son in danger. We are fortunate that we succumbed to giving him a bottle (with the guilt and fear that my milk will not come in, as it was drilled into my head), but I wish this information was available to moms who are the type to read and be informed through literature. |
| Gina Mirigliani | Rancho Palos Verdes, CA | 2016-06-29 | I also experienced a similar situation and my baby required supplementation due to hypoglycemia. I was ill informed at the time. |
| Leigh Anne Hnatko | Greeley, PA | 2016-06-29 | It's important for breastfeeding moms to know these critical signs to save future families from such health problems occurring . |
| Lauren Watkins | North Olmsted, OH | 2016-06-29 | I had difficulty with milk supply and latching, and met with 6 lactation consultants and he pediatrician by the 6th day of my child's life. I took it upon myself to ignore the "experts'" advice to "keep at it" and "try for a little longer". I began exclusive formula feeding at one week of life, since her weight had dropped almost a pound (was told this is normal), and she was not producing enough soiled diapers, in my opinion. She is 3.5 months old now, and up to this pint has not exceeded the 25th percentile for weight. I am fearful of any unforeseen long-term effects that first week of life may have on her growth and development. I am a first-time mother, in my mid-30's, with a Master's Degree, so I do consider myself well-educated. However, the pressures placed on mothers to persist at breast-feeding (along with lack of sleep and lack of confidence), may cause even the most educated and "prepared" mothers to rely solely on advice from medical professionals and lactation "experts". Fed is always best |
| Reannan Ross | Toronto, British Columbia, Canada | 2016-06-29 | I had the same fears for my baby when my milk didn't come in. She lost nearly 10% body weight and then struggled with latching afterward and had a bad bout of thrush, which further complicated things. Nursing was the most difficult endeavour for me but I felt I had to continue, which I did, until she weaned herself at 13 months. But in hindsight, fed it best. I bought the formula, but never used it. Why? Thank goodness, she is a happy, healthy, bright 21 month old now. |
| Amy Rolf | Escondido, CA | 2016-06-29 | I am an RN in the NICU and see these patients unnecessarily admitted every day. The shame of supplementing and not exclusively breastfeeding has got to stop! |
| Tina Kang | Surrey, Canada | 2016-06-29 | I totally agree! |
| Jessica Laska | Ottawa, Canada | 2016-06-30 | Newborns deserve the best start and chance at life! |
| Laura Lenfant | Mandeville, LA | 2016-06-30 | I am a nurse and I've seen lactation nurses push breastfeeding only even when there is evidence of a hungry baby. I agree that fed is best. |
| Andrea Bodniowycz | Nashville, TN | 2016-06-30 | Babies need to be protected and advocated for |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
|-------------------|------------------|------------|--|
| Marlene Feliciano | Holyoke, MA | 2016-06-30 | I got so shamed by the pediatrician of my first born son because I did not breastfeed him and only gave him the colostrum (I mixed breastfeeding and bottle). My son left the hospital drinking 4 oz of milk which my body did Not produce at that time. I wasn't going to starve him. And guess what- by my third child I learned I make so little milk, I was unable to totally breastfeed any of my kids. But wanting to do "the right thing" and only breastfeed, I force my now 3 y/o daughter to breastfeed (hrs at a time since again I did not produce much) until I had to go back to work and since I didn't produce enough to feed and store, she got introduced to formula. I wonder now if her Autism (althoug "mild" since she does talk and only has speech delay and social delay) is produce by lack of nutrients after being born! She did get the genetic test done with ALL normal. If there is any need for research information on my case, please contact me. |
| Suni Reddy | St Augustine, FL | 2016-06-30 | I'm a mother of 3 grown children (ages 23, 20, 18) and I know the reality of a newborn being starved firsthand. I wished I had the information back then. This is invaluable to a new mom. |
| Bobbi Bower | Oceanside, CA | 2016-06-30 | I am signing because I planned on exclusively breastfeeding my baby boy and was told he had a great latch and was producing enough wet/dirty diapers in the hospital only to find out he lost 10% of his body weight by his 4th day of life. He was jaundiced and so hungry. Luckily my pediatrician gave him supplement formula right then and there. He had gained 7 ounces by the next day and his jaundice had gone down to a safe level. I still have to supplement as my milk production is low despite all the remedies and visits to lactation. He is thriving, healthy and happy and as much as I wanted to exclusively breastfeed I want my son to be healthy more than that! I only want what's best for him and if that means I have to supplement, so be it! I have been supplementing with a healthy homemade formula and he gets every last drop of breast milk I can produce! |
| Julie Gibbons | Jerome, ID | 2016-06-30 | I'm singing because after having 3 children who barely thrived with breastfeeding I decided with the last that fed is best- and had a midwife and family who supported me with this decision! Babies health is of utmost importance. |
| Denise OKeefe | Rockland, MA | 2016-06-30 | I refused to let me baby starve 17 years ago, and gave her the formula she needed on our first night home. |
| Linda Salazar | Kansas City, KS | 2016-06-30 | This makes so much sense. Likely this happened to my nephew! Lasting effects are numerous. |
| Alison Cook | Wayne, PA | 2016-06-30 | I am a neonatologist and mother who sees the risks of insufficient milk production every single day. |
| Kaye B ALLEN | Jackson, MS | 2016-06-30 | My grandson almost died after 2 months of under-feeding. The doctor said "1st children of very fit moms are always small." His birthweight was 8 lbs. 6 oz. I have photos of him at 10 weeks that look like a child suffering malnutrition in 3rd world countries. He is now 7 and totally healthy, as my mom & I suggested a supplement, & 2,3 weeks after that he was fat & happy. He ws born at home with |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | a mid-wife, as all 5 now, have been. Let me know how I can help get this info out to everyone! Thanks! |
| ART Mumper | Trevose, PA | 2016-07-01 | I am a NICU nurse, a mother, and a grandmother. I believe that baby friendly is fed baby. I see many women struggle with milk production every day. I was one of them as well as my daughter. We supplemented. |
| Chris Denney | Orlando, FL | 2016-07-01 | My milk did not come in til day 4 pp and I did not even produce colostrum the first couple days of life for my baby. Luckily because of the free samples of formula I had at home, my husband and mom said that she needed SOMething to eat since she was inconsolably crying. That was on day 2 after being born. I am hoping and praying that no neurodevelopmental issues arise later on. She is 4 month old now and is very alert and aware and interacts well. I am not sure if it is still too early to tell if anything is affected. But, at the beginning, I felt guilty and felt like a failure when I had to give her formula. I know better now and realize that they make formula for a reason. Thank you for writing this and explaining it so eloquently. |
| Samantha Small | Elkins Park, PA | 2016-07-01 | I am a neonatal intensive care nurse and I have seen the dangers of dehydration and severe jaundice. I have seen parents insist that their babies be fed through a tube when bottle feeding would have been more developmentally appropriate because they were scared by suggestions of "nipple confusion" that "would prevent them from nursing their baby". I have seen babies require longer intravenous fluid support - and the risks associated with extended IV use because a parent was afraid that formula would harm their baby, make her less smart or make him be fat later in life. In the effort to encourage breastfeeding, I think the message has gotten out of hand. Ultimately, babies have to eat. Please look at how this message is being delivered in the real world. "Baby Friendly", in practice, is neither baby friendly no mother friendly. We need a kinder, reality based plan. |
| Ellena Stiff | Seattle, WA | 2016-07-01 | I'm signing here because I am a first time mom. My son is now 9 months old. I attempted to breastfeed him and had delayed lactogenesis and low milk supply. My baby lost 8% of his body weight within the first few days and I started supplementing. For three months I breastfed and pumped and supplemented until I could no longer keep up with it. I was physically and emotionally drained. I suffer from post partum depression and believe a lot of it is from the guilt of supplementing. Reading this article I feel so sad for the days that he was hungry. I strongly believe the guidelines need to change. Babies need to be fed - it is the most basic need they have and we are harming them. Please update the guidelines to ensure their well being and save their lives. |
| Barb Little | Philadelphia, PA | 2016-07-01 | I don't want to see this happen to a baby again! I am a neonatal nurse as well |
| Kimberly Allen | Midland, TX | 2016-07-01 | Get the message out. |
| Alicea Irwin | Lancaster, OH | 2016-07-01 | A similar situation happened to me during my second birth. My instincts told me something was very wrong and no one seemed to |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | listen. The lactation consultants just kept saying.... Nurse through it... Nurse through it. The doctor on call at the hospital said she would be fine she is just tired from her journey. The 4th day My daughter had "brick dust" in her diaper, and was not waking up to feed. I called and got the same response... Nurse through it.... Nurse through it. I knew something was wrong and took her to my PCP who sent her to the hospital for tests. I met her at her office within the hour to find that she had lost a significant amount of weight and had bolt levels of 17. She was put on lights and her story ended there. A story that like so many other could have been avoided. She was so close... Probably hours away from a different outcome. When I had my 3rd child, the same stuff started happening and the hospital almost seemed to fight me when I would ask for billy tests each day. I supplemented he |
| Elysha Mallon | Middletown, CT | 2016-07-01 | My milk also didn't come in on time and my daughter's first night home torture on everyone. Luckily my pediatrician was wonderful and she was giving formula at our appointment as she had lost too much weight and was jaundice. She is now a happy and healthy almost 6 year old and I am so very thankful to our pediatrician. I can't even imagine the children out there that suffer for so much longer because of lack of care and knowledge they receive from their providers. |
| Irene Hubbard | Doylestown, PA | 2016-07-01 | Because I am a retired MCH nurse and I have seen too many parents bullied by LC. There baby leaves the hospital with little or no follow up and the Moms just give up. |
| Amy Campbell | Greenfield, IN | 2016-07-01 | I work in a NICU & see some admissions because of this feeding issue. |
| Jenna Dominick | Douglassville, PA | 2016-07-01 | Both my daughters had newborn jaundice. If I would have not supplemented them this very easily could have been us. I am currently a nurse in an acute care hospital in pa. Dr's need to start educating on the importance of being fed. I even got backlash from the pediatrician when I told him I was supplementing. Lucky for me I didn't listen to them and I have 2 beautiful happy healthy babies! |
| ERIKA GUSTAFSON | PHOENIX, AZ | 2016-07-01 | I think it is important to ensure all children are fed. However - two things. 1. Petitioner: you spelled Cincinnati wrong.....2. Why aren't we talking about breastmilk donations? You can supplement and not use formula. There are banks, as well as a large number of women out there that would gladly go through testing and donate their oversupply to those in need. Not all women who advocate for "breast is best" are these out of control people many in the comments are describing. FED is best for sure, but formula is NOT the only supplementation option. "It takes a village" concept has often been lost on today's society and we can all benefit from loving and trusting each other in today's cruel world. |
| Sandra Degnan | Kemah, TX | 2016-07-01 | I'm an RN in OB and have never advocated for strict breastfeeding. I totally agree with FED IS BEST for many reasons, but I'm just too tired from working many 12 hour nights in a row, keeping my mom's and babies satisfied, to expound on them. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Melanie Steadman | Pataskala, OH | 2016-07-01 | I also tried exclusively breastfeeding...my daughter was also having correct output and the nurses and lactation consultants told me to just keep nursing. On my daughters 3rd day, her glucose level dropped to 23, normal is a minimum of 50. (I had a c section and was set to be discharged on the 3rd day.) She had lost 11% of her body weight but the nurses told me this was normal in c section babies. My daughter spent 2 days in nicu, I supplemented and pumped and she got her glucose tested every 3 hours. She's just now 5 weeks old, and I pray that she doesn't have lasting issues. I feel horribly guilty that I didn't trust my instincts and give her formula. I listened to the nurses and lactation consultant when I shouldn't have. |
| Wendy Martin | Nashua, NH | 2016-07-02 | I feel lactation nurses put to much pressure on new moms and the importants of breastfeeding and now they have a stick with it. It made me feel very uncomfortable in the hospital. I chose to do both for 3 days then just bottle feed.. I only have one breast and was told I could produce enough milk... I didn't listen and chose to bottle feed. They told me my baby would be healthier then formula could give them. My babies were never sick and only 1 ear infection between 2 kids. My friend who only breastfed her son was always sick and had constant ear infection... I feel like lactation nurses should not make you feel like a terrible person if you choose not to breast-feed. |
| Jennie Felix | New Smyrna Beach, FL | 2016-07-02 | This could have been my child if my hospital didn't notice the signs as early as they did. Being forced to supplement my son on day 4 saved his life. |
| Mary Stoffel | Middleton, WI | 2016-07-02 | Back in the 1980's, I fell victim to the "exclusive breastfeeding" mantra; I was an exhausted medical student first-time mother, and was only trying to do the right thing, as I was told. My son cried constantly, lost weight and seemed miserable until I finally (day of Life #4-5) gave him a little formula. I shudder to think now that my actions led to his now Autism-spectrum Executive Functioning disorder. I will never forgive myself for the pain I inflicted on him. Please change this thinking now. |
| Chamari De Silva | Los Angeles, CA | 2016-07-02 | Medical professionals should be advocating the safest practices to give each newborn a fighting chance at a happy, healthy life. |
| Darla Lamonte | Kansas City, KS | 2016-07-02 | Fed is best... |
| Erin Vlahakis | West Hartford, CT | 2016-07-02 | I exclusively breastfed my children and did not supplement my first despite weight loss of 10% that was slow to regain over the first couple of weeks of life. I was dedicated to breastfeeding and thought I would jeopardize that process by supplementing with formula. My 2 1/2 year old and 10 month old are meeting their milestones thus far-but I view myself as very lucky we did not have a negative outcome from under feeding my kids in the first days after birth. Oh and I am a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner practicing full time in a level 4 NICU. I thought I was doing what was best and in hindsight know they were not getting as much nutrition as they needed. Other mothers need to be educated as to how to best |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | protect their children despite the ridiculous amount of pressure to exclusively breastfeed. |
| Melissa Bryan | Penn Valley, CA | 2016-07-02 | I'm a third time mom who had a difficult time initially nursing my 3rd son after his birth. Thankfully I had a very involved pediatrician who made me supplement my son after he was continuously losing weight DESPITE my constant efforts to nurse and having "good" diapers. Another mom who had a child around the same time as me had an even harder time but did not supplement with formula but tried pumping during the day, but I feel after reading this article that she should have been "forced" into this prior to her daughter losing even more weight than mine and looking extremely jaundiced. Thankfully her baby never had to go to the hospital but she was so concerned about starting formula and getting her daughter off of it later vs just feeding the poor baby. We need to have more proactive measures performed by professionals we lean on and more education about this as these neurological are becoming more prevalent each day. |
| Tammy Mehigan | Phila, PA | 2016-07-02 | I have seen too many babies admitted to NICU b/c Mom's weren't ALLOWED to supplement with formula |
| Lynn Bayne | Kingsville, MD | 2016-07-02 | I'm signing because I'm a neonatal nurse practitioner and I take care of these newborns when they are rehospitalized. I also nurse my babies exclusive breast milk--directly at breast or by expressed breast milk. Parents need to be taught how to recognize this issue and that picking intravenous treatment over judicious use of formula is NOT poisonous. We need to have appropriate community resources and we need to recognize that having that support available to moms---especially those first time moms who deliver vaginally on a Wednesday to Friday may be a highest risk. |
| Laura Rickenbacher | Findlay, OH | 2016-07-02 | I work as an RN in a Special Care Nursery. All physicians and nurses should read your story and the research. It is extremely important to be able to identify the babies at risk and teach our parents the sign and symptoms so they are able to identify if their baby is at risk. |
| Colleen Brand | Missouri City, TX | 2016-07-02 | As a neonatal nurse practitioner I have cared for many babies readmitted to the hospital for hyperbilirubinemia (neonatal jaundice) in the first week of life. This is often due to inadequate intake from breast feeding and usually resolves with IV fluids or supplementation with formula. This results in both an emotional toll and a financial expense for the family. If the bilirubin is very high, the infant might require an exchange transfusion which results in exposure to blood products. The worst case scenario is brain damage from kernicterus. This is not reversible. Education and increased surveillance for adequate milk intake is important to preventing this problem. |
| Colleen Rannels | West Berlin, NJ | 2016-07-02 | I'm signing because new moms need to feel like they can still be a good mom without breast feeding!! It's ok supplement! |
| Laura Mottershead | Atco, NJ | 2016-07-02 | Working in a pediatric unit we see these babies all too often and its heart wrenching to scream like that .. parents who even catch it early enough and the baby is just coming in with jaundice theyd |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | actually prefer an IV be placed in their days old baby instead of supplementing untill their milk is established .. please show these moms it is ok to supplement |
| Maggie Swonger | Edwards, CO | 2016-07-02 | Fed is best! Teach parents how to pump milk and give them alternatives to breastfeeding, babies are not a one size fits all! |
| Amy Spence | Seminole, FL | 2016-07-03 | I wish I had this information when my 3 children were newborns, or before. Thank God I produced enough milk in the first days. They all received supplements within the first few months. I'm glad I could breastfeed some and not harm my children. This information needs to be put into standard practice and education. |
| Lindsay Overton | Chapel Hill, NC | 2016-07-03 | I was diagnosed with insufficient glandular tissue and did not make nearly enough milk for my baby. Thankfully my pediatrician caught on early and encouraged supplementation. Breastfeeding education and guidelines need to be changed in order to avoid this easily preventable danger to our children. |
| Christina Crowley | Altamonte Springs, FL | 2016-07-03 | My mother had a similar problem with me! 43 years ago... |
| Elaine Guilday | West Grove, PA | 2016-07-03 | As an NICU RN for many years I have seen too many infants readmitted for high bilirubin and dehydration. Parents need to be informed that breast only may not always work and could result in very serious consequences for their baby. At the minimum a hospitalization and IV therapy may be needed. Offering a bottle and formula are not going to ruin your child and may save them from very serious medical problems. |
| Myrrh Winston | Yorba Linda, CA | 2016-07-03 | We must protect our babies. There is too much emotion tied up with breastfeeding; supplementation should not be viewed as failure. |
| JAN BOSWELL | WILMINGTON, NC | 2016-07-03 | As an RN who has worked with newborns I feel the need to share this information and prevent new mothers from feeling insufficient if they supplement their bsbies |
| kathleen morris | ventura, CA | 2016-07-04 | It's time for the CDC to respond and be responsible for informing all doctors, nurses And mothers to be aware that breast milk may not be the only milk a new born requires. Too many newborns are experiencing brain damage from accidental starvation. |
| James Phillips | Chesapeake, VA | 2016-07-05 | I am an RN certified in low risk neonatal care working in a hospital that pushes breastfeeding exclusively and have more than ample experience to question the doctrine based on personal observation and see the need to balance the teaching on neonatal feeding. |
| Gale Perez | Kailua kona, HI | 2016-07-05 | The well being of the baby is to make sure the baby is fed till mothers milk comes in. |
| Holly Eaton | Mount Wolf, PA | 2016-07-05 | This has also happened to me and my now soon to be 5 year old. While he has not formally been diagnosed with autism he has had gross and fine motor delays. |
| Debbie Looney | Decatur, TX | 2016-07-05 | I believe babies should be fed!! |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Jewel Hart | Coram, NY | 2016-07-05 | I worked in a NICU for over 22years and since we do more frequent monitoring would pick up these symptoms of insufficient feelings. |
| Rowena Styron | West Hartford, CT | 2016-07-05 | believe mothers are not given enough instruction when babies are born on hand expressing |
| Linda Joyce | Shawnee, KS | 2016-07-05 | I was a Labor and Delivery nurse for over 30 years. Babies do cry differently when hungry and mom's are made to feel bad if they want to supplement. Like the fed is best. |
| Christa Flores | Springfield, MO | 2016-07-06 | I went through a similar situation with my first born. I was never able to make enough milk even with the advise from a lactation consultant. Knowing this, with my 2nd and 3rd I immediately asked for formula in the hospital. I was practically denied since they knew I was planning on breastfeeding and supplementing! I stood firm and and supplemented them right after birth! They made me feel very guilty but I felt it was best for my baby to supplement to avoid the same situation that happened with my first. Experiencing this situation Makes me completely agree with everything this arrival says! |
| Tracy Kaltz | Grand Blanc, MI | 2016-07-06 | This may have affected my son. My milk did not come in until day 4-5 and his bili was 19. The hospital did not want me to supplement with formula and he ended up in the NICU on triple phototherapy with an IV. He now has some learning disabilities, minor compared to what I have read, but I believe we caught it early enough. I am a NICU nurse, so I am well educated on breastfeeding and hydration but it can happen to anyone. With my daughter I started supplementing much earlier and she did much better...and was my baby that breastfed the longest. |
| Keri Whitmore | Franklin, WI | 2016-07-06 | I am thankful that my firstborn did not have any adverse neurological effects from my trying to exclusively breastfeed and producing no milk and being afraid to supplement. I feel it is imperative to arm mothers with ALL the information they need about feeding their child and stop demonizing them for choosing to supplement or feed with formula. |
| Gayanne Gotowicki | Clarkston, MI | 2016-07-06 | I have witnessed first hand how detrimental exclusive breastfeeding to an infant. I am a neonatal nurse practitioner. |
| Brenda Petrucelli | Big Bear Lake, CA | 2016-07-06 | I am a Registered Nurse who works on the Mother/Baby unit in a Baby Friendly hospital. The policies are ridiculous and stringent! The RNs are the ones who have to take care of these inconsolable babies and their worried, stressed out moms. We (the nurses) would love to offer formula to the parents, but aren't allowed to as we're "baby friendly." We can only give formula if the mother specifically asks for it (which they rarely do because they've been led to believe by doing so makes them a failure). The hospital only cares about the exclusive breastfeeding rate at discharge! The policies and current guidelines are unsafe - period!! |
| Kathy Fors | Overland Park, KS | 2016-07-07 | I believe supplemental feedings should be encouraged and included in the educational plan of care even with mother's who are attempting to breastfeed exclusively. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Amanda Davis | Chester, VA | 2016-07-07 | lactivism is dangerous to new moms- fed is best, not breast. |
| Krystyna Skowronski | Grosse Pointe, MI | 2016-07-07 | I am signing this because as a mother of an EBF child and as a pediatric and neonatal dietitian, I believe we need to do what is safest for our children. |
| Kathleen Meehan-Hart | Rutherford, NJ | 2016-07-07 | This issue needs to be brought to light. I always felt that the "Baby Friendly" program is cookie cutter and dangerous. Breast isn't always best!!! |
| Deborah Pound | Neptune Beach, FL | 2016-07-07 | I have also witnessed this first-hand. |
| Melissa Youngman | Grand Rapids, MI | 2016-07-07 | I'm so grateful I had a pediatrician who wanted my son to gain weight (he was a micro premie) more than to be exclusively breastmilk. |
| Donna Keenan | Battle Creek, MI | 2016-07-07 | For years, I had guilt over not being successful at breastfeeding. I wondered if I had given up too quickly. Now, I am glad I started formula when I knew my baby needed more food than my body was able to provide. |
| Patty Hutson | League City, TX | 2016-07-07 | I am a nurse who has worked in newborn bay and NICU, and have seen these newborns underfed so many times, and being told by lactation that a few drops of colostrum is sufficient for a feeding. |
| Deidre Janak-Arriola | Houston, TX | 2016-07-08 | I am a newborn nurse with 17 yrs experience and have witnessed these issues, especially hypoglycemia. |
| Christie DesOrmeaux | New Orleans, LA | 2016-07-08 | I too suffered with insufficient milk supply and was devastated when my pediatrician finally told me after a week and half that she needed formula because she was hungry. Happy to read this article and the research provided to help other mothers. |
| Elizabeth Macanufo | St. Louis, MO | 2016-07-08 | We had excellent care providers who made responsible decisions for our children and made sure this did not happen, although it well could have. |
| Mynx Lee | Australia | 2016-07-08 | Fed is best. I personally went into sleep deprivation with my baby stirring and crying on the 2 days and 2 nights after discharge. I had an elective caesarean as she was diagnosed with Intrauterine Growth Restriction (IUGR) and lactation consultant advised that she stayed until she was only 7% loss from initial weight. I was sure at that time I was producing enough milk but little did I understand that she was a tiny baby who didn't have the strength to suck for long before falling asleep again. Thankfully she woke up again and again from signs of hunger. Before discharge, the lactation consultant said to reweigh her at the GP to ensure baby is gaining weight, sent home confidently without a plan B to supplement with formula as she said to keep direct latching. Apparently most mothers would produce a lot of milk once it kicked in. It wasn't the case. On the second night I fell into a deep sleep from exhaustion due to surviving on 45 minutes sleep, 8 days in a row and couldn't even hear her scream. My husband |
| Aleksandra Wantke | Norwood, MA | 2016-07-09 | Fed is best |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Candy Bearor | Biloxi, MS | 2016-07-09 | Fed is best...not just breast! |
| Darlene gentry | Rome, GA | 2016-07-09 | I totally believe thar too many moms believe that cannot or must not feed their baby anything but breast milk. I was a neonatal nurse for over 30 years and a mother that breast fed and supplemented. My daughter has breast fed hher 2 babies but also supplemented. I have had supervisors who have ordered me to not give a mom a bottle in the hospital if she was too exhausted to feed. I have taken care of babies that have had too many heelsticks for blood glucose checks that are borderline but still refuse to give the baby some supplementation after breastfeeding. I have seen moms cry and become so upset because their babies are crying so much but refuse to supplement or feed their baby because they are breast only. I have seen moms so exhausted are so weak try so hard to feed their newborn unsuccessfully but continue to refuse bottles at any point. Finally someone gets it - fed is best. That is the main goal- just feed your baby. Offer breast first but if needed supplement also. Thank you so much for sharing your |
| Kristina Jeschke | Las Cruces, NM | 2016-07-09 | I'm very concernedA good prevention would be to use a breast pump and bottle feed the breast milk until it is certain that the milk has dropped. And use fenugreek supplements to help start flow. Keep me posted. |
| Robin Keeney | Howell, MI | 2016-07-10 | I'm signing this petition because as a neonatal intensive care nurse for the past 36 years I've seen this exact thing happen to far too many of our babies. I've also seen the same message given to new mom's and the guilt they go through over supplemental feeds. More research, education, and honest conversations need to take place to prevent this from happening. |
| Christi Fischer | West Bend, WI | 2016-07-10 | My son was also not getting enough milk as I had a weak milk supply. He left the hospital jaundiced and screamed the whole first night home. Luckily when I called the nurse she convinced me to supplement with formula until my milk came in. The lactation consultant was against this but I couldn't listen to my baby scream. We continued to supplement for the 10 weeks he nursed and I have a healthy son as a result. I shudder to think what may have happened if I hadn't listened to the nurse. |
| Emily Clay | Houston, TX | 2016-07-10 | I was hell-bent on breastfeeding my first born, but only after my pediatrician (who happens to be my uncle) told me I needed to give him formula or he could suffer severe and ongoing developmental issues, we supplemented (the doctors at our hospital and our lactation consultant were against this). This is horrifying to think my son's life could have been endangered had I not been lucky enough to have a family member (and doctor) wise enough to support formula use. |
| Susan Prevas | York, PA | 2016-07-10 | I am an IBCLC. We need to recognize that not all moms have enough milk and supplementation is needed. |
| Olga Garcia | Miami, FL | 2016-07-10 | I'm a neonatologist and babies at birth need to supplemented by formula. This is ridiculous., some mothers do not produce enough milk and the baby is put at risk for brain injury. |

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| Thea calderon | Caguas, PR | 2016-07-11 | I see this every day in my practice, breastfeeding can be successful and nutritional, if we can do it in an educated and scientifically manner. Forget hospital certifications, let's think about the patients well being!! |
| deepika raut | India | 2016-07-11 | because I have been through this...but just because my baby was very adamant and let us know that he was hungry. |
| Brunilda Montes | San Juan, PR | 2016-07-11 | I breastfeed my son and I know this is the biggest concern for every mom, but didn't know about this. |
| Sandra Acevedo | Guaynabo, PR, PR | 2016-07-11 | As a Pediatrician I frequently manage newborn with hypoglycemia, jaundice or severe dehydration secondary to poor BM intake. Mothers are obsessed with breastfeeding in spite of baby's needs. |
| Bernadette Parfitt | Brooklyn, MD | 2016-07-12 | I am a mother of four...who could relate to this mother/doctor's story. I was always told breast is best and urged to breast feed. Society, lactation consultants and even some nurses made me feel, like a bad mom...if I choose not to breast feed. My two yr old...had jaundice ...but was not followed after hospital stay. Discharged on day 2. Turned extremely yellow. I contacted pediatrician and was told ...just to keep my appt for the next week. I put her in the bassinet naked in the sun...then I took her to dr with out appointment, to show him how yellow she was. No bilirubin recheck was done. I was exclusively breastfeeding. Fast forward...she is 33 months and says about 13 words. Just had her tested with infant toddler program and she has a delay and problems with attention and behavior. Don't know what problems she may be facing in the future. Don't know if it's a result of breast feeding only before milk came. But I wish all moms were schooled in the dangers ..not just urged by agencies such as WIC to breastfeed ..and then made |
| Jesaida Reyes | Davao city, Philippines | 2016-07-12 | I'm concerned about the health of the newborn babies ..This the way to make them healthy. |
| Anag Galadjian | North Hollywood, CA | 2016-07-12 | I'm a NICCU nurse who has seen this way too often and have heard parents say something as ridiculous as, "Put an IV in them but don't give them formula." |
| Heather Reppert | Saint Clair Shores, MI | 2016-07-12 | I'm signing to raise awareness. Feeding information, both breast and formula, offered to new mothers in the hospital setting is lacking. Baby-friendly hospitals need to also be mother friendly as well. |
| Danlyn Tingsom | dasmariñas cavite, Philippines | 2016-07-12 | Because we are not know if the breastfeeding to the baby is enough or not. |
| Elizabeth Gore | Evansville, IN | 2016-07-13 | My son could have been affected by this if I had not been a crazy first time mom who wouldn't leave the doctors alone when he came home from the hospital. |
| Julie Mitchell | Wadesville, IN | 2016-07-13 | I'm an RN in a busy newborn nursery. I believe the baby friendly initiative has gone too far, putting undue stress on both mothers and babies to exclusively breastfeed no matter the outcome. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| princy thomas | India | 2016-07-13 | I give birth to my baby boy 10 months back through caesarian section. My child was crying throughout day and night even though I have enough milk. But the problem was retracted nipple. He was not able to suck properly. We requested to give supplements but hospital personnel refused.. my child's bilirubin value increased and he had jaundice... only because he was not fed properly ... |
| Isabella Savastano | Plymouth, MI | 2016-07-14 | I 100% agree that fed is best and I was shamed for using formula around four weeks because I did not produce enough milk. All mothers around the world need to hear this. |
| Angela Beasley | Vinton, VA | 2016-07-14 | I had no milk at my son's birth and he could have easily become a victim to this as well had I not bottle fed him. |
| Tina Gounder | India | 2016-07-14 | I'm signing this coz we went through similar issue. My son was born on 2nd of April 2016. Happy we were with our new bundle of joy. My baby was entirely on BF initially and lyk all other 1st time mom I was under the impression that he is getting feed as required... doc visit confirmed that I am producing enough for the feed and I should continue BF.. got the discharge on 5th April... and the routine of BF continued for hours and hours on every feed. On 7th midnight around 3 am when he got up for the feed he had fever when chkd ... he had 100.3 fever.. we rushed him to the hospital... doc informed the fever is due to dehydration and severe and critical too reason being he is hungry from almost 5 days..... it took several days ... stressed , worried days and sleepless nights for him to become okay. I was not able to make out if he was completely fed putting him in this situation. Along with this I also want to suggest that the hospital and doc should also be spreading this awareness amongst mothers specially 1st timers |
| Angie Davis | Salt Lake City, UT | 2016-07-14 | My breastmilk didn't come in as well as it's supposed to. I felt great pressure to breastfeed only. My baby was fortunate enough that her brain development was not affected, but her weight was. We need to educate mothers, and fathers, that breast isn't always best. What is best is a healthy, fed, baby. |
| Sheila Fontaine RNC-OB Fontaine | Harker Heights, TX | 2016-07-15 | I'm an LD nurse who has seen both sides of the breast feeding trend. I have been a bedside OB nurse for 30 years. I nursed all 3 of my children for over a year and fully endorse nursing, however mothers cannot even give their babies a bottle in the hospital without a consult from the pediatrician. They are made to feel guilty by the current policies from the exclusive breastfeeding proponents. Motherhood is difficult enough without everyone questioning your intuition about your own child. I sincerely believe we need to dial back the 'baby friendly initiative'. It is far too restrictive. |
| Mary Deans-Romero | Raleigh, NC | 2016-07-15 | My first baby had jaundice. A tongue tie. She cried for a week straight until we gave her formula at week 3. I came to find out I have cystic breasts and cannot make enough milk. I've had mastitis 7 times while nursing a singleton and twins. I supplemented nursing but was able to nurse my singleton until month 20 when I had to wean due to my high risk twin pregnancy. I never made more than half the milk she needed. I supplemented with my twins from the beginning, first with donor milk, then with formula. I'm weaning them now at almost 14 months. The system needs to change from |

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| | | | Breastmilk is best extreme and formula only extremes. There are so many ways to nourish babies. No one way is right. |
| Charlotte Chumlea | Charlottesville, VA | 2016-07-15 | I breast fed two children. Thankfully they survived, but the results might have been very different. Who knew? |
| Joni Metoxen | Newark, OH | 2016-07-15 | I'm signing because I had a frighteningly similar experience with low milk supply and a newborn with rapid weight loss in the first week after birth. If I hadn't ignored professional advice and supplemented early on, this could have been my son. More studies are needed on the prevalence and effects of insufficient milk supply, and parents and health professionals should be educated with the most complete information available about exclusive breastfeeding and its possible risks. |
| Vigneswari Senthil raja | India | 2016-07-15 | I have undergone to that pressure by my in laws which made me guilty and Due to which I got into depression. How will I feed exclusively my twins when my body doesn't produce enough milk and my baby crystal with hunger. As doc gave formula feed I give them when I have no milk. But pressure is more from elders and in laws |
| Whitney Schutt | Hermann, MO | 2016-07-15 | My first born experienced this as well. He lost 2 pounds his first week at home. We were told to immediately supplement formula. It took us almost a month to get back up to his birthday weight. We had to go in every other day for weight checks and his pediatrician stressed that if he didn't surpass his birthday weight by 5 weeks old that he would be admitted to the hospital. I was the toughest time of my life, but I can't imagine how some families have it much worse off than we did. Feed those babies anyway they need it! Don't be ashamed to be a formula supporter. Support your baby's health in any and every way possible. |
| Sarah Deibert | Depew, OK | 2016-07-16 | I'm signing this because I recently gave birth at one of these "baby friendly" hospitals. I was struggling to feed my daughter, so I asked for formula. I had to ask twice because they ignored my request the first time. My daughter wound up jaundiced and we had to stay an additional night because of it. Formula shouldn't be treated like a narcotic, and children shouldn't die over an ignorant ideology. |
| Robin Huber | Sebastian, FL | 2016-07-17 | I have been a labor nurse as well as mother/baby nurse for over 25 years. I have a lot of concern for babies that do not breast feed well in the first few days of life. |
| carla blaisdell | melbourne, FL | 2016-07-17 | I am a retired mother/baby nurse and concerned about hungry newborns. |
| Michelle Windsor | Wilmington, DE | 2016-07-21 | I am a labor and delivery nurse and have been a maternity nurse before that in a " baby friendly" hospital. It was heartbreaking to hear those babies cry. Worst of all, it was extremely difficult to hear the lactation consultants tell the parents that their baby is crying for other reasons, not just to eat. The parents were told to ignore their maternal and paternal instincts in order to improve their (the hospital's) numbers of babies sent home exclusively breastfeeding. I found myself at the parents' bedside as they were mid meltdown, telling them the truth. I got into trouble more than once and made a |

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| | | | career change. I switched hospitals. We support the parents choice now at this hospital. I just can't believe how babies were at risk of being harmed in order to get the baby friendly title, which means money. How sad. I feel very passionate about this cause. |
| Shellee Ryan | Newington, CT | 2016-07-26 | I am in 100% agreement with this article! I work in maternity and too often see this happening! Yes we are a baby friendly hospital. |
| Rachel Jacobson | Schaumburg, IL | 2016-07-26 | FED is best. |
| Joselynn Roddy | Esmond, IL | 2016-07-26 | Fed is best! |
| Debbie Oliver | Orl, FL | 2016-07-28 | Baby first!!! We need to stop making Moms feel like failures if they give thier baby a bottle!!!! You can breast and bottle. |
| Mary Amalino | Winter Haven, FL | 2016-07-28 | I'm a mother/baby nurse |
| Paloma Hernández | Mexico | 2016-07-28 | Mi bebe tuvo ictericia por insuficiencia fe leche |
| Verna Vital-Mendoza | Taguig, Philippines | 2016-07-31 | I believe not every mom can do ebf no matter how much she wants it |
| Leah Wynne | Featherston, Wairarapa, New Zealand | 2016-07-31 | Not everyone can breast feed. Its about the mother and her baby. Time to get real. |
| Andrea Sawdey | Fairborn, OH | 2016-08-01 | I'm a pediatric LPN and mom of two boys. My second is 2 mo old and gets both formula and breastmilk. I have low supply. My son gets the benefits of breastmilk and the benefits of formula. He's happy. I'm happy! |
| Brittany Bair | New Castle, PA | 2016-08-01 | No baby should have to go hungry. |
| Holley McKiven | Alcoa, TN | 2016-08-01 | Fed is best ## |
| Ma.Cecilia Angeles | Manila, Philippines | 2016-08-01 | I'm signing because I am so sick of people shaming new moms of not breastfeeding specially mother-in-laws whose idea of being a great mom revolves around breastfeeding. Yes breast milk is the best but not in all cases. I wanted to give encouragement those first time moms like me to stand up for what they believe is good for their child. You are the mom. You know by heart what is good and bad for your child. Nobody has the right to shame you just because you are not conforming with the norms. |
| N A | Greensboro, NC | 2016-08-02 | I breastfeeding all 3 of my kids. Luckily this never happened to them but it could have. If mothers are better educated on this, they will know what to look out for and it can help prevent future health problems, health care cost, and maybe even death. #miracleforkamiracle |
| Erin Buechler | Indianapolis, IN | 2016-08-02 | Mothers need to know its ok to supplement their newborns! Reduce the stigma that moms are bad if they have to supplement! Teach the signs and educate proper weight gain that first week or two of life. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Ashley Hubbard | Zachary, LA | 2016-08-02 | I am signing this petition to raise awareness that ALL mothers DO NOT produce a sufficient amount of breastmilk, therefore risking their baby's overall health by trying to exclusively breastfeed. |
| Angela raidiger | McDonough, GA | 2016-08-02 | Formula saves lives |
| Jennifer Struthers | Melbourne, FL | 2016-08-02 | I work in a "baby friendly" hospital and I am not supposed to recommend or suggest supplementing. It is frustrating to know what could be happening to these poor babies. RN |
| Jan Hamilton | Jackson, TN | 2016-08-02 | My daughter strongly believes in it therefore so do I. |
| Cara Dzubow | Fairfax, VA | 2016-08-02 | The misinformation about breastfeeding and pressure to breastfeed (as opposed to support) is dangerous! |
| Barbara Atkinson | Gillam, Canada | 2016-08-03 | When my daughter was born, my milk didn't come in either and we had difficulty with latching. Our experience was that most nurses in the maternity ward didn't appear to be trained properly in supporting breast feeding in people with difficulty (one nurse thought shoving my screaming baby's face into my breast was helpful, and that her red face was a "healthy shade of pink"). After 24 hours, our baby started to cry (barely a peep out of her before then) and we asked for formula since my nursing attempts were unsuccessful. It took them over an hour to get us a bottle of formula and multiple requests. After two weeks of pumping after every feeding and multiple stressful attempts at latching, we decided to go with just formula because she was happy and thriving and the unsuccessful breast feeding seemed to get in the way of our bonding. |
| Erika Farfan | Columbus, OH | 2016-08-03 | Thankfully, I had nurses, pediatricians, AND lactation consultants who supported my decision to starting formula supplementing at 12 hours. I can't imagine the suffering my baby would have experienced otherwise as my milk didn't come in for 5 days. She was supplemented for about 6-8 weeks but then when on to have only breast milk until 13 months. I'm thankful that I had professionals around me who put my baby's health first. |
| Jennifer Combs | Marion, NC | 2016-08-03 | I'm signing because just because I was able to breastfeed easily doesn't mean every woman can. Women should be free to make the best feeding choices for their baby based on actual science without pressure from either the formula or breastfeeding industries. Happy, health children are more important than the agendas of these two opposing groups. |
| Nympha Arribe | Pasig, Philippines | 2016-08-04 | I also have insufficient breastmilk in both of my 2 pregnancies even though I have done everything that I know to increase my supply - proper diet, food intake, malunggay and fenugreek capsules, lactation massage & latching for almost the entire half day. I am glad I supplemented. My firstborn is now a healthy 5 year old, and I have a 7 week old baby that I am currently mix-feeding. |
| Nicole King MD | San Diego, CA | 2016-08-04 | My story is eerily similar though miraculously my son didn't have permanent neurological damage. The message of the breast is best baby frienday campaign is misleading, judgemental and most |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | importantly, dangerous. As a physician, mother, naval officer and patient advocate I strongly believe in this petition. |
| Laura Ling | Bristol, CT | 2016-08-04 | My daughter was starving because the lactation consultants kept telling me she was fine and not to listen to my doctor. I cannot make enough milk but my baby suffered so much. |
| Keren Joy Gantia | PASAY, Philippines | 2016-08-04 | I'm signing because I have the same experienced case to my first born. I have my breast milk insufficiency, after three days my son turned yellowish.I just thank God that my mother in law insisted me to give formula to my son for he was crying hard, and as my mother said he was hungry.The stories that you have shared are not far to my case. I want to help and advocate that not all moms have enough breast milk. |
| Jhonnalei Alabata | Davao City, Philippines | 2016-08-04 | I'm signing because my baby was re-admitted in the hospital because of insufficient breastmilk. He was 3.165kg when I delivered after 2 days he became 2.9kg. The baby was irritated plus hyperthermia. When I supported with formula he was fine. |
| Michelle Reckner | Georgetown, IN | 2016-08-04 | I didn't produce enough milk, and one of my nurses was kind of a bully because of it. I thought that if I fed my kids a bottle, I was a failure. Turns out, formula saved all of our butts. Fed is best. Period. |
| Bahar Akman | Dorval, Canada | 2016-08-04 | My baby lost 10% of her weight, became hypoglycemic and very jaundiced while at the hospital. At this day and age, it should not be happening at a modern hospital in Canada. |
| duwane brayton | Kalamazoo, MI | 2016-08-04 | This is infuriating. This garbage had a negative effect on Ex, when she was unable to breastfeed my younger son, the shame exacerbating her mental illness. This sort of pressure hurt my family in other ways. Learning just how widespread this sort of pressure is becoming among medical professionals is a whole new level of upsetting. This is absolutely inexcusable! |
| Katie Wiederhold | Erlanger, KY | 2016-08-04 | I know low supply is a fact as i suffer it myself! |
| Molly Paterson | Bellingham, WA | 2016-08-04 | My daughter lost 11% of her birth weight and failed to gain weight on breastmilk alone after a full week. Without supplementation, my daughter would have suffered. Fed is best. |
| Anna Westendorf | Phoenix, AZ | 2016-08-05 | If not for the insistence of myself and my husband, our baby could easily have been a victim of the same due to my being an under producer and my milk taking 5+ days to come in after a c section. I'm so glad I listened to my gut. |
| Joana Techapaibul | Bangkoj, Thailand | 2016-08-05 | This could have happened to my baby. I had no breast milk the first week. Luckily the nursery caught that and strongly recommend supplementing. Mothers need to be warned of this |
| นางสาวอุสนา สมนาน | นนทบุรี, Thailand | 2016-08-05 | Let's come realize about the tragic result from underfeeding newborn babies. Many people are still unaware of this issues inspite of happening everywhere. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Sanel Mehmet | Dagenham, England, UK | 2016-08-05 | This could have happened to me. Baby was jaundice and not feeding properly and I wasn't producing enough I knew I wasn't but for 4 days was pressured into thinking breast is best. The Dr suggested mixing and the Midwives hated the idea to the point I was arguing in the ward for formula till my husband purchased some from the shops. I was made to feel like a bad mum. The attitude needs to change in hospitals. |
| จุฬารัตน์ รังคะราช | ขอนแก่น, Thailand | 2016-08-05 | โหม่นด้วยกับบทความนี้ |
| Stacey Rabotyagov | Seattle, WA | 2016-08-05 | No baby should die of starvation. |
| Alpha Samson | Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia | 2016-08-05 | Every child deserves to live healthily. Fed is best! |
| Kimberly Russo | Davis, CA | 2016-08-05 | I too was encouraged to exclusively breastfeed at the hospital. On the third day however as my son's jaundice was not subsiding, I insisted on formula supplementation and was met with guilt by the nurses, but I feel this was the best for my son. Upon reading this, I am more convinced that hospitals need to change their policies. |
| Sarah Warner | Vancouver, WA | 2016-08-06 | We need increased monitoring especially for First time parents! I had a lot of questions and would get a lot of near-condescending answers from the nurses |
| Katy Binks | NORTHALLERTON, England, UK | 2016-08-06 | I'm signing because we were told breastfeeding was best and after nursing day and night for 10 days my little girl was admitted to hospital with over 1lb weight loss and dehydration and had to be supplemented with formula. New mothers need to be better informed on the facts, realities and challenges of breastfeeding and supported more effectively! |
| Gemma Sharman | London, England, UK | 2016-08-06 | When I had my baby I was made to feel awful because I gave up on breastfeeding when my daughter wasn't getting any milk from me. The pressure from doctors, midwives, health visitors, NHS leaflets and posters was huge. I felt like I was already a terrible mother because of the incessant propaganda that 'breast is best'. Mothers should get the information that breast feeding carries health benefits. But we should also be told that a well-fed baby is more important - perhaps we could even be given information about the numerous holistic benefits of bottle feeding, such as knowing exactly how much your baby has drunk, sleeping better, shared feeding with partners and setting up a feeding routine. All parents want to do their best but that's not the same for everyone. It's time to stop shaming mothers for the decisions they make. |
| April Mccullough | Grenville-sur-la-rouge, Canada | 2016-08-07 | I have 3 children. My oldest nearly died from being under fed through exclusive breastfeeding. He had lost more than 15% of his birth weight. He weighed 9lbs 3oz at birth! By day 3 he looked like a different baby. I took him to the doctor and saw a lactation consultant. Both of them told me not to worry and that everything would be fine- my milk supply was abundant and there was absolutely no need for formula. I had milk- lots of it, we all agreed on this, but he was still losing weight. Finally, the morning of day 4, I took action, trusted my gut instincts and took my little boy to |

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| | | | the hospital emergency department. We were seen by a nurse there that saved my sons life. She was able to see that his latch was wrong (his tongue was up). She corrected it and i laid in that hospital bed and he nursed for 5 hours straight. I will never forget her. With my second child, nursing came as easily as breathing. She thrived and there were no issues. With my third child, another little boy, I recognized all the symptoms i |
| Megan Wutzke | Fairport, NY | 2016-08-07 | When my first daughter was born I made sure that the hospital knew I was not planning to breast feed her. They basically threw the formula and nipples on her bassinet cart and left it at that; no instruction, no "here, try this". Thank goodness my mom was there! With my second baby, a 35 week preemie that suddenly was in a hurry to be born we were all set for the same path. I was hospitalized for 24 hours before they allowed me to deliver her and every nurse on every visit told me I HAD to BF her and that I should consider the risks. FINALLY when the doctor that delivered her came on shift he put a stop to it all. Ordered the formula be ready in the NICU, had the nurses stop pushing me and I felt better. In the NICU my tiny 4.4lb baby girl as thriving on her formula while I watched the 2 other mamas in there with us struggle to get their little Babies to latch, to produce anything of substance and to have their babies get NG tubes as a result. It was heart breaking. I told them they were doing a good job, tha |
| Kristine McGovern | Toledo, OH | 2016-08-07 | I'm signing because my son was admitted to the NICU 5 days after he was born due to dehydration and his bilirubin levels were very high and he lost a lot of weight. My milk came in the next day. I never gave him supplement because I thought he was getting enough from me. New mothers should be informed about the dangers of newborns not getting enough milk for the first few days of their lives. |
| Dian Kathrina Dela Paz Lagbas | Mandaluyong City, Philippines | 2016-08-08 | I'm signing this because I fell victim to the exclusive breastfeeding program which almost made my baby a victim as well. An innocent victim who cannot speak to tell those "Breastfeeding Pros" that he is hungry and that fed is still best. We do not deny that breastfing is still the best for babies because it is true. But having your child starve because you don't have suffecient breastmilk is just outrageous. |
| Carolina Caicedo | Bogota, Colombia | 2016-08-08 | I've seen first handed the damage that occurs as a result of insufficient breastfeeding. I live in a country that provide wrong information about it. Change should start somewhere. |
| Hazel Arozado | Davao City, Philippines | 2016-08-09 | I have more than enough breastmilk, I have 3 kids and they are all breastfed. However, I know some moms who don't have enough but are pressured to breastfeed because hospitals won't allow them to bring feeding bottles and formula inside the hospital. |
| Fatima Rodrigues | Milton, Canada | 2016-08-09 | I was bullied into breastfeeding my son when he was born by a nurse at the hospital, and the poor little guy cried all night, starving and exhausted. Finally, I remembered I had brought some formula with me to the hospital and he drank so much that he was content and slept the rest of the night. I don't regret my choice because he was FED! |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Laura Aune | Cook, MN | 2016-08-10 | I'm sick of the ideology and all of the benefits of breast feeding and the risks of formula feeding. We are not allowed to speak of the very real risks of breastfeeding and the benefits of formula feeding. Breast milk is NOT liquid gold. It is merely an acceptable way to feed your baby. As is formula. |
| Laura Aune | Cook, MN | 2016-08-10 | I'm sick of the ideology and all of the benefits of breast feeding and the risks of formula feeding. We are not allowed to speak of the very real risks of breastfeeding and the benefits of formula feeding. Breast milk is NOT liquid gold. It is merely an acceptable way to feed your baby. As is formula. |
| Kimberley Legeman | Ventura, CA | 2016-08-10 | No one ever told me that I might not produce enough milk. Every class we took, and every nurse we spoke with, said that I would produce enough. To throw away the formula samples I was sent because it was just big business trying to make money, and to tempt me to take the easy way out. I'm glad I saw a LC who told me to go buy formula immediately, before my son starved and was permanently injured. No shame should be placed on any moms, no matter which way they choose to feed THEIR children. Fed IS Best! |
| Elizabeth Garcia-Leavitt | Salt Lake City, UT | 2016-08-11 | My last baby was born at a "baby friendly" hospital. She had trouble nursing and would cry constantly. I had two prior children and I know how to recognize a hungry cry. I had to insist strongly to get formula and suffered multiple disparaging remarks about "giving up and not trying hard enough". When she was finally fed she became a very happy content baby. I kept trying to breastfeed at home and eventually met with an experienced lactation consultant who through weighing my child before and after feedings and actually examining her confirmed that she was not able to latch and eat correctly due to a severe tongue tie. If I hadn't insisted on giving my child a bottle she would likely be one of these statistics. |
| Lindsey Leder | Juneau, AK | 2016-08-11 | This would have been my son had we not been hospitalized for over week due to complications with me. Luckily the extra time allowed us to figure out he was not getting any milk because he was tongue tied. One amazing nurse practitioner figured out in 30 seconds what 5 lactation consultants failed to even assess. Not to bash lactation consultants, I have met and worked with many wonderful ones through the years but this particular experience was awful the only feedback I got from them was condescending advice that was not helpful in the least. There were two days I was so ill I was unable to breastfeed and thank God for formula - it saved my baby. |
| Katie Carlton | Plymouth, England, UK | 2016-08-11 | I was bullied into expressing milk for my son, until I was exhausted and he was 3 months old. People need to be offered support for their CHOSEN method of feeding and not made to feel inadequate for not breastfeeding. |
| Hannah Lees | Ordsall, England, UK | 2016-08-11 | My son lost over 11% of his body weight in 3 days due to attempting to exclusively Breastfeed. After calling the hospital 3 nights in a row in desperation after he hadn't fed for 10+ hours at a time we were told this was normal and to continue with trying to breast feed! It turned out he was tongue tied, couldn't latch and my milk didn't come in for 5 days. We ended up back in hospital on a feeding programme with treatment for jaundice and monitoring |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | for dehydration. I dread to think what could have happened all because breastfeeding is so heavily forced. The advice needs to change. This is potentially deadly to our little ones. As mothers we all appreciate and understand the benefits of breastfeeding and while it should be encouraged it should by no means be insisted upon. The hospital should have advised me to feed my son, the fact they didn't is appalling! |
| Amy Mirner | Fareham, England, UK | 2016-08-11 | When I had my daughter I attempted to breastfeed but my milk never came in. Rather than listen to my concerns multiple practitioners told me that she either wasn't latching properly, or she was cluster feeding, or don't be so silly of course she was getting enough. Even when I told them that with hand expressing I was getting nothing I was told of course you won't it's too early. All I wanted was for a professional to tell me that I wasn't failing my daughter with this basic requirement that she had, that formula was ok instead I sobbed when my husband gave her a bottle because I couldn't bring myself to do it. When I told a professional about the formula they said "I knew you would and you seem much calmer today. As long as your baby is fed that's the main thing. Both mine were formula fed." The only word I can use to describe how I felt at that time was rage! Her response was "We aren't allowed to encourage formula feeding!" Surely ensuring the mental health of a new, overwhelmed Mother who so |
| Emily Dhurandhar | Lubbock, TX | 2016-08-15 | My son was underfed for the first two days of his life because I had received only positive feedback about breastfeeding progress and had no idea he wasn't getting enough. His dehydration and starvation significantly worsened his jaundice, which required intensive therapy at home. I wish I had been given more information about recognizing the signs that he wasn't getting enough nourishment. |
| Hannah Georgescu | Aliso Viejo, CA | 2016-08-15 | This was my experience. I was at a very pro breastfeeding hospital. There was breastfeeding propaganda everywhere. So many signs that said "breast is best" and pamphlets that listed all the pros of breastfeeding. I gave it a try because I said I would and I had been pressured. I didn't really want to and knew that my chances of producing milk were lower than other moms because I had a previous surgery on my breasts. My poor baby would cry and cry for food and I knew she was hungry. No one offered to take her from me after an all night long labor. They just told me to keep putting her to the breast. The nurses told me my colostrum was enough but I barely produced that at all. We went home and for a week I tried. She would cry and cry and not latch and get frustrated. I would call the hospital and they told me no formula. I got massive anxiety every time she cried for food. When we went to her first check up and she had lost over 10% of her body weight I said this is enough. |
| Tara Dupre | Lamar, MO | 2016-08-15 | I'm signing because my third child got pretty sick about 24 hours after birth due to not getting enough breast milk even though several nurses and two lactation consultants assured me over and over that he was feeding just fine. No he wasn't and he ended up with an IV in his scalp to bring his scary-low blood sugar up. My first two struggled with jaundice and crying and not sleeping as well until I switched to formula. You'd think on child #3 I would have just |

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| | | | signed up for exclusive formula feeding and saved us all the stress but I didn't because the pressure to breastfeed is ridiculous. |
| Anna Bellatorre | Lincoln, NE | 2016-08-15 | My daughter was born 3 weeks early via c-section. She was under 5lbs due to severe IUGR and had a mild tongue tie. I had several risk factors for low/delayed milk production that were never shared with me, but were clear from my chart. That coupled with my daughter's low birth weight and tongue tie could have spelled disaster if I bought into the baby friendly hospital party line of exclusive breastfeeding. I said to the hospital pediatrician and nurses that the baby obviously needed supplementation within hours of her birth and wouldn't back down. The pediatrician recommended triple feeding (breastfeeding, pumping, and supplementation). I am so happy we did because she is thriving and gained back to her birthweight in under a week and tacked on 2 more lbs by week 3 of life. I read an article about the dangers of neurological deficits associated with hypoglycemia from exclusive breastfeeding with moms with delayed/low milk production. If I hadn't, I might not have been so adamant about supplementing. My daugh |
| Emily Richins | Carlisle, PA | 2016-08-15 | L&D RN that's fed up with forcing or guiltig Mothers into breastfeeding. |
| Heidi Bertels | New York, NY | 2016-08-15 | My milk did not come in on time and nobody told me to watch out for this. I went to several classes! |
| Elaine Becker | Roanoke, VA | 2016-08-15 | New Mother should be verified to be properly lactating before being sent home! |
| Suwana Wierzba | Portland, OR | 2016-08-15 | I'm an RN. Babies should not be starving and hospitals should not be allowing this to happen. We need to be following evidence based medicine. We should not be involved in committing neglect/harm of our patients. |
| Wendy Cameron | Astoria, IL | 2016-08-15 | I'm an OB nurse and hate that we are pushed to make mothers breastfeed exclusively. I always encourage breastfeeding but it's not for everyone! There is nothing wrong with providing a starving infant with a little formula. |
| Jenny Caswell | Marion, IA | 2016-08-16 | My son was re-admitted to the hospital the day after he came home for jaundice. After staying up all night attempting to feed a screaming baby, I was told that my milk had not come in yet. I had been told before leaving the hospital that I was making enough. We had to go to the pediatrician's office weekly to weigh my son to make sure that he was gaining weight adequately. |
| Beth Lynch | Louisville, KY | 2016-08-16 | When my son was born, my milk didn't come in until day 4. The hospital I delivered him at is similar to the ones I have been reading about...did not recommend supplementing. Thankfully his PCP wanted to see him 24 hrs post discharge and he suggested we supplement since Bili was elevated and decreased number of wet and dry diapers. I am thankful for the pediatrician because it could have been a lot worse than just him having jaundice. |
| Sherri Dahlem | Wadsworth, OH | 2016-08-16 | Children need nutrition not starvation! |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Leoveliza Fontanil | Quezon City, Philippines | 2016-08-16 | I'am totally agree on the advocacy#fedisbest |
| Jennifer Kittleson | St. Ansgar, IA | 2016-08-16 | My friend had a similar scary incident. |
| Nancy Kyle | Brandon, MS | 2016-08-18 | My hospital is "forcing" the new mothers to breastfeed so they can be considered "Baby Friendly" hospital and therefore receive money from the government. |
| Alane Wentz | Lancaster, MA | 2016-08-18 | My son is 3 months old, and when he was born my milk took what seemed like forever to come in. The lactation consultants at the hospital made me feel terrible, as if it were my fault and I was a failure as a mother because I couldn't feed my child my own milk. Luckily the doctors and nurses recognized early on and offered my son supplement with my consent, but when we were discharged, no one even remotely suggested we should continue to supplement. His pediatrician monitored his weight closely, which nosedived, and that's the first doctor who told me how serious it was - and that it was vital and okay for me to supplement. Now he only receives one supplement a day at daycare - the rest is my milk. And he's thriving. |
| Stephanie Briggs | Worsley, England, UK | 2016-08-18 | Fed is best! No baby should starve. |
| Robert Chong | Davao City, Philippines | 2016-08-18 | All this guilting of women into exclusive breast-feeding and the lobbying at the hospital level which are affecting hospital policies can be downright dangerous to infantas. |
| Andrea Riley | Lincoln, NE | 2016-08-18 | My son was re-hospitalized due to jaundice and dehydration from EBF. He is fine now thanks to formula. |
| Brittney Norman | Berryville, AR | 2016-08-18 | I was lucky that my daughter didn't suffer apart from dehydration during her first 3 days of life. I didn't make enough milk for her in the beginning and never did, but formula saved her life. |
| Angie Bannochie | Phoenix, AZ | 2016-08-19 | NICU Nurse who has been practicing for 14 years and has seen some really sick babies from lack of hydration and strictly breast fed. |
| Susan Neuhoff | Greenville, NC, NC | 2016-08-20 | As a former NICU nurse, I know the importance of nutrition for all babies. It is more important to feed them a well researched substitute than to be rigid in thought and allow permanent injury in development. Substitutes do not mean breast feeding will end. |
| Akila Gibbs | Los Angeles, CA | 2016-08-21 | I |
| Amber Silva | Biddeford, ME | 2016-08-21 | My son spent 9 days in NICU (for unrelated complication) and wasn't able to eat for three days. The lactation consultants just kept saying pump pump pump but nothing was coming. Then they said it'll come it'll come, but it wasn't. I was getting more and more frustrated because they kept telling me 'this is the only thing you can do for your son right now' so I kept pumping until it hurt. By day 4, he was able to eat and no matter how hard I tried, there was nothing for him. Thankfully because of his condition the nurses let me supplement with formula. I don't know what would've happened if they didn't! This article is the first time I've felt normal about not |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | being able to produce! Thank you for normalizing this for me and making me feel like I'm not alone! |
| Catherine Vogt | Grand Rapids, MI | 2016-08-21 | I'm signing because if it weren't for formula or the amazing hospital I had my daughter in, then she would probably be dead. I have low milk supply and she was born prematurely. Her birth weight dropped 8% and she had extremely low blood sugar because I wasn't giving her enough. Now I breastfeed and supplement with formula. |
| Margaret Womack | Eustace, TX | 2016-08-22 | I'm signing because my daughter suffered dehydration and insufficient weight gain street I believed the lie that it was impossible not to produce enough breast milk for her. |
| Jessica Babineau | Charlestown, RI | 2016-08-22 | I had one child brought back to the er due to dehydration issues and losing 12% of his weight. I vowed I would strictly formula feed my next but was bullied into trying again with similar results. I saw numerous lactation consultants, pumped endlessly, and was beyond stressed. With my third I had to see 3 different professionals before they would agree to let me supplement, despite my history. We shouldn't have to be shamed for something some bodies just won't do!!!! |
| Myda Lau | QC, Philippines | 2016-08-23 | I'm signing because I feel that Fed is best |
| Cherry Michelle Gabay | Floridablanca, Philippines | 2016-08-23 | I'm a breastfeeding mom.. |
| Marcy Gitt | Columbia, MD | 2016-08-23 | I had no idea a baby could be at risk due to a hospital's failure to support supplementing feeding with formula. |
| Katy Presnell | Warren, OR | 2016-08-23 | This may have been my child. My twins were jaundiced and diagnosed adhd. |
| Pamela Dixon | Chessington, England, UK | 2016-08-24 | My baby lost more than 10% of her birth weight in hospital while we were trying to establish breast feeding. I ended up begging for formula after 72 hours with no latch as she was obviously starving, why did I have to do that? The lack of pragmatism and common sense in breast feeding promotion and staff working in baby friendly initiative hospitals needs addressing. |
| Melanie Peralta | Laveen Village, AZ | 2016-08-24 | I experienced this with my first born. She had already been admitted to the NICU for chorioamnionitis and had to spend a full supervised 48 hours on antibiotics. Her bilirubin levels began to rise and the nurses just kept telling me to nurse more but I felt like she wasn't getting enough. She was constantly fussy and rooting. Finally after me crying to the lactation nurse she told me that the pediatrician had recommended supplementing in her chart days ago for her rise in bilirubin. This had never been communicated to me and the nurse flat told me it was because they're supposed to push exclusive breast feeding. Of course my daughter ended up with jaundice and we had to stay days longer in the hospital before they would allow her to go home. The first night I started supplementing my baby stopped crying all the time, actually slept for a couple hours in a row and her jaundice started getting better. My poor baby was starving |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | on top of developing another disease on top of it all because the nurses weren't supp |
| Mary Hornig | Fremont, NE | 2016-08-24 | No baby should ever go hungry! To this day I regret not giving my baby formula in the hospital before my milk came in. |
| Jennifer Farra | Saint Louis, MO | 2016-08-25 | Mothers need to be able to choose from among the clinically safe options, one of which is formula feeding. |
| Katie Bauckman | Libertyville, IL | 2016-08-25 | Because "just nurse more" is not the solution to every breastfeeding problem, however much lactivists would like to think so... |
| Alison Armstrong | Havre de Grace, MD | 2016-08-25 | I exclusively breastfed for the first month, and I watched as my baby kept shrinking and her skin started sagging on what were healthy limbs at birth. The pediatrician and lactation consultants told me to keep breastfeeding exclusively, but I knew she wasn't getting enough milk. She was lethargic and kept losing weight. After getting her tongue and lip tie cut, thinking that was the problem, she still wasn't gaining. Her failure to thrive at this point could have either been from my lack of production or heart failure because she had two heart murmurs. When I started supplementing, she bounced back and has grown significantly. Her heart is healthy, but in our situation, breast was not best. Stop guiltting mothers into thinking breastfeeding is their only choice. The only choice for a mother is to do what's best for her child. |
| Amber Anderson | Kingfield, NH | 2016-08-26 | Fed is best and nobody should be able to shame anyone otherwise. |
| Marilyn Webb | Mesa, AZ | 2016-08-26 | I am a labor and a nicu nurse who completely agrees with this issue presented in this article. Well meaning but uninformed mother's are starving their children with devastation results. Why autism on the rise? Why more adhd? A correlation? I do believe so. |
| Regine Lee | Singapore, Singapore | 2016-08-26 | I believe supplement feeding as I do not have milk the first week after giving birth |
| Pat Armstrong | Havre de Grace, MD | 2016-08-26 | I'm signing because I was a successful breastfeeding mother, but as a grandparent have experienced twice the effects of a distraught mother trying to make the right decision about supplementing with formula when breast milk was not enough to sustain their babies. I feel that being offered more options to continue breastfeeding while supplementing with formula for nourishment without any guilt would give new mothers a much healthier start for themselves as well as their babies |
| Jan Burchfield | Tupelo, MS | 2016-08-26 | Breast is wonderful but not always BEST |
| Gioanna Letostak | Somerset, NJ | 2016-08-27 | I am signing because a fed baby is a happy baby. My son was born 6 weeks premature and had a difficult time breastfeeding due to breathing issues and being so small. I was told by the NICU we were in not to worry because if he lost weight or just wasn't getting it that they would just drop a feeding tube so he'd be fed. I was disgusted and heartbroken. I wasn't able to fully bond with my baby. I was so afraid and felt so ashamed because they kept pushing breast is best and he physically couldn't tolerate it. It took a while to get out of that mindset. Fed is best no matter how it's delivered. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Chrissy Sands | Whitehorse, Canada | 2016-08-27 | Because "baby friendly" hospital practices were harmful to me and my newborn. Because I was refused formula by multiple nurses after a traumatic birth and my milk wasn't coming in. Thank you for educating the public on this important issue. |
| Jacqueline Henderson | San Antonio, TX | 2016-08-27 | I have been a nurse since 1998 and breastfed my own son until he was almost two. As a pediatric, newborn and NICU nurse, have witnessed many babies being exclusively breast fed while in the hospital. Unfortunately, they were put on the same 3hr to 4hr schedule as the bottle fed babies per hospital policies, lactation consultants, even doctors. I strongly objected hundreds of times to this harsh treatment of newborns, to no avail. It is cruel to healthy, plump, well hydrated newborns with plenty of brown fat. It is dangerous to low birthweight babies as they have very little stored brown fat. Medical personnell should realize that these rules and protocols are to be used as guidelines only. Babies can not all be put in the same boxes! We need to encourage people to use their critical thinking skills and look at the individual needs of our patients. We need to advocate for our little patients and stop blindly following the herd. We need to remember: FIRST DO NO HARM. |
| Sarah Tipton | Quincy, IL | 2016-08-28 | FED IS BEST. |
| Laurie Poole | Pawleys Island, SC | 2016-08-28 | If I had listened to the lactivists and not my mother and started supplementing with formula, I could have been in the same position. I had an insufficient supply from the start. |
| Olga Slavin-Spenny | Berkley, MI | 2016-08-28 | My milk did not come in for 5 days post delivery, with both kids. With my first, the nurses kept saying to put him to the breast but my baby was inconsolable until we gave him some formula. We were then made to feel guilty by the hospital staff, like we gave up on being good parents. With my second, I followed my instincts and supplemented with formula for those first few days until my milk came in without feeling bad. I'm horrified looking back at the misinformation provided by the hospital staff. Thank goodness we didn't follow their instructions to starve our babies for five days! |
| Allison miller | Arnold, MO | 2016-08-28 | I am a healthcare professional and can clearly see that policies need to be changed to protect these children from unnecessary harm and potentially lifelong issues. |
| Nicole Boenzi | Westchester, IL | 2016-08-28 | I support anything to educate new families. I exclusively breast fed without trouble, but would want all the help and education if things did not go that way |
| Robin Sterk | Chatsworth, CA | 2016-08-28 | I'm signing this because I feel hospitals & drs put a lot of pressure to exclusively breastfeed babies at all costs. I experience it why my daughter had her baby and had breastfeeding issues. |
| Staci Sabin | Binghamton, NY | 2016-08-29 | I made the educated choice to formula feed and I am still criticized for it 7 year after the birth of my son. My children are happy and healthy! |
| Jenny Parrish | Dayton, OH | 2016-08-29 | It should be the mothers right to decide. And not all women are successful at it. Why risk the baby? |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Lindsey Smith | Los Angeles, CA | 2016-08-29 | I am a new mother who choose to use both formula and breast milk right from the beginning. I saw a friend of mine that gave birth shortly after I did that only breast fed struggle with their baby during the first few days of life because the baby was hungry and losing weight. My experience was so different and my baby was happy from the start because she was well feed due to us supplementing with formula. Given that it took a week for my milk to come in and not much came in, I can't imagine what my baby would have been like or what would have happened to her if I did not supplement with formula. |
| Cassandra Czech | Pewaukee, WI | 2016-08-29 | New parents should definitely be educated about this. I have two children under 2 who I was able to breastfeed but was never told to watch for many of the signs that are described here. As a Mom, I feel like there is a stigma associated with formula feeding and there should not be. My heart goes out to parents who have had a child affected by this. Hospitals should be making the babies health the priority not a "baby-friendly" label. |
| carolyn balquiedra | quezon city, Philippines | 2016-08-30 | there are times dat mommies dnt produce milk ryt away and sometimes insufficient w/c led to.my baby girl to be under weight. |
| Cora Hollick | Columbia, TN | 2016-08-30 | My first son had a tounge tie and could not latch properly. He screamed for hours because he was hungry. A nurse finally gave me a bottle of formula but I had to sign a waiver. I felt like a failure. |
| Kathleen Ciulla | Brockton, MA | 2016-08-30 | I'm a nurse working mainly in a special care nursery and sometimes on the maternity floor of a baby friendly hospital; and I hate feeling that I'm forced to give strict breast feeding advice and pretty much act as though there is no alternative. We were told that if a mother says she wants to do both (meaning breast and bottle), we are to say "Oh that's wonderful that you want to use both breasts". I'm tired of watching frustrated hungry babies and frustrated tired mothers cry and not be able to help them as I feel they deserve. |
| Erin Henson | Brunswick, GA | 2016-08-31 | I had a lot of support when trying to breastfeed, but they were realistic as well. I was not shamed for being concerned that my little one was not getting enough. I was encouraged to try supplementing if my instincts were telling me that she was not getting enough. We have ended up using formula and supplementing with whatever milk I can express since I was not and still am not making enough. As a first time mom if I was told not to supplement I wouldn't have known any better and my daughter could have been one of these stories. I still feel like I have failed her sometimes but I have to remind myself that she is healthy and happy and that's what matters. I believe that everyone should try breastfeeding and there should be more adequate education about all forms of feeding. |
| Heather Conkin | West Vancouver, Canada | 2016-08-31 | I am a family physician in Canada who sees the effects of the pressure to breast feed and the lack of appropriate measures to ensure that the nutrition the infant is receiving is enough. They can suffer, sometimes permanently from this, and the lack of reality with the policy makers have a lifetime sentence on these babies and their families. Time to get real. I have said this for over a decade. |

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| Heather Manley, RNC, C-EFM | Kuna, ID | 2016-08-31 | I'm a BSN and RNC for in-patient OB. I also have a BA in Sociology/Anthropology, so I understand cultures and cultural norms. I am frustrated at the blanketed, one-size-fits-all perception the FDA, CDC and others feel they need to espouse in regards to all health care. We are all individuals and therefore our approach to all of healthcare should be patient specific. I am also tire of right vs wrong. There is no longer a "coming together" of ideas; just ignorance towards the 'other side'. I was an exclusive pumper (oh no! the lactation crazies gasp) and had enough breast milk that I stop pumping at 9 months and was able continue to give it to her for an additional three. We need to stop making these women feel less than adequate as new moms and more informed about the risks of starvation and how to prevent it. There are other ways to supplement breast milk--SNS, finger feed, cup feed--other than putting formula into a bottle and "dumping" it into baby. |
| Alicia Winfield | Winchester, VA | 2016-08-31 | Society makes it out that all women can breastfeed and if you meet obstacles with it that you just have to keep trying because if you want it bad enough, that if you try hard enough that you can. And yet I discovered first hand when I had my first child that it isn't that simple, that not everyone can do it. I was determined to make it work, to breastfeed him to the point where I had nervous breakdowns and he lost over 10% of his bodyweight within days of being born. And even after I tried all the million ways that I was recommended to produce more milk I still never produced enough and had to supplement him with formula till finally I had to quit at 12 weeks. With my two other kids I was smarter, I knew that it was worth trying again but to stop before my sanity started failing. There are lots of posts and stories out there that talk about the wonders of breastfeeding and yet there never seems to be anything to support those women who aren't successful at breastfeeding. |
| Brandy Peiser | Lampasas, TX | 2016-09-01 | I currently work in a NICU in Texas and believe that it is crucial that parents get proper education on feeding newborns. I do feel that with the emphasis placed on breast feeding "breast is best" it sends the wrong message for the infants that are in critical condition and parents are not properly educated about feeding supplementation during this critical time. I feel Doctors also need this education so they can properly speak to parents when they have a parent who is being adamant about strictly breastfeeding their infant and yet they have not produced any milk for their child. They need to know it is better that the child is fed. |
| Elisabeth hennen | Rochester, NY | 2016-09-02 | Yes, so true! My first, i was able to nurse than i got pregnant again (they are 13 months apart). After i was pregnant i dried up over night! Couldn't even coax a few drops. Two weeks after the second was born i developed a severe case of strep throat. Was unable to eat or drink for three days without sever pain. Ended up not being able to nurse and my milk never came back after the meds even though i tried to "pump and dump" while on the meds. I felt awful for not being able to give my girls what was expected of me but they grew just fine on formula. Cried for days and was worried they wouldn't not develop right, but as they started hitting all their early milestones ahead of schedule i stop worrying. They were both a month early and even though i was told to expect them to develop |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | according to their gestational age they are ahead of most children their age. Formula is not evil, an empty stomach is. |
| Sheryl Jawetz | Teaneck, NJ | 2016-09-02 | I'm signing because 1) I am a pediatrician who has had countless mothers crying in my office when I recommend supplementation because they have been shamed into exclusive breastfeeding, and 2) I myself had a near miss with my first child 18 years ago when, despite being a medical student at the time, if not for my own mother insisting "she's not getting enough", I would have almost starved my own daughter. |
| Amy Kuffel | Elmwood Park, ID | 2016-09-02 | Fed is best |
| Arlene Vistro | Buena Park, CA | 2016-09-02 | Our NICU have had increase readmissions of otherwise healthy newborns because of " baby friendly" policy. This article is a classic example of what is taught to the mothers and the sad outcome. |
| Danielle Noblit | Panama City, FL | 2016-09-03 | "We should not be prioritizing exclusive breastfeeding over the health and safety of our infants. If I had known she was at risk, I would have supplemented with pumped milk or formula, but all of the breastfeeding materials said we should avoid bottles completely. My strict adherence to the instructions almost severally injured my baby." This brought the very emotional mom side out in me, because I was put in a very similar situation at the hospital when Bailey was born. From the time I was pregnant and decided I was going to breastfeed, I constantly worried what if... What if it was going to be something That I just couldn't do, or what if the baby just doesn't take to it, etc... All I really knew at this point was I was going to give it my all to try because "breast is best". I attended breastfeeding classes and spent hours reading online blogs and articles, all which said the same thing, "avoid bottles for the first six weeks" so I went into the hospital with this very mind set.. We didn't even own any bot |
| Denise Gallagher FNP-C | Tempe, AZ | 2016-09-03 | It is not fair to stigmatize mothers and put neonates in harms way for reimbursement or old wives tales with subjective data. |
| Hannah Oliver | Social Circle, GA | 2016-09-04 | BSN RN |
| Lorraine Kennedy | Glendale, AZ | 2016-09-04 | I am a mother who never produced milk in order to breastfeed. If it wouldn't have been for the supportive nurse that supported me and offered formula and to take my daughter to the nursery for a few hours while I rested I would have probably had a nervous breakdown. I had been pushed about breastfeeding my entire pregnancy and when I couldn't I broke down. I had a screaming starving kid and she needed to eat. So we gave her formula and a pacifier and sent her to the nursery. After 2 hours we were happy again. She fed and slept normally. My daughter was fully formula fed and is a perfectly healthy 3 year old now. In a baby friendly hospital I believe this situation would have become worse than it was because of the protocols being placed. |
| Mary Lambeth | Mesquite, TX | 2016-09-04 | I want to protect newborn babies from long term damage or death from a program based in questionable science. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Danica Storry | Harrisburg, PA | 2016-09-05 | I believe it, I've witnessed it, I lived it. All 3 of my children lost weight their first 5 weeks of life because it's been whacked into our brains to not supplement, your milk will come in, etc... mine didn't. I then had to deal with all the GUILT of formula feeding my children, feeling like less of a mother. My children are all happy, healthy, energetic and bright. All without breast feeding for the first year. |
| Brandi W. | New Port Richey, FL | 2016-09-05 | Children rely on us for food. It is so important to make sure parents understand ALL options and mothers know they are not lesser if they can't or choose not to breast feed. |
| Lauren Burns | Charleston, SC | 2016-09-05 | I'm signing because my FTT daughter needed high calorie formula to thrive and grow. |
| Dale Smith | Auburndale, MA | 2016-09-05 | This policy is horrible for moms and babies. |
| P Beatty | Fairfield, CA | 2016-09-05 | If I hadn't been educated on the importance of making sure my baby was fed she could've easily ended up with a brain injury. The breastfeeding agenda has become a brainwashing agenda making mothers feel forced, judged, and inadequate if they are unable to nurse their baby sufficiently. It shouldn't if the baby is fed breastmilk or formula. FED IS BEST. |
| P Beatty | Fairfield, CA | 2016-09-05 | If I hadn't been educated on the importance of making sure my baby was fed she could've easily ended up with a brain injury. The breastfeeding agenda has become a brainwashing agenda making mothers feel forced, judged, and inadequate if they are unable to nurse their baby sufficiently. It shouldn't if the baby is fed breastmilk or formula. FED IS BEST. |
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| Kerry Schmidt | Minneapolis, MN | 2016-09-05 | We spent 8 days in a hospital with my son after he was born because he continued to lose weight as my milk failed to come in. The nurses and lactation consultants kept pushing breastfeeding and we trusted their judgment, as we were first time parents. Eventually, the doctor suggested formula and we were willing to try anything. We supplemented and were sent home within 24 hours. Once we were home, my milk came in and I breast fed for one year successfully. There was no reason why he had to suffer being underfed the first week of life. With my second, we knew better. We fed colostrum and supplemented with donor milk until my milk came in. The second time was much less stressful since I knew better than to listen to the "boob nazis". With both, |

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| | | | we supplemented and were still able to establish breastfeeding eventually. |
| Rachael Gardner | Walton, KY | 2016-09-06 | I'm signing because gestational diabetes can reduce milk production and no one will tell you that in the hospital. |
| Sandra Hoops | Palmyra, PA | 2016-09-06 | As a nurse midwife, I am a firm supporter of breastfeeding, but not to the detriment of being the only way to feed a baby. We need to teach new moms the signs of "not enough" breast milk as well as provide the help postpartum. I have had to help so many moms deal with their disappointment and guilt when they have either not been successful or have had to supplement. |
| Ma. Christina Alintog | manila, Philippines | 2016-09-06 | Because It's really important that every one must be knowledgable about this...especially us, the breastfeeding moms |
| Elizabeth Hoy | coral Springs, FL | 2016-09-06 | This such a good cause makes so much sense since I have seen the struggles with my own friends with this and my own daughter. |
| Ria Cajucom | Muntinlupa City, Philippines | 2016-09-07 | I also thought i was giving my baby enough milk when he was born. Good thing he only suffered fever. Mothers can put all their efforts into Breastfeeding but not all breasts are created equal. Different moms also have different circumstances that breastfeeding is always not practical. |
| Patricia Pamintuan | Bulacan, Philippines | 2016-09-07 | I hate to see babies suffer. |
| Amy Phillips | Gordonsville, TN | 2016-09-07 | Because I experienced hospital bullying and my child lost weight over a 2 week span and suffered as a result of my low supply that dried up in less than a day. I was refused formula to supplement when asked for it, until I demanded it before leaving the hospital. This should NOT happen! This is suppose to be a choice not having our rights as a parents taken away. |
| Joyce Tanganco | Caloocan, Philippines | 2016-09-07 | My first born lost more than 20% pf his birth weight within 10 days after birth. I did not know that I cannot produce enough milk my baby needs. Although he did not have serious complications, this experience of starving my baby for 10 days is very traumatic for me. |
| Faith Hill | Leonard, TX | 2016-09-07 | The hospital where I delivered would not allow my son to have formula and unfortunately it took an entire day for my milk to come in, so yes that being said my son went an entire day without eating. I'm signing because while I am pro breastfeeding I do not feel that this is right. |
| Rachel Gorby | east palestine, OH | 2016-09-07 | I'm signing this because had we not had our angel nurse, I am not sure what would have happened to our baby. I was simply not producing enough for her, despite nursing around the clock. My milk did not come in until after I was discharged from the hospital. Most of my nurses told me that they didn't want me to "just give up." I had one nurse who took our baby for me and gave her formula to supplement, because it was clear she was hungry and I was an emotional mess. We had her for two of the nights, and she allowed us to supplement both nights. Who knows what would |

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| | | | have happened with my baby had we not had her looking out for us. There needs to be more support, more monitoring. |
| Veronica Lescano | San Pedro, Philippines | 2016-09-08 | I am signing this petition because I also experienced the same problems with insufficient supply of breastmilk. i was told that FMs are not good for babies so eventhough there is no milk coming out my breast, i still continued breastfeeding my baby not knowing that she's starving much already. She cried for 5hours and that is the only time I decided to supplement my baby with FM. She finally went to sleep and gained weight. I am signing this petition beacuse I want to help and educate mothers that it is ok to supplement your baby with FM. It is not harmful. |
| Joey Lescano | Imus, Philippines | 2016-09-08 | I am signing this petition to educate mothers that supplementing is not bad. mothers with insufficient breastmilk needs to supplement so that their babies wont get any diseases related to starving. being the best mom is not weighed by giving your baby breastmilk. being the best mom is weighed on how your protect your baby from danger. and one way is to supplement with FM if the BM is not enough. or you can ask for other mothers to give you BM when they have more. |
| Laura Grabowski | Glen ellyn, IL | 2016-09-08 | I've been a nurse for 20 years and have witnessed strict breastfeeding policies that just don't work. There's nothing worse than an exhausted new mom crying over breastfeeding issues. We would lose our jobs if we offered formula, but I did it anyway. #fedisbest |
| Stephanie Miller | Mishawaka, IN | 2016-09-08 | I am sick of seeing newborns go hungry in pursuit of a mythical 'perfect breastfeeding relationship.' |
| Sarah McGannon RN, BSN, MRNN | Brook Park, OH | 2016-09-08 | I see this at work every day. We locked up our pacifiers which is ridiculous because they reduce the risk of SIDS. I'm tired of watching babies and mom's suffering |
| Alicia Harrison | Harrison, TN | 2016-09-09 | I recently have had my first child and having complications with breastfeeding at first made me realize how under informed I was about things like supplementing and exclusively pumping. It can be scary and confusing and I think woman should be informed of all options and scenarios when it comes to the well being of their children. |
| Annemarie Tull | Henrico, VA | 2016-09-09 | I'm a pediatrician and IBCLC and see these issues everyday! My first child lost 14% of her weight due to fear of bottles. I supplemented with formula after nursing starting on Day#2 with my second and third children and breastfed beautifully for a year. I tell families in the hospital that many times there is a mismatch between the baby's needs and when the mom's milk comes in (which may still not be enough), and it's ok to follow their gut and give some formula to them after nursing until the mismatch resolves. Fed is best! :) |
| Janet Jones | Wilmington, DE | 2016-09-09 | My daughter would not latch and needed formula. Without formula she would not have been able to eat and be the smart, beautiful two year old she is today. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Deann Miller | Richmond, VA | 2016-09-09 | I struggled with breastfeeding and I don't ever want a new mom to feel like she has to keep struggling at the expense of her child's health. |
| Carla Navarrete | Henrico, VA | 2016-09-09 | I wish I had read this when I was struggling breast feeding my now 6 week old. I was intent on following advice from a lactation consultant instead of going with my gut instinct to supplement because I was made to feel that it would be wrong to supplement. |
| Joanna Martinette | Mechanicsville, VA | 2016-09-10 | I tried to exclusively breastfeed my daughter and didn't have a good enough milk supply. I wish I had been encouraged sooner to supplement. |
| Christy Glass | Atlanta, GA | 2016-09-11 | My son was born a bit early w/urgent c-section due to very severe pregnancy complications. He was so healthy when he was born, and huge for his gestational age (6lb10oz at 35.5 weeks). He lost over 25% of his body weight by nine days of age, and he was squirming and crying terribly both before and after "feedings." Well, come to find out that I was literally making ZERO milk. The lactation consultant from the hospital kept telling me (over the phone once I was home) to try this hold, to do this specific maneuver with his mouth, to feed on a schedule, to pump first, blah blah blah blah. Thank goodness my son's pediatrician recognized that he was underfed and terribly dehydrated. He said -- firmly and unequivocally -- to do a day of formula and bring him back in, and if he hadn't gained weight and gotten rehydrated, my son would have to be admitted to the hospital. He gained three ounces in the first 24 hrs of formula! We never looked back, obviously. Formula was literally life-saving medicine for my son. He is |
| Kelsey Brickl | New Lenox, IL | 2016-09-11 | My son was born a bit early w/urgent c-section due to very severe pregnancy complications. He was so healthy when he was born, and huge for his gestational age (6lb10oz at 35.5 weeks). He lost over 25% of his body weight by nine days of age, and he was squirming and crying terribly both before and after "feedings." Well, come to find out that I was literally making ZERO milk. The lactation consultant from the hospital kept telling me (over the phone once I was home) to try this hold, to do this specific maneuver with his mouth, to feed on a schedule, to pump first, blah blah blah blah. Thank goodness my son's pediatrician recognized that he was underfed and terribly dehydrated. He said -- firmly and unequivocally -- to do a day of formula and bring him back in, and if he hadn't gained weight and gotten rehydrated, my son would have to be admitted to the hospital. He gained three ounces in the first 24 hrs of formula! We never looked back, obviously. Formula was literally life-saving medicine for my son. He is |
| karina carrera | Midland, TX | 2016-09-20 | All women deserve access to this information. |
| Jenny Katherine Roza Hernandez | Bogota, Colombia | 2016-09-21 | Soy mamá primeriza y por indicaciones de la enfermera del programa de lactancia mi bebe estaba quedando sin recibir la alimentación adecuada, no paso a mayores ya que otra enfermera me explico la situación y me recomendo el uso de formula como complemento despues de lactar y así lo hice. Así mismo el pediatra de la Clinica me dijo que era floja por darle complemento a mi |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | bebe y que debia solo alimentarlo con leche materna, algo que me indigno y lo considere una agresion. |
| Nilse Hernández longoria | Fresnillo, Mexico | 2016-09-21 | Estoy de acuerdo que lo primordial es la vida e integridad de nuestros bebes, comparto 100% aún cuando mi bb logró lactancia materna exclusiva efectiva, nunca supe los riesgos a los que estaba expuesto. Excelente artículo |
| leslie lira | chile, Chile | 2016-09-21 | No more hungry babies, no more sick babies. |
| Andrea Barnao | Santiago, Chile | 2016-09-23 | Porque a mi tambien me dijeron que no le diera otra leche que no fuera la del pecjho y sufria del hambre mi hijo. Al final cedi y le di. Me doy cuenta de las consecuencias que podria haber tenido no darle. |
| Liliana Prieto | Bogota, Colombia | 2016-09-23 | Tengo un bebe recién nacido y tuve que darle leche de formula porque mi leche materna era insuficiente |
| Ingrid Halvorson | Frederick, MD | 2016-09-27 | Personal experience |
| Theresa Mitchell | Nashua, NH | 2016-09-27 | This happened with my oldest son. I was so determined to breastfeed, and my "baby-friendly" hospital and the AWFUL LC there pushed and pushed, insisting that I was doing fine and he was getting enough, and I just needed to relax and keep trying and keep pumping and my body would pull it together. By day 2, he had started shaking a little bit, but they said it was just his immature immune system. By day 3, he was shaking so badly that one of the nurses decided to check his blood sugar, which turned out to be low enough that they brought him to the NICU to try to get some formula in him and stabilize it. I didn't even get to give my first baby his first bottle. :(He scarfed it down and wanted more, and his blood sugar stabilized enough that they let him room back in with me after that, but with regular blood sugar checks. I don't even want to think about what could have happened to him if that nurse didn't think to check his blood sugar, and if I fought them wanting to give him formula. Breast is ideal, but f |
| Joy DeMario | Rockville, RI | 2016-09-27 | I'm signing this because I experienced the same thing during the first few days of my newborn's life and finally on the 3rd day, I demanded that she be fed formula so that she would have something to eat! She lost a pound in the time that we stayed at the hospital. I always felt bad about that but they kept pushing for me to keep trying to breastfeed the baby. I wish I had been stronger and stood up for myself. |
| Renee Shade | Oakland, CA | 2016-09-27 | I'm signing this petition because supplemental feeding and formula were necessary for the physical and mental health of both my son and me. Caring for a late, pre-term newborn after a c-section with additional health complications is extremely hard and it was made more difficult every time I questioned whether I was doing the right thing for my family during his feedings. I was lucky to have an incredibly supportive network of family, friends, and professionals to help us through this challenging time and transition to 100% formula feeding. I now proudly shake up my son's bottle of formula in public in a city of many lactivists. I want the CDC, AAP, and Surgeon General to work with hospitals, doctors, nurses, midwives, |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | and lactation consultants to work with families to ensure that infants are properly fed in a manner that works best for the entire family and takes the infant and parents' physical and mental health into account. |
| Laurie Cowlshaw | Oceanside, CA | 2016-09-28 | I'm signing because I want to increase awareness. |
| Tatiana Buskirk | Benton, AR | 2016-09-28 | it matters |
| Camila Heineberg | Latacunga, Ecuador | 2016-09-29 | Estoy de acuerdo con la lactancia materna y también a que nuestros bebés reciban algo de ayuda en sus primeros días de vida si la leche materna aún es escasa |
| Viviana Rojas | Medellin, Colombia | 2016-09-29 | Me da muchos ánimos leer esta nota, ya que me paso exactamente eso, mi bebé tiene 4 meses y me juzgan mucho por darle fórmula.. Al 4 día de nacida estubo en UCI por ayuno prolongado |
| Heather Elizalde | Tomball, TX | 2016-09-29 | I am a Nursery Nurse who sees the effects of exclusive breastfed babies who are starving. |
| Maria cruz | Miami, FL | 2016-09-29 | My son had jaundice. I also wasn't feeding him formula and I was trying to breast feed him and nobody warned me about anything the next day after being borned I requested formula. Nobody ever even offered it before or warned me about the dangers but I knew something was wrong. I didn't care what milk he got at that point I knew he was starving so I gave him formula. He lost weight and had jaundice but thankfully I only went one day. I still feel very bad about this and I can't believe not one person ever informed me of the dangers. They keep congratulating me that I was trying to breast feed. |
| Ernesto Cervantes Bedregal | Arequipa, Peru | 2016-09-29 | Hay que ayudar a los niños del mundo |
| Eileen Miller | Seattle, WA | 2016-09-29 | I am signing this petition because I was bullied into exclusive breastfeeding by the medical, lactation, and midwifery communities. Eleven months ago my baby was born via emergency C-section. During our stay at the hospital he lost 9% of his body weight. We were never given the option of formula in our "baby friendly" hospital. A breech baby, my little guy had difficulty latching due to a crooked jaw. Good luck, they said! We were sent home with a nipple shield and the lactation consultants' cards. We were told that he would be diabetic, overweight, less intelligent, a failure if we bottle fed. And so we pushed on. And on. And on. Through an endless three hour cycle of feed, supplement, pump, sleep. Feed, supplement, pump, sleep. His weight gain was never what it should be. He cried constantly. I spiraled into post partum depression, worsened by the drugs I took to increase my milk supply when it dwindled. We didn't bond. Finally, after 8 weeks, I gave in and gave him a bottle. No one in the |
| Leeann Minogue | Griffin, Canada | 2016-09-29 | Women should not be shamed and bullied for their decisions. |
| Beth Tompkins | cypress, TX | 2016-09-30 | I experienced this with my first born, and the only advice I got from medical professionals was to keep trying, and not resort to bottle feeding. Finally, my pediatrician said I could agree to start formula |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | feeding immediately, or my daughter would have to be admitted. It took days before I was given the okay to switch, and I had no experience to have known otherwise. |
| Sarah Fowler | Dunkirk, MD | 2016-09-30 | New mothers should not be made to feel like failures for using formula. Promoting breastfeeding does not need to be at the expense of making sane decisions about babies being fed. |
| Jennifer Fuller | Prospect, KY | 2016-09-30 | I felt enormous pressure to breastfeed my son exclusively after his birth. I wasn't producing enough milk for him and I experienced deep feelings of failure and shame when I finally decided to supplement with formula. There was no need for me to feel this kind of anxiety and guilt, and it made my days as a new mother unnecessarily difficult and stressful. |
| Debra Hall | Millis, MA | 2016-09-30 | I had a very difficult time producing milk and the lactation consultants at the hospital kept telling me that it will eventually work. They were grabbing my breasts and twisting them every which way, and then told me to supplement with a very small amount of formula that I had to administer via a syringe and tube attached next to my nipple. I had to tape the syringe to my chest and push the plunger with my chin because both hands were otherwise occupied. It was extremely stressful and upsetting because I was made to feel like something was wrong with me. When I took my son home from the hospital, we had to go back the very next day because his body temperature plummeted to 94 degrees F. He was starving despite frequent breast/tube feedings; the amount of formula was too small and I was producing barely any milk. When we went in, the hospital staff in the Pediatric ED gave him a much larger amount of formula and he immediately perked up. We started feeding him more formula per doctor's orders, and eventually I |
| Amy Bibbings | Lansing, MI | 2016-09-30 | It is time that mothers are empowered, rather than shamed, to feed their babies in whatever way is best and most appropriate. |
| Adam Van Den Boom, MD, FAAP | Twentynine Palms, CA | 2016-09-30 | I'm signing this petition because I am a pediatrician who believes in feeding your infant, hate ER it takes to help them grow and wholeheartedly does not believe in nipple confusion, formula is poison, or any mother who chooses to not or cannot breastfeed should be shamed. |
| Jessamyn Blau | Seattle, WA | 2016-09-30 | Paradoxically, despite the proliferation of so-called Baby-Friendly Hospitals, mothers and babies are not supported in breastfeeding in the United States. Newborn health is put at risk when we don't assist mothers with breastfeeding, including by providing supportive (and even temporary) formula feeding if necessary. Mothers are made to feel inadequate when in fact it is our health care system that is failing. |
| Rachel Spassiani | Poolesville, MD | 2016-09-30 | I am signing this petition because I don't want any more babies or women to be subject to the biased misinformation taught by lactation consultants and "baby friendly" hospitals. |
| Marie Clark | Houston, TX | 2016-09-30 | All babies deserve the best start |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Adeline Jacob | San Diego, CA | 2016-09-30 | I had a horrific time as a first time mom who knew nothing about raising babies. With the intense pressure to breastfeed my baby was going hungry. I relied on the "experts" and was not educated on the other options. I don't want other people to go through what I went through. |
| Alissa Young | Washington Crossing, PA | 2016-09-30 | I am signing because I had a baby underfed for a month because of pushing by a "baby friendly" hospital. |
| Hermagne Jackson | Australia | 2016-10-01 | I never had a problem with breastfeeding but it sickens me and hurts my heart to know that people can be mean to those who can't breastfeed or choose not to. |
| Georgina Nwanguma | Bonny Island, Nigeria | 2016-10-01 | Exclusive Breastfeeding was recommended for low income countries, as an economic strategy, but if it is not working then it should be review, I had no idea that it has been extended to high income countries also. |
| Kortney Hohmeyer | Carlyle, IL | 2016-10-01 | I'm a labor and delivery nurse and I'm sick of shoving breast is best down throats! |
| Robert Baker | Arlington, TX | 2016-10-01 | Horrible experience with forced breastfeeding with my daughter and wife. |
| Kay Keeler | Burton, MI | 2016-10-01 | I'm a mom, and a L&D nurse who wants all mother's and babies to have the best care, health, and education available. Breast at all costs is damaging to our mothers and babies in so many ways. |
| Jennifer Risso | Caracas, Venezuela | 2016-10-01 | Estoy firmando porque todos los días basados en nuestras experiencias como madres podemos cambiar la educación alRespecto! Estoy de acuerdo con todo lo expuesto por la Dra |
| Kellie Nehrmeyer | Oracle, AZ | 2016-10-02 | As a NICU nurse I have seen too many babies starving due to lactation consultants push breastfeeding on new moms. They guilt them into thinking formula is poison. Babies need to eat. Not all mothers are the same, not all babies are the same, and not all mothers produce enough milk or colostrum to support their baby. Feed the baby. |
| Sharon Pruder | Belleville, MI | 2016-10-02 | Breastfeeding needs to be supported and sometimes formula supplementation is support. |
| Brandy Branham | Lawrenceburg, IN | 2016-10-03 | I am doula who sees mothers not successfully breastfeed and struggle. I feel for these babies and their mothers what society has done to make them feel this way. I have been preaching this exact thing for the last several years. I am so excited to see this and hope for a change. |
| Debbie Marinovic | Skokie, IL | 2016-10-03 | No woman should have to feel like they starved their newborn just to prove they can be a "good mom" and exclusively breastfeed. |
| Jennafer Ottenheimer | Chicago, IL | 2016-10-03 | My baby was breastfed and supplemented since birth and she is perfect for it! |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Elizabeth Adinolfi | Hastings On Hudson, NY | 2016-10-03 | No child or motherr should suffer because our society has built up myths about the superiority of breastfeeding. |
| Caroline Polena | Pittsburgh, PA | 2016-10-03 | I did not produce almost any breastmilk and didn't know it for about 10 days, 10 days my son received virtually no nutrition. |
| Rocío Belén López | Argentina | 2016-10-04 | FIRMO PORQUE QUIERO QUE SE ACABE LA NEGLIGENCIA DE LOS MÉDICOS Y QUE PROPORCIONEN CORRECTA INFORMACIÓN EN LOS CENTROS DE SALUD |
| Cindy Heins | Barranquilla, Colombia | 2016-10-04 | Soy madre primeriza y mi bebe apenas cumplió su primer mes de vida y considero sumamente importante conocer está información, me senti identificada con muchas de las cosas señaladades y me preocupa grandemente que este afectando a mi bebe así que apoyo a que esta información sea socializada con otras madres como yo... que vivimos en ignorancia de que la lactacia es lo mejor si.... pero que pasa cuando no es suficiente.... Dios los bendiga. |
| Karina Anne Alfaro | Marikina, Philippines | 2016-10-05 | I'm signing because I believe that every child deserves to be fed well and formula-feeding mothers should not be shamed by breastfeeding advocates because I know that they are also giving what they think is best for their babies. :) |
| jezica macias | zacatecas, Mexico | 2016-10-05 | Es interesante la información y sobretodo por el bienestar de los bebés |
| Brian Symon | Australia | 2016-10-05 | I am a family physician working with mothers and children full time. My stance for the last 35 years has been to offer formula supplements when there is inadequate breast milk. This strategy increases breast feeding success rates. |
| Karen Neary | Novato, CA | 2016-10-06 | Because a warning to parents from the Surgeon General would educate nursing mothers, doctors and nurses and help prevent this kind of tragedy. |
| angela b | pasto, Colombia | 2016-10-06 | tengo un bebe y no tuve leche suficiente para amamantarlo y mi bebe lloraba porq tenia hambre y yo encontra de los medicos le di leche complementaria |
| Jillian Brevorka | Greensboro, NC | 2016-10-07 | I was a first time mother who was pressured by lactation counselors in the hospital to continue breastfeeding despite the immense amount of pain I was in and this nagging feeling that my daughter wasn't getting enough milk. Finally, after my daughter lost over 10% of her body weight, the hospital agreed it wasn't working and gave me donor milk. I have successfully pumped for my daughter for the past 10 months and will continue to do so. I still regret not advocating enough for my daughter and myself and letting my sweet girl basically starve for the first two days of her life. |
| Danielle Nicholas | Meridian, ID | 2016-10-07 | My husband and I both work in healthcare and find it tragic how the healthcare system fails new parents in teaching them that it is more important to feed their child then HOW they fed their child. I have seen to many babies hospitalized for dehydration due to parents trying to "do what's best" for their baby, and unknowingly hurting them. As a new mom I struggled when my milk didn't come in. I nursed my baby for three straight hours. I tried to get milk out of |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | each breast and it didn't come. I had my husband go by formula because I clearly wasn't proving it. My baby is now 13 months old and still breastfeeding. She didn't eat the entire thing of formula, but she was fed. Then when my milk came in she just drank milk. In addition, in a parenting class my husband spoke up about giving your baby formula if they need it and that it's more important to keep your baby out of the hospital. The teacher of the class cut him and said, "we don't talk about that. Breast is best." People need to stop the shaming and let |
| Ellen Wedgwood | Austin, TX | 2016-10-08 | I'm singing because every baby deserves to be fed when it is hungry. Because a calm and fed baby helps new mothers worry less. |
| Denise Díaz | Mexico | 2016-10-08 | Gracias por esta petición, ayudará a muchas madres a no caer en los extremos, mi experiencia fue muy parecida ya que al seguir a una lider en lactancia ella comentaba que hasta que me saliera la leche lo cual no pasó hasta una semana después y fue insuficiente. Estando en el hospital ya con mi bebé en mi pecho todo el tiempo, logré que tomara el calostro, sin embargo horas después empezó a inquietarse, pasaron unas horas casi un día, así que escuché el llanto desgarrador de mi bebé y rechacé la idea de esperar hasta que produjera leche. Pedí un biberón a enfermería con lágrimas y culpa, después me di cuenta que no podía dejar que mi bebé pasara hambre y las consecuencias que esto traería. Es peligroso caer en fanatismos y es lo que está pasando actualmente. Ahora en casa sigo dando pecho, hago todas las técnicas y consejos aún no puedo producir leche suficiente sin embargo lo complemento con fórmula y mi bebé está sano. Mi bebé no requirió hospitalización ni tuvo ictericia, obtu |
| Char C | Honolulu, HI | 2016-10-08 | I almost had my son starve, but thankfully my mom forced me to give him formula the day we got home from the hospital. My son is now thriving at 7 months old! |
| Jennifer Marek | San Francisco, CA | 2016-10-09 | Women need to be informed there is a range of acceptable ways to feed your newborn. It's not just a choice of "exclusively breastfed" or exclusively formula fed. You can incorporate both. Mothers and babies also need and deserve lactation support. Insurance should cover breast pumps and access to lactation consultants. Until they do, companies can provide them to support their employees and newborns. I am glad my company provided such a service because it helped prevent problems like this family unfotunately and unnecessarily encountered. |
| Amanda Wiese | La Crosse, WI | 2016-10-12 | In honor of James and William. |
| Alexandria Webb | Phoenix, AZ | 2016-10-14 | Formula is amazing. |
| Faith Nemenzo | Caloocan, Philippines | 2016-10-21 | I believe that Fed is best. A month before I gave birth, I did all the stuff that would help me breastfeed my baby. I even attended breastfeeding seminars to learn more about it since I'm a first time mom. I gave birth to a baby friendly hospital and they're really pushing and stressing me out to breastfeed my son. I even want to cry at that time because they made me feel like I wasn't doing my best. Good thing my son's pedia was on my side and just told me to |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | feed my baby with formula milk. My milk came after 3 days but not enough for my baby so I did mix feeding. :) |
| Susan Guy | Watertown, NY | 2016-10-21 | Breastfed grandbaby below birthweight at 4 weeks |
| Salwa Khaddam | Cairo, Egypt | 2016-10-22 | I was set my mind to breastfeed while I delivered my first baby at PIH hospital in Downey, California. After my first visit to the peditrician I learned that my baby has lost more than 10% of his weight but the nurses and the doctor said that this was normal and that I should continue breastfeeding him. When I got back to my home in Abu Dhabi, UAE I took him to a peditrician which confirmed that he wasnt gaining enough weight but that I should continue to only breastfeed him and monitor him then check again with her. Through the second visit he didnt get better in the weight gain department but she also advised against supplementing with formula. My baby was on my breasts all day long without breaks and I could feel that my breasts arent full and he wasnt getting enough but I was so afraid to supplement with formula because the doctor said so. I was miserable and he was too. It wasnt until I went to Cairo and saw a well reputable peditrician who confirmed to me that he was in starvation mode and he is not |
| karen Rivero | maracay, Venezuela | 2016-10-25 | Porque tuve una bebe exactamente con el mismo caso y me aterra q no tuvo daños neurológicos.....gloria a dios!! |
| Charel Ann Santiago | Pasig City, Philippines | 2016-10-25 | It happened to me, my supply was low causing my son to starve and me having post partum depression, my son was admitted to the hospital due to dehydration. I am now mix feeding and my baby is healthy. I want to raise awareness to avoid other mothers to experience this horrible situation. |
| Shawn Botterill | Red Lake, ON, Canada | 2016-10-25 | I am an RN who did not make enough breastmilk to adequately feed my son, plus breastfeeding was VERY hard for us. I pumped as much milk as I could and supplemented with formula. I felt guilty for formula feeding. I now have a healthy, thriving 3 year old. |
| Rhenelyn Mortella | Pasig, Philippines | 2016-10-26 | I'm signing because I also believe that as long as there's a balance between breastfeeding (if breastmilk greater than formula feeding the better) and formula feeding, babies can still be healthy. |
| dani reedy | douglasville, GA | 2016-10-26 | I am so much like this cartoon. I just assumed I would breastfeed- I got all the equipment before baby arrived (pump, nursing pads, cool packs, warm packs, creams, bras, even shirts with buttons)! I have been constantly bombarded with "breast is best," and as a nurse, it was even more extreme. I was really sick when baby boy was born, and the doctors had put me on pseudofed with my antibiotics, thinking I had another month before he arrived. At the growth scan, they noticed my fluid had leaked. They immediately sent me to hospital to begin induction. My little man was born at 37 weeks, but he was very small. He had been running out of fluids for weeks. He was just a miracle to be here! I began trying to breastfeed the colostrum, and it was so painful I cried and cried. The nurses came in and SQUEEZED my breasts so hard that I had bruises from their fingerprints. It was absolutely horrible. By day two, I wasn't even barely producing colostrum- and they even brought a medical pump to try to help kick start m |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Sheena Casal | Cebu, Philippines | 2016-10-28 | I'm signing because we don't need to fit on what society tells us to do BUT we need to do what is best for our children. |
| Johannah Marah Manio | Baguio, Philippines | 2016-10-29 | I'm signing because I'm a first-time mom and I am experiencing the pressure of exclusively breastfeeding. |
| Toni Thomas | Thomasville, NC | 2016-11-01 | I am a nurse. Background in NICU, newborn nursery/mother baby and pediatrics. I agree that this is unacceptable! No mother should feel shamed for not breastfeeding! |
| chetachi louis | owerri, imo state, Nigeria | 2016-11-04 | i believe in this course |
| Stacy Livermore | Colorado Springs, CO | 2016-11-04 | I don't think newborns should breastfeed "only" until the mother's milk is actually, fully in!! |
| Gina bibiana Navarro BASTIDAS | Bogota, Colombia | 2016-11-06 | Mi hijo mayor se deshidrato por la mala información que me dieron sobre la lactancia materna exclusiva y fue hospitalizado.. gracias a dios no pasó a mayores pero es una de mis grandes frustraciones. |
| Judy McDonald | Madison, WI | 2016-11-09 | Let's change the guidelines for monitoring breastfeed babies in the hospital and postnatally so that we catch more babies at risk. |
| Sterling Allen | Houston, TX | 2016-11-15 | My baby had this problem. Only one health care professional, who we did not know well, recommended supplemental feeding. My baby's billirubin reached 16 mg/dL. Health care professionals need to open their eyes to this easily preventable issue. |
| jhonatan munar cortes | Spain | 2016-11-20 | situación similar con mi segundo hijo. |
| Karla Ronquillo | Mexico | 2016-11-21 | Me siento identificada con la causa. |
| rhiannon walker | Australia | 2016-11-22 | I am passionate about feeding babies when they are hungry, I had a 9 pound baby born and she was starved for the first 5 days until my milk came in. No-one educated me about what this may cause or offered me supplementation |
| yanina rozkiewicz | Argentina | 2016-11-27 | Firmo porque gracias a que no soporte ver llorar a mi bebe de hambre la lleve al medico y comprabe q no producía la leche materna suficiente para cubrir sus necesidades... Después de consultar a 4 pediatras que insistían en la lactancia materna exclusiva, ain sin ver mi produccion hasta q se comprobo con el pesaje |
| maritza hernandez | Caracas, Venezuela | 2016-12-03 | no quiero que mas niños presenten estos problemas, por alimentación insuficiente |
| Shelley Johnston | Garden Grove, CA | 2016-12-04 | Breastfeeding is best if at all possible. The only thing I would add, is to be sure you drink a TON of water to have enough milk. Putting your baby to your breast frequently is not enough. You should drink 8oz. per hour when you are awake. If that is not working, then by all means, supplement. Usually more water for the mom does the trick. I had two baby elephants, 9lbs 9oz and 8lbs 13oz. Had no trouble producing enough milk for my voracious little eaters, but I |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | do understand not everyone is the same. Especially if you have to take a decongestant prior to birth, or something else that dries you out. Take care of those precious little ones no matter which route you take. |
| Anna Novak | Minneapolis, MN | 2016-12-05 | I felt pressured to exclusively breastfeed and my daughter was not gaining enough weight. The guilt I felt was overwhelming. I wish there had been more support for alternative options. My daughter is now 1 month and 3 days old and we are supplementing with formula and she is finally gaining weight. We need to remove the stigma of supplementation and keep in mind that keeping our babies full is what truly matters. |
| Nancy Boderick | Benton City, WA | 2016-12-09 | Please protect newborns from brain injury due to insufficient breast milk intake! |
| mari carmen perez escobar | Spain | 2016-12-10 | Acabo de ser madre y he experimentado por mi misma lo que es no tener suficiente leche. El bebé lloraba y lloraba y no se saciaba. Ni siquiera cogía el sueño. Por suerte solo pasamos una noche así y automaticamente comenzamos a suministrarle una ayuda de biberon para calmarlo mientras esperábamos que mejorará mi producción de leche. Y hemos mantenido esa ayuda porque no he llegado a tener la producción suficiente. Me siento identificada con su carta porque por parte de profesionales sanitarios y de la sociedad en general nos ejercen mucha presión en que no se haga eso. Que se mantenga lactancia exclusiva argumentando como dice en su carta que el calostro también alimenta y que toda madre tiene leche para su hijo. Te hacen sentir mal, mala madre...Pero yo no podía dejar a mi bebé llorando y llorando de hambre. Y ahora al leer su carta me alegro de haber actuado así desde el primer momento y no dar pie a que el bebé llegara a perder peso o incluso sufrir esos daños irreversibles que comenta en s |
| Josefa Ruiz | Mexico | 2016-12-13 | Sufrí la misma situación y violencia obstétrica |
| Rebecca Morris | London, England, UK | 2016-12-18 | I wish I had seen your website when my daughter was born, and had the sensible advice you provide |
| Rhiannon Brown | Augusta, GA | 2016-12-19 | I'm signing because the same thing almost happened to my child. He was delivered at a "baby friendly" hospital and was discharged with everything looking normal. I was never informed in a single one of the classes I took that lactation failure could happen. My milk never came in. Luckily, I switched to formula before my baby got sick from lack of food. Many others are not so lucky. |
| Ana Chacon | Mexico | 2016-12-21 | Estuve en esta situación |
| Carla Tapia | La Paz, Bolivia | 2016-12-21 | Como madre estoy de acuerdo con el artículo |
| Mª Helena Herrero Martínez | Spain | 2016-12-27 | Soy IBCLC y constato ese peligro. La promoción en lactancia, la oculta |
| Ella Cecilia Rodríguez Suárez | Germany | 2016-12-27 | Soy Prolactancia y nunca he conocido casos cercanos. Sin embargo, apoyo la propuesta de que las madres deben estar informadas ya que es un derecho tener las herramientas para ayudar a sus hijos en esos momentos |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Laura Davis | Frederick, MD | 2016-12-28 | I'm signing because I was discouraged from using pumped breast milk or formula to bottle supplement my baby after she was in the nicu for breathing trouble after her birth. She was having latching difficulties and I was told by "lactation specialists" that bottles would negatively impact my daughter's ability to feed from my breasts thereby impacting my milk supply. I was also told that she didn't really "need" much nourishment as it's "natural and common" for babies to only rely on what little breast milk they get in the first few days of life. My trusting these people- who I assumed were medical professionals- resulted in us going back to the hospital 3 days after being released with a severely dehydrated baby who had lost 17% of her birth weight. We stayed in the nicu for 3 days to stabilize her weight, bring her temperature up, and rehydrate her. While there is no doubt that breast milk is nutritionally and digestively superior to formula, Breast is Best is a dangerous agenda to push as it puts new, inex |
| Francha Davis | gaithersburg, MD | 2016-12-28 | I'm worried by the inaccurate and dangerous advice being given to new moms by lactation consultants. |
| Alexis Whiting | Halifax, Canada | 2016-12-28 | I am signing because my baby was starving. Because I had to ask for formula, even after being told that with significant blood loss that my milk might be delayed coming in. Because my baby lost >10% of her body weight in 2 days, and the only relief she finally got was when I asked for formula (which was hours before a paediatrician prescribed supplementing due to the excessive weight loss). I now combo feed - but that should have been given to me as an option right at the start. I should not have been desperate to do something for my baby, exhausted and anemic with a starving baby in hospital. |
| Lina María Rivera Ortiz | Medellin, Colombia | 2016-12-29 | Totalmente de acuerdo |
| Alyssa Roberts | Woodinville, WA | 2016-12-29 | I experienced the pressure to breast feed only from my doctor and the hospital my son was born at. After the first week my son lost too much weight and we revisited a lactation consultant for help. They made me feel like I had failed my son. I continued to try and felt like I was finally feeding enough, but something still wasn't right. Turns out I was wrong and at 5 weeks my LO hadn't even gained an ounce. Luckily I found an amazing pediatrician who talked me into supplementing. I am doing both breast and supplementing now and I have a happier healthy baby for it! Not to mention it has helped me regain my confidence as a first time mom. Fed is best! |
| Ariana Lugones | Argentina | 2016-12-29 | Tuve el desagrado y mal rato con mi marido de tener que internar a mi hijo el mismo día del alta de recién nacido perdiendo 200gr en menos de 12hs, entro a la Guardia de Neo con 38,2 de fiebre y un principio de deshidratación. No me bajaba leche el día del alta, y jamás me dieron un suplemento para reforzar su alimentación, más aun siendo época de verano cuando es más propensa y silenciosa la deshidratación. Por suerte luego de estar internado todo salió muy bien ya que cuando vi que mi hijo no estaba comiendo como correspondía y agregada la fiebre corrimos a urgencias. Pero su llanto y su boquita reseca por la falta de hidratación no me lo olvido nunca más. Una muy mala experiencia como padres primerizos. |

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| | | | Deberían dejar un poco de lado la alimentación exclusiva con leche materna, ya que a muchos bebés no les alcanza solo eso. |
| Ettie Hammack | Irving, TX | 2016-12-30 | I almost starved my son. It took 6 days for my milk to come in and by that time my little guy was all bones. The lactation consultant kept telling me a baby could live off a few drops of magical colostrum..... my little boy is now 5 and never really recovered from the severe weight lose. He has ADD and has learning deleys. I wish someone would have told me that it was possible to hurt my own child... Somedays I feel like taking my sweet boy up to that hospital and introducing him to the lacataion consultant who almost killed him. |
| Clara Consorì | la paz, Bolivia | 2016-12-31 | Estoy de acuerdo con toda la petición. Se nos deberia informar de manera correcta sabiendo los riesgos que implica una lactancia materna exclusiva, cuando solo se explica beneficios. |
| Rosanny Fernandez | Santo domingo, Dominican Republic | 2016-12-31 | Al nacer mi bebe produje muy poca leche y tuve que ponerle biberon casi de inmediato, debido a esto, familiares y amigos me juzgaron y criticaron pero ahora entiendo que hize lo correcto y lo mejor para mi hijo. |
| Sarah Pearl Nelson | Middle Sackville, Canada | 2017-01-02 | I'm signing because life doesn't go as planned... I'm so grateful that formula was available for my baby! I wasn't at the time but the medical team I had recognized the need for more than the very very small amount she was getting from me. Today I have a smart, beautiful, energetic 1 year old! Doesn't matter how you feed your baby, just that you feed them so they can thrive and grow #fedisbest |
| Tiffany Isenberger | Tacoma, WA | 2017-01-02 | I'm signing because all mommies and babies should be happy and healthy. |
| Jennifer Slauenwhite | Auburndale, Canada | 2017-01-02 | At 1 month old my daughter still weighed less than her birth weight and was hungry from lack of milk. Both of my daughters were supplemented with formula and are happy, healthy, smart children. I can't imagine how things could have turned out if we had continued to try to exclusively breastfeed. Fed is best! |
| Ashley Brandenburg | Beaverton, OR | 2017-01-02 | I'm signing because there are some women who have undiagnosed medical issues that make breast feeding impossible. These women should not be bullied into breastfeeding in "baby friendly" hospitals. Both of my girls suffered due to baby friendly hospital initiatives, and I don't want to see the same thing happen to others. |
| Bonnie Van Tassel | Toronto, Canada | 2017-01-02 | When I began nursing my son in 2014 I was not assessed for what was later diagnosed as Insufficient Glandular Tissue and Breast Hypoplasia. My son was not receiving sufficient breastmilk despite all efforts and became dangerously dehydrated within the first four days of his life. As a fist-time mother, I did not receive any information or prenatal screening from the LC that ran our birthing and baby care course, at Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto, about what the protocol for newborn milk intake was or what to do if you don't think your baby is getting enough milk. The nursing staff applauded my efforts but did nothing for my son until he was dehydrated and distressed. He was taken from my room and |

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| | | | fed formula in a separate area while I suffered emotionally on my own for a medical condition I had not been diagnosed with. In the end, my son became a thriving, happy baby as we learned to combination feed with breastmilk and formula. Fed is Best promotes a baby-first logic that supports the needs of babies born t |
| Karla Baez | Culiacán, Mexico | 2017-01-02 | Un bebé debe estar bien alimentado |
| Angela Buehler | Norcross, GA | 2017-01-02 | As a private baby nurse in people's homes, it infuriates me to see babies so hungry, while mom has been shamed and guilted into feeding in a way she can't or doesn't want to do. Babies have to eat somehow. |
| Sue Haley | Atlanta, GA | 2017-01-02 | I believe brains grow with adequate milk/formula. |
| Lauren Sadler | Camp Hill, PA | 2017-01-02 | A fed baby is a happy and healthy baby. #fedisbest |
| mary staples | Fort Wayne, IN | 2017-01-02 | I've seen this happen |
| Jenny Mendoza | Sta. Mesa, Manila, Philippines | 2017-01-02 | I also had insufficient breastmilk upon giving birth to my son. The hospital kept on insisting that my son is getting enough milk. Luckily, i had my mother in law who was with us in the hospital to insist to hospital nurses and doctors to allow us to feed formula to my baby as he was irritable cause he was not getting enough milk. |
| Alissa Copple | Gering, NE | 2017-01-03 | My son was re-hospitalized for starvation with severe dehydration because of lack of breast milk. Luckily he was not jaundice or hyperglycemic, however, it was a very traumatic experience for our baby and us. After a month of pumping every two hours I'm proud to say he has been on 100% breast milk and is a happy/healthy three and a half month old and I'm pumping 38-40 ounces a day! Even though he is getting breast milk he never went back to breast feeding after he was introduced to a bottle so I pump and he gets bottles with my milk. I wish at the hospital we would have had more education about feeding options and the importance of monitoring infant weight loss because our experience could have been totally preventable. |
| Natasha Maddock | Willaston, England, UK | 2017-01-03 | I'm signing because I have seen too many friends struggle with breastfeeding and feel ashamed or unable to switch to formula due to the pressure placed on them to exclusively breastfeed. At 8 months pregnant I have witnessed a lot of propaganda about breastfeeding and think change is needed. Everyone should be warned of the risks and should be given the right information to ensure that all babies are fed and are kept safe. It is also important to ensure new mums are taken care of. Struggling with exclusively breastfeeding can cause pain, anxiety, sleep deprivation and depression in new mothers and is something that should be monitored for. If formula feeding can eliviate suffering then if should be encouraged. |
| Jensen Ballicud | Quezon City, Philippines | 2017-01-03 | I'm signing because I've been a victim of shaming in the hospital were I gave birth. I cannot produce milk after my CS operation. Since I was already aware of the risks (Lucky that I've found this page during my pregnancy period and followed since then), I secretly bottle fed my baby and was caught. I saw the risk of infant |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | dehydration with my own eyes. The newborn baby beside my bed was dehydrated because his mom cannot produce milk. She also delivered her baby (one day before me) via CS operation.I totally support your advocacy. Fed is Best! |
| Keen Belen | Manila, Philippines | 2017-01-03 | When I gave birth to my daughter, I told myself that I will breastfeed until she's 2 years old. On the second day while still in the hospital, my daughter won't breastfeed. She would just sleep all day and scream and cry. I've been calling nicu from my hospital room to help me feed her but she just won't. Then they would explain that her stomach is just like a small calamansi and that the baby won't need a lot of milk during her first few days and all that blahs. It was past 24 hours since she fed and I told the doctors of my concern but it seems as though it was just "normal". Getting home was worse. She won't feed, her lips were already dry. I asked for breastmilk from a cousin in law who just gave birth. I transferred it into a bottle and bottle fed her. After that I started pumping and had my regular supply. Had I known the complications that might have happened back then, I should've just listened to my instincts. Formula feeding should be given when needed. And I think policies in hospitals on breastfeeding |
| Kristin Collins | Prospect, NY | 2017-01-03 | I experienced this and would like to help prevent other mothers from experiencing the same |
| lucy neitenbach | Boulder, CO | 2017-01-03 | I care. |
| Georgette Thomas | Atlanta, GA | 2017-01-04 | The dangers of underfeeding exclusively breastfed babies and the risk of brain injury from hypoglycemia and dehydration. The babies made it into life and deserve the chance to thrive with the offer of a simple measure that would increase if not insure the possibility of them doing so . Stop the judgemental,shaming attitude that has no place in an environment whose mission is to save and sustain life ! |
| Betha Relon | City of San Fernando, Philippines | 2017-01-04 | I'm signing because I want to promote breastfeeding and encourage new moms to pursue on nursing their babies. |
| Jessica Agudo | Cagayan De Oro, Philippines | 2017-01-05 | i don't want babies to starve during their first few days. |
| Emily Bryan-Reeder | Munhall, PA | 2017-01-05 | I'm signing because all babies deserve the best start in life, breast or bottle. |
| Carmi Miko Masanda | San Jose City, Philippines | 2017-01-05 | Fed is best. |
| Faith Joy Ciasico | Parañaque, Philippines | 2017-01-06 | I'm a Mother to a 1year old child & i know that Fed is best. I've been through everything & had problems breastfeeding my baby. |
| Gladys Giberson | Butuan, Philippines | 2017-01-06 | My baby suffered dehydration on her 3rd day while still at the hospital because I was trying hard to exclusively breastfeed her. It is what people expect a good mother should do and so I tried my best with my second child. No one in the hospital cared enough to suggest supplementing formula even if my milk hasn't come in yet. I was so scared because she would not stop crying and had high |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | fever due to dehydration. I was just told to keep on breastfeeding. Days after being discharged, we had to rush her back to the hospital because she was sleeping too much, way too much. She suffered jaundice and her bilirubin level was so high. Her pediatrician said the level was too high it could lead to brain injury and that we had to admit her ASAP. I was not producing enough milk no matter how much I tried to continuously breastfeed her. There just wasn't enough for her. We finally decided to mix feed her. I am no longer ashamed to have fed my babies with formula milk. All I need to know is that they're thriving and happy |
| Brianna Jackson | Gardendale, AL | 2017-01-07 | I'm signing because I shouldn't be bawling my eyes out in a bathtub because I don't want to pump anymore.. because NO ONE should feel guilty for needing to use / wanting to use formula. Fed IS best. |
| Roseann Parrilla | Bacoor, Philippines | 2017-01-07 | I experience same way when hospital policies hinder us from formula feeding which cause starvation to my infant. |
| rosie marcus | London, England, UK | 2017-02-26 | Because my daughter started breastfeeding my grandson from birth 7 years ago..and everything that it says about constant crying constantly on the breast agitated all the time..my daughter did not know as it was her first experience of breastfeeding and you are obviously listening to the professionals. My daughter was just told oh he's just a hungry baby be sure he is latching on..it was only when a friend of a friend at a party said to my daughter when she saw her constantly feeding him and his agitation that she told my daughter he was not feeding or getting enough that he was starving. To feed him a bottle. right then she without and bought my daughter a bottle & formula and my grandson guzzled it down like he had never been fed .if ideas not for that lady he might not be here today..i had no idea as I had never breastfed my two daughters so had no experience of this |
| Tracey Martino | Stanhope, NJ | 2017-02-26 | As a healthcare provider I see starving babies, as well as post protocol hypoglycemic babies, on a daily basis. Please, please, please.. take baby friendly away... The endless cry of a starving baby coupled with the look of sheer exhaustion in a mother's eyes is forever imprinted in my brain. That's nit to say that if a breastfeeding mother shouldn't be allowed to breastfeed.. but we should be educating parents to ALL the things that can happen. Be the change. Don't let this happen to anymore babies. 1 baby with irreversible brain injury is 1 too many!! |
| Melody Larson RN | Panama City, FL | 2017-02-26 | While breastwork is ideal not everyone can produce enough to meet their babies feeding requirements in the first few days. Some are never able to meet them. I see this regularly in the NICU. Supplementation is not a bad thing and Mom's should not be made to feel like a failure if they need to use some formula. |
| Amy O'Mullan | Long Hill, NJ | 2017-02-26 | I'm a postpartum nurse and I have witnessed first hand the damage baby friendly has wrought and want to see it end! This is no joke, the reality is families are being hurt, babies are being hurt, for no good reason. |
| Karen Florey | Brownwood,, TX | 2017-02-26 | I'm signing because I work with newborns everyday and I know that supplementation helps moms stick to breast feeding longer |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | because not all moms produce sufficient milk in the beginning or at all |
| Lilian Stjohn, MD | Richardson, TX | 2017-02-26 | I am signing because I do believe fed is best and that shaming mothers who choose to supplement or strictly formula feed is wrong. I do believe that breastfeeding is wonderful and breast milk IS liquid gold. However, if your baby is hungry, please feed your baby. I personally witnessed too many encounters where babies had to be hospitalized due to lack of nutrition/hydration and severe consequences thereof. |
| Liz Hunter | Mystic, CT | 2017-02-26 | RN |
| Amy Schaefer | Chippewa Falls, WI | 2017-02-26 | My son was in NICU. Not because of a breastfeeding issue but because he was delivered at 34 weeks. In any case, I wouldn't wish a NICU experience on my worst enemy. They are SO difficult! The NICU team is amazing but no one wants to see their baby there hooked up to wires and machines and tubes. Even if they are doing well it is terrifying. If this petition can help just one family from having their precious little one stay out of NICU and ultimately save a life, I am ALL for it. These little ones need our help! |
| Nicole Caron | Chambersburg, PA | 2017-02-26 | I supplemented and it did not affect my supply or my child's ability to nurse. |
| Rachel Ness | Orlando, FL | 2017-02-26 | No mom should ever have to watch there baby starve to death! Demand more education and more at home follow up for EBF babies! Stop shaming mothers who choose to use formula! |
| Julie Carbo | Toronto, Canada | 2017-02-26 | Because infelt I wasn't informed well enough at the hospital and my baby jaundice and Lisa ofnweight could have been prevented. |
| Mary Ellen Fischer, RN | Taylors, SC | 2017-02-26 | I believe full disclosure is important! And because fully informed is the only good way to make a decision. |
| Cyd Brown | Fort Worth, TX | 2017-02-26 | The motto "breast is best" is one of the most shaming and irresponsible tag lines ever created. A healthy, fed child and mother is the best possible outcome. A mother should not feel she is giving her child less than the best if she wants or needs to supplement with formula. I think ensuring formulas in the US are made with safe ingredients (similar to what is required by European standards) would be efforts much better spent by the government. |
| Candace Howe, MD FACOG OB/GYN | Newport Beach, CA | 2017-02-26 | I've lived through this and learned. Women and their babies shouldn't have to suffer. |
| Helen Vickery | London, England, UK | 2017-02-26 | there are increasingly huge pressure for exclusively breastfeeding. However, many volunteers, midwives do not have the scientific studies and clinical experiences in hand. These lead to many infants were not satisfied unnecessarily! Yes, many studies shown breastmilk link to IQ, but also many studies shown weight gain, head circumference gain also link to IQ. No babies should be hungry!!!!!!! |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Yen-Hsi Kuo | London, England, UK | 2017-02-26 | This nearly happened to my daughter. |
| Amanda Williams | Dorchester, Canada | 2017-02-26 | L&D RN that always encourages her parents that fed is best. I was blessed to be able to breast feed for 2 years but did get support to supplement and did the first day of my daughters life as she hadn't peed, thank God it was truly a baby friendly hospital where fed was considered best! I will continue to encourage fed is best! |
| Maria Gillies | Payson, UT | 2017-02-26 | I work nights as an RN on an LDRP unit; meaning I take of patients from the beginning of their labor until they go home. I can't tell you how many times I've held fussy babies who have been "breastfeeding" for hours and the minute they are away from mom start screaming because they are so hungry. Breast is no always best, being fed is. And just one bottle can prevent multiple complications from hypoglycemia to severe infant weight loss. It's time we started educating our mothers on the importance of feeding their babies and not the "importance" of where that food source comes from. |
| Tara Wagner | Dayton, OH | 2017-02-26 | I cam signing because it is so easy to give a baby a bottle. There is no reason why these nurses should force mother's to breast feed their babies without supplementation. |
| Joseph Pillow | Ormond Beach, FL | 2017-02-26 | #fedisbest |
| Fiona Carey | Athlone, Ireland | 2017-02-26 | I was never told that my thyroid condition, fertility issues, and age could impact my milk production. I exclusively bf my baby and she lost over 10 percent of body weight and suffered from Jaundice and had to be taken from me for 24 hours of UV treatment. Thankfully the doctor mandated supplementary formula. I still felt horrible because all of the feeding literature makes formula out to be poison when really in cases like mine it is a lifesaver. Feed babies the best way possible by any means possible. |
| Susan Barradell | Bransgore, England, UK | 2017-02-26 | This could easily have been me. It was only because I insisted my baby hadn't had any milk after 22hours that we were advised to supplement |
| Kirsten McNally | El Paso, TX | 2017-02-26 | Consider this: As a first time mother, I am LUCKY my son was born with jaundice and was weighed regularly or I might have inadvertently starved and hospitalized him. As it was, he dropped 10% of his birth weight in TWO DAYS -- due to my exclusive breast feeding combined with an insufficient milk & colostrum production. I was consistently counseled while in the hospital by nurses, doctors, and Lactation Consultants--all citing the Surgeon General, the AAP & CDC-- that my milk would "come in, keep trying wait it out." Thank God for jaundice or I might have seriously injured my son by denying him the nutrition he needed. |
| Mary Olender | Bronx, NY | 2017-02-26 | So many mothers are guilted into breast feeding when it is not working for them and their babies. |
| Leah Wiseman | Jacksonville, IL | 2017-02-26 | I'm signing because more women need to know the risk for accidental starvation due to insufficient breastmilk. I had no idea that it was happening to my son because the breastfeeding advice |

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| | | | I received, which was quite typical advice, boiled down to "keep feeding", which ignores the fact that newborns can wear themselves out with constant feeding, burning through what little nourishment they are getting in those early days, leading to dehydration and hyperbilirubinemia. It is my belief that this at all costs focus on exclusive breastfeeding leads to harm in some cases, and the harm is more common than breastfeeding advocates understand. |
| Haley Sanford | Odenville, AL | 2017-02-26 | Because I believe whole heartedly that fed is best!!! I am a Labor & Delivery nurse working in a baby friendly hospital, who is also working towards becoming a lactation consultant because I want to help change the "breast is the only way" mentality to a "fed is best" way of thinking!!! |
| Bettye Brown | Tunnel Hill, GA | 2017-02-26 | I fed my children with formula with the best vitamins and minerals to promote their health physically and mentally. |
| Alison Cunningham | Virginia Beach, VA | 2017-02-26 | I'm signing this petition because I believe feeding a baby is not always black and white and women need to be aware that it is more important to have a fed and healthy baby than a starving baby from breast milk. |
| Nancy Dozier | Raymond, MS | 2017-02-26 | Because I too almost lost my newborn because I thought breastfeeding was best. He was premature. He was not getting any milk from me and was so weak he couldn't even cry. I found him blue, got him to ER. They told us he may not live through the night. He did live after 3 weeks in NICU. After 40 years, I still feel horrible guilt. I was young, naive and sleep deprived. I think ANY LACTATION COACH, OR NURSING STAFF SHOULD BE FORBIDDEN TO EVER, EVER TELL A MOTHER THAT USING A SUPPLEMENTAL BOTTLE SHOULD NOT BE DONE!!! Just that simple!!! There should be signs up in hospitals stating the facts! |
| Emily Milam | Westminster, CO | 2017-02-26 | I'm signing because as a NICU RN, I see screaming, frantic babies and stressed out mothers with an insufficient milk supply often and this doesn't have to be their reality. Supplementation is not a crime, but rather a blessing in this vulnerable time for both mom and baby. |
| Doreen Broglin, RNC -MNN | Hampshire, IL | 2017-02-26 | I agree 100% that fed is best. There is nothing wrong with giving a bottle to babies who are breastfeeding if they are unsatisfied after nursing and are frantically looking for food. A bottle actually settles the baby and they go back to breastfeeding without difficulty . Mothers feel more relaxed as well. |
| Sheryl Armstrong | Palm Harbor, FL | 2017-02-27 | I tried to breast feed & my milk wouldn't let down. My son went days without milk. I finally did bottle feed & thankfully it was successful. But I think some mom's feel ashamed that it didn't work for them. |
| Lori McCormick | Laguna Niguel, CA | 2017-02-27 | I am a NICU nurse and have taken care of many infants that are admitted from home for dehydration and hyperbili because their mother's milk had not come in. |
| Betty Mignon | Reston, VA | 2017-02-27 | Every life is precious and first time moms especially need to know what to look out for. |

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| Kristin Watson | Monroe, NC | 2017-02-27 | I'm signing because I was a mother who didn't produce enough colostrum and I had a screaming baby and just 12 hours old. My nurses didn't want to supplement so I stood at the door to my hospital room with him in my arms screaming and nursing screaming and nursing screaming and nursing until they finally gave me formula to supplement with. And I met with him to my child and advocated for him he could have been in the same situation as Landon. |
| Andrea Herrera Shumate RN | Kansas City, MO | 2017-02-27 | Too much pressure on mothers to exclusively breastfeed. It's not best for everyone!! Support them no matter what source of feeding they choose! |
| Karen Godel Labrie | Calgary, Canada | 2017-02-27 | I had severe problems with breastfeeding post partum. After a DVT (clot), PE (embolism), and stroke and in ICU the hospital LC stormed in and attempted to assault me & hook me up to a breast pump without any prior consent. Her language was insulting & diminishing - including by focusing on my recovery "I was wasting milk!" Her only consideration was MILK not babies and certainly NOT mothers. My recovery was filled with criticism to breastfeed when I couldn't even hold my own child yet. They were MONSTROUS. We count too. We are GREAT mothers too. Often much better mothers than women who merely breastfeed and think that's all they have to do to be a good mother. Breastfeeding is just luck of the draw, a biological accident. If you're lucky, so what? Nobody lucky ever developed superior skills in anything - they just brag about what they didn't earn. |
| Jessina Branyan Samuel | Chicago, IL | 2017-02-27 | I am horrified to realize that this could have been us, with our first born. I was ready to exclusively breastfeed, we had our birth plan, fortunately, I adapted easily to change, as nothing went as we had hoped, other than having our beautiful daughter. Josette was born at about 2:40 am on a Thursday morning. She latched, it hurt but I was told that was normal. Sometime that evening she started crying and cried continuously. She nursed and it was still painful. The nurses continued to tell me this was normal. I started pumping and got nothing, but continued to help stimulate, in the hopes of producing milk sooner, rather than later. I asked for a lactation consultant because of the pain I had while nursing. I was told I didn't need one and the pain was normal. There is nothing normal about a pain caused by breastfeeding that feels like sandpaper being rubbed on your nipples. We left the hospital Friday afternoon, a day early because I was so tired from all the interruption and I just wanted to be home. |
| Lori Barron | Buckeye, AZ | 2017-02-27 | NICU RN for 26 yrs. and have seen the results of exclusive breastfeeding guidelines. Sugar (milk) is food for the brain. It's not just about "wet diapers" and weight loss. It's about nourishing a vital organ that once damaged cannot be restored fully. |
| Brigitte Beard | Lansing, MI | 2017-02-27 | This needs to be taught in the breastfeeding classes! I wish I had known about this site when I had my daughter, thankfully I wasn't afraid to give her formula and neither were our nurses! |
| Mia Ungson | Manila, Philippines | 2017-02-27 | I'm signing because, like many new mothers who wished to exclusively breast-feed their child, I also was not informed of the |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | dangers of underfeeding. A lot of doctors and hospitals strictly advocate breastfeeding nowadays that they overlook the fact that not all mothers produce the same amount of milk. I think professionals should be promoting FEEDING, instead of just breastfeeding. |
| Janet Davis | Syracuse, NY | 2017-02-27 | Retired maternal newborn RN, saw too, too many exhausted moms and inconsolable screaming jaundiced newborns, with rigid Baby "Friendly" hospital policies. |
| Linda Hubbard | Cassville, MO | 2017-02-27 | I am a L/D nurse of 25 years and have been disgusted by the trend of hospitals trying to control what a mother feels is best for their babies! In my teaching I've ALWAYS told my mom's that peace of mind is priceless and if by offering your baby a bottle gives you this then the chance of a little "nipple confusion" is totally worth it! If a crying baby sucks down a whole bottle then you know it was hungry, if it doesn't want anything to do with it then you know it's something else and move on to the next thing! It's not rocket science it's just hospitals getting in the way of God given women's intuition!!! |
| Candice Redfern | Avondale, AZ | 2017-02-27 | The guilt trip that lactation specialists lay upon mothers who question if their baby is getting enough milk is horrible. I produced nothing in 24 hours and my baby was beginning to tremble when my nurse suggested to test his blood sugar. She said he was one point from what they would consider dangerous. I asked for formula immediately. Still, the lactation specialist came in to question me on my decision. My decision was based on medical necessity, not on self-righteous dogmatism. |
| Tatsiana Kryvaruchka | Redlands, CA | 2017-02-27 | My daughter was in a similar situation. After trying to breastfeed for almost a whole day, we followed our senses and started giving the baby the formula. He immediately started sleeping well, waking up to feed, making wet diapers. Even that one day of being hungry caused him to lose more weight than expected. By the time the doctor realized that and instructed us to supplement his feeding, we were going full speed on the formula, constantly breastfeeding in between. When I had my kids 35 years ago in Europe the hospital collected milk from moms who delivered a few days ago and fed the newborns. A hospital stay with normal birth on average was 1 week. I would go home with the baby after she started gaining weight, with breasts full of milk. That's how it should be done. And my daughter ended up exclusively breastfeeding her son since, and still has good supply of milk 1.5 years later. This cruel policy or theory needs to be reconsidered. |
| Sunny Clark | Santa Rosa, CA | 2017-02-27 | When I asked a nurse in the hospital of my newborns dry mouth was normal, she told me yes. I was having trouble with latching and had I not been pumping and supplementing with finger/bottle feeds the results could have been devastating. I feel that new mothers need more education on signs of inadequate newborn intake and less pressure to exclusively breastfeed in the first weeks of life. |
| Julie Marcus | New Hartford, CT | 2017-02-27 | I am 100% in agreement that parents must be correctly informed about the real risk of dehydration, hypoglycemia, and hypernatremia as the result of exclusive breastfeeding. |

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| Jacqueline Halfacre | Brooklet, GA | 2017-02-27 | I'm signing because I was sent home from hospital with the same thing occurring. Thanks to an amazing lactation consultant I was supplementing. Pumping to increase supply if I could. My 1st child nursed for 8 weeks my second 8 months. |
| Lorie Dulemba Johnson | Missoula, MT | 2017-02-27 | I support the rights of each baby to be fed. I also support each mama and family to choose their best path. |
| El Rodgers | Mount Holly, NJ | 2017-02-27 | This is horrifying, finding out that your infant has suffered serious accidental permanent injury, or even death! Because of discouraging supplemental feeding. New mothers need to know it's okay to supplement, as well as be told to pump to measure the amount she is producing, and the signs an infant exhibits when he or she is not getting enough nutrition. |
| Debbie Carranza | Winnipeg, Canada | 2017-02-27 | I had twin boys born by c-section at 36 weeks. As an RN.BN, BSc I read that Breast was best and it was unquestionably my goal to breastfeed my sons. Fortunately the hospital that work at and delivered at made no comments on my choice and supported me in regards to doing both breast feeding and formula feeding. It took a lot of stimulation until my milk came in sufficiently. I cannot imagine my boys waiting to fed only breast milk for that long. I'm thankful they were able to alternate both breast and bottle without nipple confusion. How tragic for those families to lose their children in our developed countries! I'd be interested to read studies related to this. |
| Wendy Smith | Woodinville, WA | 2017-02-27 | This is so important! My daughter was dehydrated at two days old, my milk was not in and I was never told supplementation could be needed. When I took her to a Dr. visit they immediate gave her a bottle. I had juat been trying to nurse her thinking that was sufficient. It sickens me to think of what could have happened if we hadn't seen the doctor that day. I also hear similar stories from mothers all the time. They were never given information about possible bottle feeding if necessary and some of their babies ended up in the ER. Educating new moms is CRITICAL!!!! |
| Jennifer Harper | Odenton, MD | 2017-02-27 | When it was clear I wasn't producing for my 6lb baby, I had to fight the pediatric nurses to get my baby formula. |
| Katie Barrow | Inverness, Scotland, UK | 2017-02-27 | Fed is best! |
| Sheri Young | South Bend, IN | 2017-02-27 | As a NICU nurse, I witness frantic starving babies with tearful, stressed, exhausted moms on a regular basis. I am definitely a breastfeeding advocate, and I will do everything I can to ensure a mom that desires to breastfeed gets to do so. However, first and foremost, I am a patient advocate for the babies entrusted to my care and their mothers. It is my duty to protect them from overzealous providers who deny them a healthy and comfortable transition into life and motherhood. No baby deserves to starve for days after birth, and no mother deserves to be guilty or stressed into exclusive breastfeeding. No one knows better what they need than the baby and it's mother. Education about and assistance with breastfeeding, encouragement, and reassurance are fine, but ultimately, it a mother's RIGHT to supplement with formula. And it |

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| | | | is a care provider's RESPONSIBILITY to ensure that a baby receives adequate hydration and nutrition. Please just let them eat! |
| Pam Vogel | Chicago, IL | 2017-02-27 | I'm a NICU who also worked in mother-baby for years and has seen mothers struggle w breastfeeding. It doesn't work for everyone and is an absurd expectation that everyone can do it. |
| Kelly Harte, FNP | Huntley, IL | 2017-02-27 | Although breastfeeding certainly offers many health benefits, all parents deserve to have the knowledge and full disclosure of any and all risks associated with exclusive breastfeeding. They should be taught the warning signs of starvation and when supplementing is necessary. Beacuse really, fed is best. This can save precious lives. |
| Jennifer Alaniz | Holmdel, NJ | 2017-02-27 | Memories of my son's starvation cry haunt me. I am so grateful I gave a bottle. I remember his sigh of satisfaction after 2 days of not eating. Sweet boy had been nursing non-stop and shrieked otherwise. I remember post his 1st bottle, watching him sleep peacefully and my thinking, "Sweet Jesus...he was hungry that's all." |
| Jennifer Woods | Hen Golwyn, Wales; Cymru, UK | 2017-02-27 | I am a neonatal sister and have been in numerous situations trying to tell mothers the baby is starving and needs more fluid especially when jaundice |
| Grace Bongabong | Cebu, Singapore | 2017-02-27 | Because I believe there is a real danger of insufficient feeding of the newborn |
| Leanne millar | Augher, Northern Ireland, UK | 2017-02-27 | My son dropped over 10 percent weight and needed light therepy.we were in hospital for a week and he cried inconsolably no one told me that c section plus coming early meant my milk mite not come in. My child was literally starving and no one said give the child a bottle. Policy must change so all baby's are protected. |
| Ann Telling | Bridgend, Wales; Cymru, UK | 2017-02-27 | If I hadn't been a mature mum, I was 38, I wouldn't have been confident enough to stand up for my self and my son. But because he was crying and we told them he was jaundiced and then had to wait for them to do a test to prove he was, they then started phototherapy treatment, I decided that I needed to supplement with bottles and despite having a c-section, I had to walk the full length of the ward to the cupboard where the milk was kept. After reading this poor mother's experience, I now realise how close we came to losing our son and how glad I am that I ignored the staff and did what I thought was right. My second milk never did come in probably because of the trauma I experienced before the doctor decided I wasn't big enough to deliver on my own. Needless to say, I never had any more children as I couldn't put my trust in the professionals. They DO NOT know everything! |
| Gemma Hamilton | Glasgow, Scotland, UK | 2017-02-27 | While you cannot deny the benefits of breast feeding, babies need calories and hydration to stay alive, more than the benefits given to them in later life by BFing. Again I would encourage all new mothers to try breast feeding, but there should be no shame or stigma associated with using formula, either as a follow up/supplement, or the childs primary source of food. We need to realise their immediate well being is more important than what may happen in the next 5-10 years. |

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| julie Gage | Canton, OH | 2017-02-27 | My 17 week old struggled to gain weight from me breastfeeding and he got activated when latching. Finally I told the hospital nurse that I need a bottle, either way my baby needed fed and of course when breastfeeding, asking for a formula bottle felt like I was begging for \$. With my own instincts, I did breastfed then a bottle after with breastmilk or formula. He would latch on me for 45 minutes at the minimum & he a whole 2-3oz bottle each feeding. Every 2-3hours. That told me he wasn't getting enough while latching (plus poor weight gain). He used me as his pacifier basically. |
| ann wilson | Sydney, Australia | 2017-02-27 | I never knew that this problem existed and I'm heartbroken for the patents and babies involved! |
| Brandi Gray | Saint John, Canada | 2017-02-27 | I agree completely with the change you are trying to make. I had breastfeeding forced on me in the hospital; even when it was clear my daughter wasn't doing well with it, when she was crying all the time and I was upset and feeling inadequate because I KNEW she wasn't being satisfied. They told me that if I gave her a bottle, that I wasn't thinking of her best interests, only my own because I was "lazy" and "wanted the convenience". Not true, I wanted to breast feed, but I also wanted my girl to be happy, healthy and content...to bond with her and enjoy time. In the end, my doctor agreed with me, but the nurses were awful. They claimed that if she was bottle fed, she "wouldn't be as intelligent as a breast fed baby", "wouldn't grow properly" and other such negative crap. Today she is 15, healthy and her intelligence is above average. My heart goes out to the Mothers and Fathers who have been victims of forced breastfeeding, and to the poor babies who suffered because of it. |
| Katherine Hemming | Wilmington, DE | 2017-02-27 | I'm signing because this could have been my daughter. Luckily I had good doctors who forced me to supplement with formula. More education needs to be given about this topic and less shame given to new mothers who need to give formula. |
| Maxine Diamond | Federalsburg, MD | 2017-02-27 | I am an OB nurse. I see mothers struggling with breastfeeding and encourage them that their milk will come in by 3-5days. Frequently infants are fussy and unsatisfied. The parents trust us and we let them down by discouraging supplemental feedings they ask about. We need to stop the guilt trip and focus on happy families. Most will still succeed with breastfeeding even with early supplementation. |
| Melissa Thomas-Kempl | Midland, MI | 2017-02-27 | I'm signing because I was also a mother that did not produce enough milk. Thankfully I trusted my gut and went against everyone telling me to continue breastfeeding. I would breastfeed then bottle feed. #fedisbest! |
| Kaitlyn Barton | Cicero, NY | 2017-02-27 | As a mother who couldn't breastfeed due to not producing enough breastmilk, and as a human in general, this breaks my heart. |
| Kristin Cole | Cincinnati, OH | 2017-02-27 | Mothers should have access to all options of infant nutrition. No child should ever be starved as a result of trying to adhere to a plan. There are other options. There is no shame in using formula exclusively or to supplement feeding. Making sure your child is fed and healthy is more important than anything else! |

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| Amy Hess | Gorham, ME | 2017-02-27 | I am so grateful that when my 6 week daughter had barely made birthrate, a lactation consultant put the formula in the bottle and handed it to me with no guilt attached. I am thankful for some production, but glad that they took seriously the concern that my child needed more. She was my 4th baby and my body had changed and didn't produce milk the same way anymore. |
| Jessica Corrill | Lebanon, OH | 2017-02-27 | I'm signing because I had to formula feed my children. I tries with all my might to breastfeed, but I had no idea how horribly postpartum depression would strike me. For the safety of myself and my children, I made this decision. I have no regrets, I have no guilt, and I should never be shamed for choosing mental health over dangerous unnecessary strain. Fed is best. |
| Jacquelyn Stallings | Salt Lake City, UT | 2017-02-27 | I too have struggled with breastfeeding. There may be a few physical reasons as to why but no one knows for sure. With all 3 children it was and has been devistating for me to fail at breastfeeding. Long story but like many it is a devistating blow to know that you failed as a mother to produce the milk your baby needs. Even more devistating are the stories of mothers losing their children due to the lack of information and the stigma that comes with formula or even bottle feeding your baby. More support, knowledge, and understanding is needed and I am happy to be apart of this movement. Thank you! |
| Deb Brdar | Naperville, IL | 2017-02-27 | As a mom of 10 wonderful children, I've been fortunate to be able to breastfeed all of them. However each time was different than the previous times. Some I was able to nurse for 6 weeks, some 6 months, 12 months and one was even longer. I was also fortunate that when some of my younger children were born (my youngest is 4 months), I knew enough to know when their cries were normal, or clues to watch for to know that I was providing them enough. It angers me to see posts (on a Facebook page that I'm on for breastfeeding moms), that when a first time mom questions whether her baby is getting enough from breastfeeding (or even in cases when pediatrians are questioning), and they turn to these facebook pages, the comments are always what do doctors know, of course your producing enough, your body knows what your baby needs, don't supplement, it's normal for a baby to be that small....unfortunately there are many, many more. One precious little one that dies from starvation in our country is one too many!!! |
| Joanne Bailey | Purfleet, England, UK | 2017-02-27 | I nearly lost my son because my milk wasn't good enough. |
| Jessica Dinham | Princeton, MN | 2017-02-27 | With all of the pressures to exclusively breast feed, I can see how easily this could happen, especially to a first time mom. I'm so glad I had nurses that encouraged me to supplement. Maybe it's the hormones, but I could barely read these stories through my tears. It brought back so many of the feelings of insecurity, uncertainty, and inadequacy of the first few days with my sweet boy. #fedisbest |
| Jami Baumann | Lebanon, OH | 2017-02-27 | Because women should not be shamed for feeding their babies in whatever way they see fit. |

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| Anna Tarka | Missouri City, TX | 2017-02-27 | My baby had to spend 24 hours under the Bili lights because no one told us that supplementing would keep him healthy. |
| Carolyn Reynolds, RN | Denver, CO | 2017-02-27 | As a NICU nurse, I have first hand experience in seeing that sometimes what "should" be best is not actually best. Let's not get so wrapped up in "best policy" that we don't see what's right in front of us. Fed is best!! |
| Jennifer Schuster | Kansas City, MO | 2017-02-27 | I'm a pediatrician and didn't know my own child wasn't getting enough breastmilk. If a trained doctor doesn't know, how do we expect everyone to know? |
| JoAnn Alling | Inverness, FL | 2017-02-27 | All or nothing doesn't work. Each babe and mom need to be evaluated and feeding needs to be adjusted accordingly. While breast is "best", it is not the only way to feed a baby. We need to support new moms, and not "guilt" them into something that may not be the best for them and their babies. |
| Marian Hunt | Limerick, Ireland | 2017-02-28 | I felt like an absolute failure when I had to supplement breastfeeding with formula and went on to have post natal depression. I felt that I had let my baby down badly and couldn't even feed him properly. New mums should not have to go through such trauma. Exclusive breastfeeding is NOT RIGHT for every mother. Mothers who cannot produce enough breast milk should not be made to feel ashamed and inferior mothers as this has a big effect on the health and happiness of mum and baby. I totally support the fed is best petition. |
| Patrick Shea | Toronto, Canada | 2017-02-28 | This information needs to be understood by any and all parents and caregivers of newborns. |
| Vickie Fazio | Easton, PA | 2017-02-28 | I'm a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner and have seen this too often. Mothers should not be bullied into only breastfeeding. Research needs to be done |
| Lisa Sirico | Red Lion, PA | 2017-02-28 | No infsn't should ever die because the mother was pressured to breast feed and not properly informed of signs and symptoms of malnourishment. |
| Molly Singleton-Coyne | Mineola, NY, NY | 2017-02-28 | I was pressured to exclusively breastfeed my daughter despite signs that she was hungry and dehydrated when she wasn't due to follow up with the pediatrician for 3 days. If my husband and I weren't medical professionals who could see that she wasn't doing well and have her formula, I can't even think about what would have happened to her. The emotional distress and physical harm that this campaign is causing needs to be addressed. |
| Melissa Halliday | Zebulon, NC | 2017-02-28 | I too experienced inability to produce adequate breastmilk and continues to push myself to exclusively breastfeed my child, despite obvious symptoms of hunger. She did not have any complications but see how lucky we were. |
| Jan Kolb | Blair, NE | 2017-02-28 | I was a NICU RN for almost 4 decades and mother of 2. When I had our babies, moms and babies were hospitalized for 5 days following birth. In that time period, feeding was established, any hyperbilirubinemia, etc. was identified. At some point, |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | insurance companies decided that 48 hrs. or less was adequate for postpartum hospitalization. That has been shown to work for many moms and babies. Not all women lactate equally, however. Insurance companies need to allow for the establishment of breastfeeding or supplementation before hospital discharge. Those babies are totally dependent on their moms being able provide adequate nutrition for them. Moms and babies are being short changed if that hasn't been achieved. Lives are at stake. Full, normal function for those affected is at stake. How devastating for these families, when that process has not been successfully achieved. |
| alexandria griffith | Leechburg, PA | 2017-02-28 | I'm signing because my son would have starved and would have had kidney problems had i not given him formula on his 3rd day of life. He was not urinating and it was going on 12 hours. I cried, and cried. The nurse hugged me and assured me he would be okay. She held him and fed him his first bottle. I'll never forget her and her kindness as a first time mom who had no idea what she was doing. I was so caught up in "breast is best" and feeling like a complete failure because my son wasnt getting enough from me. All I could think was "what is wrong with me? How can I not do the one thing my body was made to do for my son?" My son is now 4 weeks old and has gained 1 pound 7 ounces and is thriving. We are still breastfeeding PLUS giving formula after. Eventually he will be switched to full formula due to me going back to work. The pressure to ONLY breastfeed is so immense but as a mother I need ri do whats best for ME and MY son. |
| Danielle Moore | Phoenix, AZ | 2017-02-28 | My nephew almost died of dehydration/starvation due to "breast is best/breast only" stigma |
| Katie Madden RN, IBCLC | Marcus Hook, PA | 2017-02-28 | No parent should ever feel guilty or shamed for feeding her baby. |
| Stephanie Taylor | Logan, UT | 2017-02-28 | I had my baby at a "baby friendly" hospital, and I was on the WIC program. I was told again and again not to give her formula, I was told so many terrible things about formula, and I had multiple people tell me that no one has supply issues, every person can exclusively breast feed. I tried so hard, my baby ate all day long until I gave in and gave her a bottle at bedtime. She cried unless she was eating, except for when she had a bottle, then she would sleep quietly. Despite eating all day long she was dropping lower and lower on the percentages on the weight charts. She was diagnosed with silent reflux and gas issues, and even had a minor lip-tie clipped to try and help. She only pooped once a week, and the nurses just told me it was normal for breast fed babies, but all the literature I read said that once a week was not enough. I did a breast feeding assessment at the WIC office, they said her latch was pretty good and she ate a good amount. But she was still so tiny! Finally at her four month ap |
| Lizzy Gilbert | Omaha, NE | 2017-02-28 | I had serious supply issues due to undiagnosed endocrine dysfunction and was constantly told by medical professionals to only breastfeed, even as my baby lost weight and struggled to overcome jaundice. Thankfully, I ignored those experts and supplemented with formula. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Christine koh | Singapore, Singapore | 2017-02-28 | I am signing because i firmly believe babies should not go hungry. |
| Jitka Sitter | Fayetteville, AR | 2017-02-28 | I'm signing because I have 2 healthy breast-fed children who sometimes get formula when my milk is low and they are still hungry. And because I am lucky and my children are healthy and alive, as all babies should be. |
| Rhonda George-Hiebert | Oakville, Canada | 2017-02-28 | Fed is best! |
| Lina Liu | Australia | 2017-02-28 | This could easily have happened to my baby. Mid wives and nurses need to stop this bullying and pressure to exclusively breastfeed! |
| Shanna Birchette | Springville, UT | 2017-02-28 | I'm signing because I feel the #fedisbest awareness should be taught strongly within every breastfeeding class and hospital release after every birth. |
| Shawn Sweeney | Boyd, MT | 2017-02-28 | I'm a Labor and Delivery RN that has seen the establishment stop doing what I feel is right for Moms and their Babies, just so the can advertise as "Baby Friendly". I'm very sad when Moms are pressured to do what the "Baby Friendly Bible" says they should, but it may not be the right thing for that Mom, Family or Baby and tragedies like this can happen. How many near misses don't we know about or what problems won't come to light for years down the road. Fed is best! |
| Kelsey Fassold RN BSN | St. Louis, MO | 2017-02-28 | I'm signing to be a voice for babies world wide. |
| Tori MacKeil | El Paso, TX | 2017-02-28 | I believe no mother should be pressured when it comes to the care of their children - no matter what the situation may be. Trust your instincts! #neverdoubtyourmother |
| Rachel T | Columbia, TN | 2017-02-28 | I was one of the mother's who felt ashamed that I couldn't breast feed and had to switch to formula after my daughter had lost 7% of her body weight after 2 days. Women should not feel how I felt making that decision. I will never forget the feeling that I felt. I felt like I had failed my daughter when really I was making the best decision for her. 2 years later she is a healthy, energetic, loving daughter! FED is best!!! |
| Marta Clark | Chippendale, Australia | 2017-02-28 | I'm signing because I personally went trough a "no bottle policy" hospital trauma. I was seriously concerned about my daughters' wellbeing and when I desperately asked for formula my request was refused. I was treated as a panicky type first time mother.. Only when I got dressed ready do go to the corner store in the middle of the night to purchase formula and feed my child one of the nurses found some mercy and gave me 10ml of formula. This policy is very wrong. It doesn't consider situations when lactation is not working to plan, it doesn't consider children's safety and mother's right to make decisions. I'm traumatized for life. I have been made ashamed and guilty by this system only because I followed my instincts trying to feed my child,that I am responsible for. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Pauline Mahan | East Moline, IL | 2017-02-28 | All babies have a right to be fed. |
| Susan Olson | Barstow, CA | 2017-02-28 | Even though breastfeeding is usually best, there are times when it is not enough. Women should not be shamed into breastfeeding exclusively. The thought that anyone has lost a child trying to do what they thought was best for their child is heartbreaking. Especially since it can be prevented. Parents need to be informed so they can make responsible decisions. It is the professional's job to make sure the parents have all the information. |
| Eileen Markous R.N. | Moncks Corner, SC | 2017-02-28 | I am a retired nurse and know how hospitals discourage mothers from supplemental bottlefeeding. This is a very dangerous practice and must change to protect these newborns. |
| Elisabeth Wallace | Dubai, United Arab Emirates | 2017-02-28 | Because women need support and advice from those who know. It is outrageous that they are discharged from hospital with a baby who is not feeding. The ramifications of such actions are huge, including potential death. This is heartbreaking. |
| merissa Kimball | Atascadero, CA | 2017-02-28 | Every child n a mother has a right to choose n they shouldn't get pressured into to doing something they dont want to do they deserve to kno the info n risks ext. |
| Cathy Alderman | Royal Oak, MI | 2017-02-28 | Because no child should be starved and no parents should suffer the harm done to their child because they followed the advice of the hospital, doctors and nurses. |
| Lauren Dunigan | Bryan, TX | 2017-02-28 | My first born only gained 1 oz back after 4weeks of life. Pressure to continue ebf caused this. She incessantly cried. I was told to begin supplementing at 4 weeks and I cried. My sister said she had noticed her head had shrunk. She's now a yr old and has had no developmental delays. However after reading Landon's story I wonder if she did have any brain damage. I pray not. Fed is best!I just had my second child and while my production levels are normal and baby gaining I've decided exclusively pumping is best for us. The article confirms my decision. |
| Christina Cagle | Kansas City, MO | 2017-02-28 | I'm signing because I am a breastfeeding mother and all mom's need to know " fed is best". Mother's need the resources and education behind why "fed is best" and to realize there is no shame in formula feeding because sometimes breastfeeding isn't best for certain reasons. It's about education and resources because if you are not educated on your choices and the effects of those choices ,good or bad, you can't make the best decision regarding your child. Fed is best. |
| Nicole Velichkov | Newark, DE | 2017-02-28 | I'm signing because the number one goal as a mother is to fed your bady. Not to feel guilty by how you have to feed the bady. |
| Daleen Ross | Wichita, KS | 2017-02-28 | Both my babies were listed as failure to thrive and lost well over 10% of their birth weights. My last one developed an array of issues, even after being put on formula. He was 6.6 lbs at birth. While at the hospital he got down to 4.9 lbs and we were discharged at 5.2 lbs. This was only after I had to call patient advocacy and make a huge deal about finding some alternative "treatments." Seriously, all I wanted to do was feed my baby. They assigned me one nurse until |

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| | | | discharge and we were looked down on by the majority of the staff from that point on. I'm signing this because breastfeeding doesn't work for every woman and it's time the parents start getting all the information about their child's care while at these Baby Friendly hospitals. This experience made me untrusting of the people that we had to turn to for medical care and still makes my family very cautious of hospitals, doctors, nurses, etc..... |
| Jessica Christian | Clarkston, MI | 2017-02-28 | To help children receive the nutrition that they need wether it be breast or bottle. All three of mine were NICU babies and received either breast milk or formula to insure they received the nutrition they needed around the clock. |
| Abby Christolear | Moody, AL | 2017-02-28 | It could have been me. I have a healthy 3 month old son but that could have happened and it scares me |
| Frances Simmons | Indianapolis, IN | 2017-02-28 | I am concerned about the bullying that occurs at so-called baby friendly hospitals and have been disturbed by the trend of withholding formula from babies and also rest from new mothers that has occurred between my first delivery in 2007 and my last in 2016. I am sure that my first child would have had serious health problems had we not been able to give her formula. |
| julie yaryan | Goose Creek, SC | 2017-02-28 | i couldn't produce enough milk and was told over and over by lactation consultants to keep trying, but had i done that, my sweet babes would've starved. so we are bottlefed formula babies and i'm tired of feeling guilty for doing so. |
| Nicola Martin | Cults, Scotland, UK | 2017-02-28 | As a mother and qualified medical doctor, I agree wholeheartedly that no infant should experience starvation and dehydration due to pressures to exclusively breast feeding. |
| Meisi Lau | Flushing, NY | 2017-02-28 | Babies can't advocate for themselves. Moms need to do what they feel is best for their babies whether that means breastfeeding or bottle feeding. At the end of the day, we all just want healthy FED babies. |
| clair lodge | Watford, England, UK | 2017-02-28 | Fed is best! The stories are so tragic and awareness and the right support need to be given to all new mothers and their babies. |
| Katie Jenkins | Denver, CO | 2017-02-28 | My pediatrician pushing to supplement saved my baby girl! |
| Lisa Smith | Provo, UT | 2017-02-28 | I wasn't properly educated and it cost my child. No one should go through the this. |
| Vickie Altherr | Indianapolis, IN | 2017-02-28 | There is no shame in supplementing a breast fed baby. We need to get this right so we can encourage more moms to breastfeed. |
| Alexis Parisi | Charlotte, NC | 2017-02-28 | I'm signing this because fed is best and the pressure often put on new moms about EBF is unnecessary, unfair and unhealthy for the mother and child. |
| Jennifer Gauck | Washington, DC | 2017-02-28 | It's been important to promote and normalize breastfeeding. Unfortunately, an unintended consequence of this campaign has been the vast amount of advice/discussion that makes it seem like giving your baby formula, even for a short amount of time, |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | will "ruin" their ability to breastfeed. Even in cases where this messaging does not lead to hospitalization, it can lead to serious guilt and depression for the mother. I know; I experienced this myself as someone with chronic insufficient milk supply. Changing the messaging to focus on a "fed is best" perspective may likely have a significant positive impact on both moms and their babies. |
| Kourtney Valencia | Fenton, MO | 2017-02-28 | I'm signing because I believe that even though "breast is best," a healthy baby is the most important. I have two healthy breastfed babies and many friends that didn't even try, but at the end of the day the best way to feed the baby is what works for them and the parents. |
| Rachel Freilich | Cedar Park, TX | 2017-02-28 | I thank God everyday that the hospital pediatrician went against common practice and told me that my baby was hungry which was why he was crying all of the time. If not for him, I might have made a terrible mistake and not supplemented. |
| Lori Costales | Las Cruces, NM | 2017-02-28 | I feel all mothers,drs, nurses and lactation consultants need to read this! |
| Sonya Flakes | Evans, GA | 2017-02-28 | I had a similar experience with my son. He lost 15 percent of his body weight in 4 days. He was extremely lethargic and hypothermic. |
| Hannah Manchester | Rogers, AR | 2017-02-28 | My son was hospitalized on the 4th day of his life because of dehydration. We were robbed of those precious memories of the first few days because of intense pressure to exclusively breastfeed. |
| Danielle Doyle | Grand Chenier, LA | 2017-02-28 | I am signing this petition because my niece experienced health complications from exclusive breastfeeding and poor milk production in the mother. My sister was told she was doing the best for her baby and was encouraged not to supplement with formula. She was told the baby's constant crying was just gas. At 2 months of age my niece had only gained 5 ounces since her birth. Had my sister not decided to stop following the hospital and lactation consultant's advice and start exclusively pumping my niece may not be alive today. |
| Khris Watts | Cincinnati, OH | 2017-02-28 | I have seen first hand wonderful supportive nurses in Ft. Lauderdale' Plantation General Hospital suggest and teach mothers about following up with an ounce or two of formula after nursing. Wonderful advice for a new, first time mother. It helped me to be more successful at nursing. Once I moved to Cincinnati and had more children, these nurses had a different agenda!! They actually shamed me multiple times when I asked for formula to supplement. It is absurd to treat any new mother this way!! I'm very excited to hear of this foundation!!!I am an RN and I have worked for an OB/Gyn for years. I have shared this valuable information with mothers for years. I warned them about the nurses at the hospital and told them it's their right to feed their babies as needed.Not every mother is the same. Not every patient is the same. Why would they not deserve to be treated on an individuality basis?Please let me know how I can help spread this wonderful work you have started. I would be proud to be a part of this moveme |
| Alixandra Smith | Concord, MA | 2017-02-28 | Labor and delivery nurse for FED babies! |

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| Josephine Manganiello | Mount Kisco, NY | 2017-02-28 | I disagree with state regulations forcing mothers and hospitals to have all women exclusively breast feed. The government has to understand, not everyone can, and the baby's health should be first priority. Not statistics and numbers. |
| Janel Fajilan | Batangas city, Philippines | 2017-02-28 | I have experienced this when my milk was delayed for three days after giving birth via c section, which is why we used a milk formula. |
| Meg Burke | Katy, TX | 2017-02-28 | I am signing this because I can't even begin to imagine what I would do if I lost my child because I was starving them. I have twin boys and the very thought of this is gut wrenching. I have also witnessed a nurse discourage a new mother from pumping hours after giving birth because "breast is best." A mother's intuition is best, and a nurse or a hospital or any other person should not have the right to say what a mother should or shouldn't do when it comes to feeding HER child. |
| Kymber Arvin | 40356, KY | 2017-02-28 | I'm signing because we need to feed our babies and stop pressuring mothers to only feed them one way! |
| Bridget Scheidler | Boynton Beach, FL | 2017-02-28 | I produced little to no milk with my first child. I felt immense pressure to exclusively breastfeed. My son was constantly fussy. I was lucky enough to have a pediatrician who noted my son's significant weight loss on the first visit after being home from the hospital. He recommended supplementing after BF. I even tried going to an LC, which I left in tears. I then went straight to the store for formula. My son started thriving after that and was finally calm and comfortable! With my second child, I knew I would do what felt right. I BF and supplemented and was able to give my second son breast milk even longer than my first. FED IS BEST! Stop asking mothers how they feed their child. Just ask them if they need any support in what they want to do! |
| Katy Booth | Lake Charles, LA | 2017-02-28 | I'm signing because I experienced this. I was told by my LC that I was doing the right thing exclusively breastfeeding and my daughter was taking in enough when we had our appointment when my daughter was 3 weeks old. However at her two month check up she was only 5 oz. over her birth weight. On that day I switched to exclusively pumping and bottle fed her to make sure she was taking in enough. After 10 days, when I was told to come back and do a weight check, she had gained almost 2 pounds! I switched to exclusively pumping, bottle fed, and also supplemented with formula because my supply was low. At her four month check up she was in the 50th percentile for her weight and 90th for her height. Now she is almost 7 months and her last check up she was 60th in her weight and 90th for her height. We are now formula fed because it was just too hard getting my supply back. We have worked hard for the rolls that she has on her thighs and wrists and are so thankful that we were able to catch this before it became mo |
| Lindsay Monaco | East Norwich, NY | 2017-02-28 | My son lost nearly almost 8% of his body weight within 36 hours of his life due to my inadequate breast milk supply. We were not offered formula supplementation and had to insist on it after my son 'cluster fed' for 4 hours straight and was not satisfied. Since, he has been exclusively formula fed as I still do not have enough milk. |

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| | | | Hospitals need to recognize this and offer supplementation more readily than they do now. |
| Maria Rosales | Bethesda, MD | 2017-02-28 | I was encouraged by my hospital to breastfeed exclusively when clearly my milk supply had not yet come in. This could have put my baby at risk. I would have preferred to know the truth. |
| Katelyn Loftis | Denver, CO | 2017-02-28 | My daughter suffered from starvation for 4 days in a "baby friendly" hospital, i felt like a failure as a mother until my pediatrician gave my daughter a bottle of formula. |
| Charice Cloward | Salt Lake City, UT | 2017-02-28 | Every parent should be advised of what to look for and how to prevent a terrible tragedy. |
| Ruth Austin | Oxford, England, UK | 2017-02-28 | I exclusively breast fed my son and battled for 6 months with him always seeming hungry until we introduced solids. In hindsight I was probably not producing enough milk and this information would have been helpful in then seeking help. |
| Michelle Hitt | Franklin, NC | 2017-02-28 | I don't want another baby to starve. |
| Ging Ging Fernandez | Waimanalo, HI | 2017-02-28 | My 2nd baby had to go into the NICU due to dehydration. |
| Erica Byham | Saratoga Springs, NY | 2017-02-28 | I have been made to feel like a failure for not producing enough milk. By nurses, lactation consultants, especially other EBF mothers. They don't know the very real and terrifying reasons behind our supplementation. This needs to be spread across our country yesterday! |
| Hayley Glover | Sunnybank, Australia | 2017-02-28 | I'm signing because this issue needs to be notice and mums shouldn't be forced to feel as though they need to only breastfeed if there instincts are different. Need more support and awareness to this. |
| Julie Pierce | Bedias, TX | 2017-02-28 | I would have starved my twins to death if I had exclusively breastfed! |
| Ellen Simmons | Atlanta, GA | 2017-02-28 | No mother should feel guilty for not breastfeeding. Love can and does come from bottle feeding. |
| Robyn Gorton | Cross Roads, TX | 2017-02-28 | I am a NICU nurse who directly deals with these types of situations on a weekly basis at work, where the hospital is "baby centered" to some degree. |
| Krystal Bachman | Yoncalla, OR | 2017-02-28 | I'm signing because I had a similar experience when my first daughter was born. After breast feeding for a month I could tell by the way she was acting that she was starving. Nurses and lactation people just kept telling me that her nursing all the time was normal and I would produce more milk and to let her. I could tell she was starving by the sound of her cries and the way she would fall asleep from exhaustion of crying. I felt so helpless and like a failure. Thankfully I had a mother in law who is old fashion and at the time a RN and she beloved me. She had me give her small bottles in between breastfeeding to help her. Sadly I wasn't able to finish breastfeeding my daughter. In her first two months of life she gained no weight. She was also diagnosed with GERD. By the |

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| | | | time she was three months old she was eating solid food cause she was so hungry all the time. She is happy and healthy now but I too listened to those doctors and nurses and after reading this I am so thankful I had a mother in law who help |
| Kathleen Moran | Chester, NY | 2017-02-28 | No baby should starve to death! |
| Cathelyn Hidacan | Caloocan, Philippines | 2017-02-28 | We need to be educated about insufficient breastfeeding. |
| Yu Yan Tsang | Renton, WA | 2017-02-28 | My son was crying the second day of birth non stop, I was asked to watch a video of purple crying. We we're discharged out of the hospital with 8.7% weight loss. We ended up giving him a bottle by instructions from lc and pedi. I think landon's case sounds very familiar. |
| Serena Chacko | Cleveland, OH | 2017-02-28 | As a physician and recent first time mother I have seen first hand that the "B reast is best" movement has gained power beyond their medical competency. This is a failure and tragedy within the medical community. |
| Misty Campanella | Covington, LA | 2017-02-28 | Im signing because this affected me as well. I too was uninformed and did not realize until 3 weeks after birth that my son wasnt getting enough milk from my breasts. I do wonder if this has contributed to his disability/special needs. If more infomation was provided at the hospitals or in psa's etc, it could easily prevent this tragedy from happening to others. |
| Brigitte Kelly | Keansburg, NJ | 2017-02-28 | I am a mother and also felt pressured to breast feed exclusively. |
| Heather Curtis | Walderslade, England, UK | 2017-02-28 | Breast wasn't best for my Baby and if it wasn't for my cousin forcing me to give her a bottle & yelling at me that she was starving she wouldn't be here today! |
| Christina McLaughlin | East Bridgewater, MA | 2017-03-01 | Breast is suppose to be "Best" than why so many little lives lost because we get pushed so hard in today's day and age,that if you don't breastfeed than you're not doing "Whats best for your baby" that is just something no mother should hear..Supplement feeding is ok and we as these babies Mothers should not be shamed because we're doing what "We think is best" My point is that both should be encouraged and it should be the parents choice only..I am truly sorry to all the beautiful Angels that were taking too soon# And the parents that lost them# I cannot imagine your pain but Always know they're with you Always and Forever### |
| Dawn Kosakoski | Woodland Hills, CA | 2017-03-01 | I am a NICU nurse who agrees with your cause. |
| Jodie Ferguson | Flint, MI | 2017-03-01 | I'm a labor & delivery/postpartum nurse. I care for mothers and babies exclusively. I have always educated my patients that fed is best! |
| Kelly Smith | Patoka, IL | 2017-03-01 | I was a 23 year old when I had my baby. I was pressured so much by WIC (women and infants clinic) to breastfeed. If you didn't you were made to feel like a failure. My milk did not come in for 5 days after my daughter was born. So we had to supplement. My consultant said " why are you giving her formula?" Obviously so she doesn't |

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| | | | starve. "Well how do you know nothing is coming out?" Because I am pumping because she ant latch. "When did you start pumping?" 24 hours after birth because my child hadn't ate yet. WIC is the absolute worst on pressuring you into breastfeeding. |
| Sheena Cupid | Southport, NC | 2017-03-01 | I experienced a push to breadt feed exclusively and my son had no urine output in 13 hours! I luckily had enough sense to know he needed supplementation. I was to feel like a failure after I gave in and gave him a bottle. Luckily, I was able to avoid further issues for my precious son. Some were not as lucky and that has got to be a driver for change. |
| Kayla Brown | Claremore, OK | 2017-03-01 | Breastfeeding is being put before health and safety of infants. All information should be readily available to insure the health and safety of our infants. Medical professionals are failing mothers everywhere based on a foolish agenda. |
| Mariah Huckeriede | New Haven, IN | 2017-03-01 | After reading your article about Landon, I realized how close my son came to suffering the same fate. My very first pregnancy ended quickly with a life threatening miscarriage. About A year and a half later, I got pregnant with my son. He was born, full term, 10 lbs 4 oz, by emergency c-section. His apgar score was 2 at birth, but he quickly perked up. I don't really remember much because I had to be put fully asleep before the doctor could do my c-sectio because my epidural didn't work correctly. After his birth, I tried to nurse him, but he wanted to eat continuously. I was raw and bleeding but the lactation consultant still pressured me to nurse him. Finally, on our second night at the hospital I got a veteran nurse. She told me it was ok to give him a bottle. I let him have formula and the child slept! We found out the next morning that his bilirubin levels were dangerously high. He went to the NICU and spent some days there. While he was in the NICU they continued to pressure me to nurse him |
| Mary Perez | Plainsboro, NJ | 2017-03-01 | I'm signing because I don't want to see these newborn babies starving anymore. I don't want to hear their crying because they are hungry and I'm supposed to tell the mothers "it's cluster feeding." |
| Roscio Castellanos | Placentia, CA | 2017-03-01 | I went through the prenatal classes hearing how breastfeeding is best for newborns. As a first time mother I wanted the best for my baby and that's what I set my mind on, I was going to breastfeed. When my son was born I thought I was breastfeeding, turns out he wasn't getting any milk. Luckily the pediatrician caught it after a full day, he noticed he hadn't urinated at all or enough. I can't remember now. So he ordered for us to supplement. I cried inconsolably, I felt like I had failed my son. First I had failed because I had to have a c-section and now with not being able to breastfeed. |
| Karla Pena | Escondido, CA | 2017-03-01 | I am a mother who had two hungry newborns and was advised at hospital to keep nursing. I kept telling the doctors, nurses, and lactation consultants, that my baby was hungry and they said newborns aren't born hungry. Not until I asked the nurse if I should give my baby formula did she say the hospital had formula. She said the doctors and nurses are not 'allowed' to offer formula until the mother asks. With my first child, I had no idea what I was doing, and felt betrayed by the hospitals breast is best agenda. I felt awful |

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| | | | for taking 36 hours to ask for formula, but I didn't even know it was available. My baby had been starving and crying the first 36 hours of life. Thankfully, she fed and is in perfect health. With my second child, as soon as I noticed she seemed hungry I asked for formula and gave it to her through the syringe, so she could keep stimulating my nipple. I feel the hospitals should ditch their agenda and offer all available options to parents for their newborns. This would avoid any unnecess |
| Anna Viviani | Queens, NY | 2017-03-01 | As a first time mother who wanted to exclusively breastfeed (which I ended up doing for 13 months), those first few days with my son were extremely stressful because my milk didn't come in and I felt like my son was hungry all the time. The hospital kept telling me it's ok if he doesn't eat and looses some weight but I trusted my inner voice and supplemented until my milk came in. New mothers need to know that newborn weight loss should be taken seriously and to trust their instincts. Just because you supplement does not mean you cannot breastfeed. |
| Jasmyn Moore | Hagerstown, MD | 2017-03-01 | Breastfeeding isn't always the best option. Bottle feeding is more safe to me. You know your child is eating. |
| Cathy Morgan | North Richland Hills, TX | 2017-03-01 | I want to make sure starvation does not happen to any other infants and all moms being able to breast and bottle feed if they choose to do so. |
| Joselyn Daher | Lockport, IL | 2017-03-01 | I'm signing because I was made to feel like a failure with my 1st born by the La Leche League, and my 2nd born almost ended up being put back in the hospital on IVs because of this. Thankfully the 2nd time around I had a good pediatrician who believes fed is best. Let's end the formula stigma and shaming. |
| jennifer fernandez | caracas, Venezuela | 2017-03-01 | I feel for this family, and this happens a lot, this breastfeeding exclusively can go too far sometimes. My son used to cry a lot as well cause he was not having enough milk from me so I've decided for the bottle, if I would have taken the decision of only breastfed him probably he would be here today! I'm shocked to read this and totally should be more information out there to the future mamas and as well for in this kind of hospitals! |
| Ashley Nelson | American Fork, UT | 2017-03-01 | I am signing because I felt a lot of pressure to breastfeed and looking back with my first child, I am lucky he is here as he had what are now obvious signs of extreme hunger the first two days. Not enough milk was not my problem. He couldn't transfer milk from me, but I was laughed at by a doctor for suggesting that and that he could have some type of tongue or lip tie. I pumped and bottle fed(it was insane). With my next two I supplemented and pumped and until they were 1 month and at that point they literally latched just fine once their mouths were bigger. |
| Kristy Tatton | Midway, UT | 2017-03-01 | I am a mother who did not produce enough milk to feed my baby. Never once did anyone from the medical community tell me to feed my poor starving baby a bottle. Without the advice of my wonderful mother who encouraged me to feed my baby a bottle, my experience could have been much worse. As soon as I started to supplement my baby's feedings with formula, he started to |

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| | | | thrive. Before the supplemental feedings, he had started to become lethargic. Thankfully my son has no permanent damage from the lack of nourishment during the first week of his life. While breast feeding can be great, it's not a possibility for everyone. Mother's should be educated to do what is best for their child and "Fed is best". There is too much pressure from the medical community and the lactation consultants to breast feed exclusively. The pressure is so intense, it makes a mother feel like a failure if she has to feed her baby a bottle. That is ridiculous! Formula is a great alternative and all three of my children were formula fed. Th |
| Amanda Wiederin | Cedar Rapids, IA | 2017-03-01 | Everyone deserves a right to know the pros and cons of the choices they make for their children. |
| Khushboo Agarwal | India | 2017-03-01 | This happened with my baby too . I was lucky that she was revived and is healthy now . |
| Emily Black | Auckland, New Zealand | 2017-03-01 | I believe fed is best. Thank you for starting this petition. |
| Juli Bexkens | Vallensbæk Strand, Denmark | 2017-03-01 | I'm signing because my midwife made one thing clear to me: you are not a good mother through your breasts. You are a good mother through taking care of your child. |
| Jennifer O'Brien | Little Falls, NJ | 2017-03-01 | I too had a horrible experience with a lactation consultant who did nothing but try to preach to me that 'breast was best'. I attempted breastfeeding and my baby did not latch well, and I knew she was not getting proper nutrition from me. I bottle fed in order to ensure she was receiving nutrition during our hospital stay after Shannon was born. The lactation specialist basically shunned and insulted me. Turns out her 'bili' numbers were high and in order to aid in lowering them, frequent feeding with formula not only helped, it spared my baby having to stay longer and receive phototherapy treatment. In the end, fed is best! I do not regret my decision. My baby's health is my #1 concern and if that meant forgoing the so-called 'bonding' experience of breastfeeding, so be it. The bond I (and my husband) have with our baby is everlasting and I didn't need to breast feed to build that, just lots of TLC and snuggles. |
| Starla Seward | Nanaimo, Canada | 2017-03-01 | I feel so Bad for the infant!!! Why did they even let him go HmE in the first place losing that ,uch weight those DAM NURSES OR EVEN THE DOCTOR SHOULD OF KNOWN WAY B4 They went HOME!!!! This so Pisses me off!!! |
| Linda Brady APRN (Pediatrics) | Omaha, NE | 2017-03-01 | First as a mother of 2 grown children and an NICU nurse and now Pediatric Nurse Practitioner for the past 37 years I have frequently seen many mom's struggling with breastfeeding and in my heart have always felt that we need to worry most about feeding them, not how they are feed! Our society has become so overly obsessed with breastfeeding that we have convinced the community that "formula" and bottle feeding must be poison to a baby. We need to start supplying parents with information on all the ways that an infant can be feed along with the Pros and Cons of each. We seen a hugh rise in autism and it is fair to ask if this can possibly be related to brain insults shortly after birth from hypoglycemia, hypernatremia, and other results of issues with |

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| | | | exclusive breastfeeding. I have 2 children that I attempted to nurse but eventually switched over to bottle by a week of age or so. Did I cause potential harm to them I now wonder. We may never know the answers to those questions but I support 100% feeding |
| Rebecca Winnicki | Somerset, NJ | 2017-03-01 | My 1st born was admitted to the hospital 3 day after being born for severe dehydration. The dr told me if I wait another 2-3 hrs he would had died! We spent another 5 days in the hospital recovering. He nursed every 2 hours and after would fall straight asleep. He never cried or anything that he was hungry. But by day 2 he was not having wet diapers. My mom thought maybe something was hurting down there. We put water on his hand and he peed. The next day nothing! He just didn't look right and my mom said take him to hospital right now. They did so many test on him it was scary! The lactation nurse never was able to see me since I was in the hospital for a total of 16 hours for labor. I was unprepared for what I thought my body would just do. I had a drug free, natural birth so I expected to have my body work as perfect as possible after birth. |
| Myda Lau | Quezon City, Philippines | 2017-03-01 | Fed is best |
| Emma Gunn | London, England, UK | 2017-03-01 | I'm frightened at how often I hear about new mums thst feel ashamed about having to use formula for a new born. I used both! |
| Rindy Schutz | Fort Worth, TX | 2017-03-01 | This could have been my daughter. I never produced milk very well and no one warned me about the dangers of newborn dehydration. I felt pressure to breastfeed because of the nutrition ideologies of my family and our family friends growing up, and I truly believe breast milk is best, but when mine didn't come in, I had to bottle feed. Fortunately the hospital didn't dissuade me, but they also didn't inform me of the dangers of dehydration, and I think more information on that is necessary. |
| Dana Woodcock | Chocowinity, NC | 2017-03-01 | I believe it is essential to get this info out, and provide mom's an alternative voice, breastfeeding is good but it is not for everyone and no one should be made to feel inferior because they do or can not. This from a mom, grandma, and RN viewpoint. |
| Robin Shaw | Sunnyvale, CA | 2017-03-01 | As an RN working with mothers and newborns....although breast is absolutely best for many reasons, not all mothers want to breastfeed or are successful. We need to respect the parents rights with education provided. Breast with supplementation may be best. Sadly in CA baby friendly is mandated by the Govenor and a law passed a few years ago requiring all hospitals to be baby friendly. Hospitals are judges by exclusive breastfeeding rate at discharge and with lower scores loss of patients. Government shouldn't decide how babies are fed. |
| Shelley French | McKinney, TX | 2017-03-01 | I couldn't produce enough colostrum for my daughter while exclusively breastfeeding but I didn't realize that at the time. I would pump every 1-2 hours in addition to BF and only get a drop or 2 at the most after 30-45 minutes of pumping. Plus I have inverted nipples and my milk never came in and I was experiencing excruciating pain with each suck. I thought I was initially being a good mom and sacrificing my pain and discomfort for what was |

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| | | | best for my daughter. This was what I was told repeatedly by all of the experts. I was miserable, my baby was starving and I was told by the doctors, nurses and lactation consultants that I shouldn't give up or supplement with formula and that my daughter was getting what she needed even though she was losing weight, crying all the time and not as responsive as she should have been. Against nurse, doctor and lactation consultants direction, I finally decided that I was ok with being a 'failure of a mom' if it meant I could give my daughter a bottle of formula and try to g |
| Becky Vinyard | Gilbert, AZ | 2017-03-01 | I starved my first born into the hospital. Praise God, she lived and has no lasting effects from it. No one told me that sometimes, there is no milk. No one told me, a baby should not cry all the time and pull off, angry and frustrated. No one told me, it is not normal for a baby to lose over 10% of her weight. I will never forget the dr calling after her first well check at 5 days and saying, "there is a bed at the children's hospital for her. Go now. Do not even stop to go through a drive thru for dinner. Get her in the car and go NOW." |
| Stephen Fields | Redmond, OR | 2017-03-01 | Our son was born with complications and was unable to feed and we came very close to losing him. |
| Elisa Mansell | Delta BC, British Columbia, Canada | 2017-03-01 | Elisa |
| Sara Skrzycki | Bellefonte, PA | 2017-03-01 | I want mothers to know that FED IS BEST. Bottle or breast that doesn't matter ALL that matters is Nourishment for their child. |
| Lindsey Helm | Fairfield, OH | 2017-03-01 | Breast isn't ALWAYS best! |
| Lura Butler | Fults, IL | 2017-03-01 | The pressure to exclusively breastfeed is overwhelming. You are made to feel like a failure if you ask for a bottle. |
| Elizabeth Mathis | Lebanon, VA | 2017-03-01 | Fiercely opposed to shaming women who, for any reason, decide to supplement with formula or feed formula exclusively. |
| Rebecca Staker | Rigby, ID | 2017-03-01 | I am a NICU nurse, lactation consultant who worked night shift and saw hungry babies screaming and mothers crying trying to get their babies satisfied. This is a very important petition and if the mothers are worried that the baby won't take the breast after getting milk from a bottle, she can drip it through whats called a "SNS" and that way the baby gets some formula while breast feeding and can encourage the mother to continue breast feeding if that is what she wants. |
| bonnie james | Ludlow, MA | 2017-03-01 | i agree that this can pose health risks to newborns. |
| Grace Dubsky | Atlanta, GA | 2017-03-01 | I also was a mother that did not produce enough milk but was fortunate enough to realize this and help my baby get what she needs. |
| Katina Marquez | Breslau, Canada | 2017-03-01 | We almost lost our son who was born October 2012 because of the pressure from society and hospital to breast feed him. I did not have enough milk but didn't know that and at the time all the nurses and doctors at the hospital he was born in ignored his signs of his extreme weight loss and crystallization in his urine, telling me it |

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| | | | was all normal. His diapers were as per they outlined on a diagram that I was given to follow but only in the frequency, later they told me how much should be in each diaper! He was crying constantly and latching on every hour for an hour and they just told me "he is a good eater"!!!! Then we saw the Paediatrician 3 days after being discharged from the hospital and thanks to him he told us to go to the hospital because he was concerned with the amount of weight that our son had lost. He advised me to give him a bottle with formula immediately and keep giving him as much as he wants. We went to the hospital and while at the hospital, our son lost vitals. Code blue was calle |
| Kerryn Rawson | Tauranga, New Zealand | 2017-03-01 | Your a good mum weather you breast feed or bottle feed whether you have a natural birth or c-section or adopt. Every new parent should be informed & supported with everything. |
| Brittany Spiers | Summit, MS | 2017-03-01 | I had a successful 15 month breastfeeding relationship with my son. (2 weeks of formula feeding due to my being sick). With my daughter breastfeeding was not best. She seemed to be doing well but wasn't. Always sleeping and latching on for two seconds only to fall asleep again. I was told it's because she was comfortable with me. She cried all throughout her second night. Looking back I think she was hungry and it breaks my heart. I was told she might have colic. After a few days I decided to pump and give her a bottle. I felt like a failure but my baby was finally eating! We tried exclusively breastfeeding a few times and it never worked out. Even though she was growing well and developing beautifully something wasn't quite right with her feedings. One day she just stopped eating. She wouldnt take my milk from me or a bottle so we gave her formula and she ate. She is now a happy, healthy three month old and I no longer stress or worry about her eating. I am signing this because there needs to be bet |
| Brandy Choate | Madisonville, KY | 2017-03-01 | I personally struggled to produce enough and I went through the gambit trying make more all while my son lost weight. Fed is best |
| Alice Emmett | Whenuapai, New Zealand | 2017-03-01 | While I may not live in the US, I fully support this initiative & hope we may be able to achieve change in New Zealand too. I recently made a public post on Facebook in response to your blog article & discussing my own situation. I have been overwhelmed by the number of people who relate to the pressures to breastfeed & the lack of appropriate advice & care from those who are supposed to be looking after the mother & child's best interest. FED is best. Feel free to read my own post here: https://www.facebook.com/alice.emmett.3/posts/101549357772 |
| Suzanne Smith | Tifton, GA | 2017-03-01 | I had a terrible time nursing because I just wasn't producing enough milk. Thank goodness I had sisters and a mom who had already had run-ins with the breastfeeding nazis, and encouraged me to do what I, the mom, felt was best. Even so, it was devastating when I finally gave my first one a bottle. It's so, so important to get a balanced perspective on this ~ breastfeeding is great when it works, but fed really is best! |
| Swati Agarwal | Arlington, VA | 2017-03-01 | MD (pediatric ICU) |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Caroline Frederix | Rye, England, UK | 2017-03-01 | I had a very traumatic experience in a UK hospital with my first born. The birth was complicated but a breeze compared to my aftercare. I didn't know what to do and the breastfeeding wasn't working at all. I saw my son becoming very weak on day 3 and he had lost almost 10% of his bodyweight...I knew this later as there was no daily weighing at the clinic. I was lucky that I refused to go home before he was feeding properly and there were some sensible nurses around who had given 2 bottles in 2 days. Most horrific experience of my life. There are lots of nurses out there who believe everyone can breastfeed and that is extremely scary! |
| Adrienne Brenner | Seattle, WA | 2017-03-01 | My milk did not come in until day 5 of my son's life. At day 3, he hadn't a wet diaper in 24 hours and began crying inconsolably. He would latch, suck, and then he would arch his back and cry. Thank God, when we called our pediatrician help line, the on-call doctor recommended formula. My husband bought formula from the grocery store at 2 a.m., and when we offered an ounce to our crying baby, he gulped it up. We gave him another ounce, which he also drank up, and then he stopped crying. I continued to breastfeed him, and then supplement with formula until my milk came in. Once my milk came in, I was able to exclusively breastfeed him, and we have had a beautiful breastfeeding relationship ever since (he is still breastfeeding at 3.5 years old). That moment when our 3-day-old son was crying inconsolably was scary and confusing. I thought I was doing what I was supposed to be doing by continuing to breastfeed him on demand, and I thought the colostrum was supposed to be enough. If the pediatrician on call hadn |
| Stephanie ellis | Peterborough, Canada | 2017-03-01 | This is near and dear to my heart |
| Alaina Cubbon | Paget, Bermuda | 2017-03-01 | I'm signing because no baby should have to go hungry, risk long-term damage or even death when formula is available as a safe supplement/alternative to breast milk, and no new mother should be made to feel guilty about supplementing with formula whether out of necessity, caution or choice. |
| kirsty rowlands | bridgend, Wales; Cymru, UK | 2017-03-01 | As a mother of a newborn I understand how much pressure can be put on new mother's to exclusively breastfeed when sometimes you just have to supplement with a bottle, expressed or formula. There should be no judgement and more education of dangers like these that can occur. God bless you Landon. Your memory will live on x |
| Brigitte Grissom | Edmonds, WA | 2017-03-02 | As a healthcare provider I have seen many situations in the last years where baby friendly was not baby safe. The public needs to be educated on this issue for patient safety sake. |
| Emma Davey | Australia | 2017-03-02 | no one should have to endure the loss of a child |
| Erin Paul | Seattle, WA | 2017-03-02 | My baby was hospitalized because she was not getting enough milk from breastfeeding and it was terrifying. Thankfully she didn't have permanent damage, breastfeeding is not always best and it's not the only option unlike some people would have you believe. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Amber Vitori | Englewood, OH | 2017-03-02 | I am signing this petition on behalf of the many infants without a voice that need their parents to know that Fed is best! |
| Kerry Callaghan | Australia | 2017-03-02 | I had similar issues with not producing enough milk with my 1st child, i was not supported by the midwives in changing from breast to milk, they wouldn't even enter a formula conversation, with my 2nd child it happened again and she lost over 10% of her weight on 2 days, this time i had a supportive midwife and feel so much better with no guilt with formula. We need to support mother and child through sensible conversation and STOP THE GUILT. Thank you |
| Katrina Hutchinson | Auckland, New Zealand | 2017-03-02 | Just letting you know it is a bit hard to get to the petition on your site. I starved my first baby due to the pressure to breast feed. I tried so hard to feed her but she would not wake for feeds. I believe now it was because she had no energy due to lack of nutrition. She lost over 10% first 3 days. With my second I brought bottles and formula and water with me to the hospital. I was treated like a criminal. One nurse came in and said she heard I was artificially feeding my baby. The place where you keep your bottles is called the artificial feeding room! Could anyone think of a more derogatory term. I was half breast feeding and supplementing with formula. This baby would not starve like my first. He did not lose weight. I could hear all the babies crying and crying down the halls and I knew from experience with my first that they were hungry! I had a sign hanging on my door that the nurses had put there saying "this is a breast feeding mother please give her support" No I wasn't and why not |
| Jeany Catron | Rogersville, TN | 2017-03-02 | I am more than happy to sign this petition. My milk did not come in like it should have, my first child was tongue tied in which we did not discover until he was 2 months old & had I not requested that I was going to use breast & bottle he would have also starved to death because he couldn't latch on properly. Having the education and awareness is just good sense and should be required in order to save a child's life. If they are crying uncontrollably there is a reason, and don't ever let anyone tell you any different! |
| Martha Pearce | Australia | 2017-03-02 | I have watched friends and family members desperately try, with best intention, to breastfeed and those who experience problems turn to lactation consultants who appear militant in their anti-formula approach, to the point of detriment to mothers and babies. Fed is best! This needs to be a sensitively handled issue without bias or agenda. |
| Julie Halligan | Orange Park, FL | 2017-03-02 | As a former NICU RN now working in a baby friendly hospital which so many times doesn't seem baby friendly at all.. |
| sj drummond | Farmville, VA | 2017-03-02 | I was unable to breastfeed any of my 3 children. After being unsuccessful with my first child, I was determined to succeed with my 2nd. Unfortunately, the advice I received from hospital lactation consultants and the pediatrician (!) almost put my daughter in jeopardy, as I watched my healthy 8 1/2 lb newborn drop 2 lbs in the first 2 weeks. They assured me that "anyone can breastfeed if they really want to--you just have to commit to it". Luckily, my husband relied on his instincts (I was too exhausted from nursing all the time) and gave her a bottle. We learned to supplement with whatever I |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | could give, but make sure all of our children were well nourished by whatever means it took. |
| Natalia Johnson | Philadelphia, PA | 2017-03-02 | Fed is Best!! |
| Jessica Bouillion | Lenoir, NC | 2017-03-02 | I too felt immense pressure to only breastfeed my son. At his first check up it was discovered that he had lost weight and was not getting any breast milk. We immediately started him on formula, otherwise he would have starved. I was not able to produce breast milk, but each nurse I came into contact with assured me that breastfeeding was the best option. I felt like formula was a shameful option. However, in the end it saved my son's life and I now have an amazing, healthy 4 year old little boy. Please remove the stigma of formula! There is nothing wrong with feeding your child formula. It is an amazing thing. |
| Blake Bouillion | Lenoir, NC | 2017-03-02 | It is ridiculous and irresponsible for this breast milk only movement to put so much undue unnecessary pressure on new mother's just for some false badge of honor. Breast milk is great, but my God don't demonize formula to the point that babies lives are at risk. I wanted to write Similac a thank you letter for sending us the sample that may have saved our son's life. This mentality absolutely has to change. |
| Elaine Martzen | Southlake, TX | 2017-03-02 | I am fortunate my mother and husband insisted on supplementing within the first couple weeks - my baby's weight wasn't where it should be, though my pediatrician didn't strongly recommend formula. I know my baby was so much happier once he was getting formula, too. |
| Caroline Del Mundo | Cavite, Philippines | 2017-03-02 | I believe that you will do what's best for your baby. |
| MARLENE PRESTON | ARKPORT, NY | 2017-03-02 | I am an OB nurse and I'm tired of hearing hungry babies crying all the time. I think it is cruel and inhumane what we are doing to our newborns. It scares me when I see kernicterous is on the rise the last 5 years, when it had practically disappeared. |
| Melanie Otto | Adelaide, Australia | 2017-03-02 | i was in one of the so called bf friendly hospitals, they not mother or baby friendlyFed is best full stop. I was bullied, berated and ignored once i picked up formula |
| Dena Button | Beaumont, CA | 2017-03-02 | I almost starved my child to death by trying to exclusively breastfeed. |
| Melissa Wheeler | Iona, ID | 2017-03-02 | My newborn ended up back in the hospital after being released 12 hours earlier for dehydration. I was nursing him every 45 minutes. No one ever told me about insufficient breast milk in newborns. Even when he was crying continuously, I was terrified to give him a bottle because "breast is best." Please don't let this happen to any other families. Inform new parents that "fed is best."I am lucky, my son is alive and healthy. I just wish I had known this before giving birth to avoid the risks of brain damage. Thank you. |
| Carmen Rasmussen | Chico, CA | 2017-03-02 | It's the right thing to do. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Sharyn Wilson | DECEPTION BAY, Queensland, Australia | 2017-03-02 | I feel it is so wrong how parents are made to feel that they are harming their baby by not breast feeding. Yes, if you can breast feed that's great but many mums are unable to for many reasons, & if your baby is constantly crying you should not be made to feel guilty for requesting a bottle to supplement the feed. These people that are so strongly advocating "breast is best" & that bottle feed can harm your baby, can cause so much grief especially to first time mums, & this practice of their form of bullying needs to stop. These statistics of the brain injury caused by underfed bubs, due to mums feeling that they can only breast feed even though their baby may be constantly screaming horrifies me !!! Honestly most mums know that something is wrong if Bub is constantly crying & then being told to constantly have your baby on the breast is so very wrong ! You can't tell how much milk Bub is actually taking in & that was always the scary part for me & it's about time these overbearing people that judge & make |
| Sthiti Deka | San Jose, CA | 2017-03-02 | I'm signing because I know of stories with similar consequences where supplementation could have helped. I want to spread the awareness about dangers of dehydration and starvation of newborns from insufficient milk supply |
| Mincy Chelliyil | San Jose, CA | 2017-03-02 | My new born dehydrated from lack of breast milk and was saved by my aunt's advice to give her the bottle. I went on to breast feed my child for 12 months. |
| Janine Web | Melbourne, Victoria, Australia | 2017-03-02 | I was told to keep breastfeeding my daughter as I had so much milk. Except that she was starving & when we put her on to the bottle she put on 500 grams in a week! There is too much emphasis put on breast feeding, when it does not work for everyone. Not enough nurses & doctors take notice of mothers who are struggling to feed their baby. |
| Marion White | Westhoughton, England, UK | 2017-03-02 | I'm a grandmother and ashamed to admit my ignorance here.How sad for this family. |
| Jaimie McKegney | Australia | 2017-03-02 | I'm signing because this outcome could have been my son (born August 2014) and also my daughter (born September 2016). Both had post birth complications re feeding. |
| Janet Wilkinson | Littleton, MA | 2017-03-02 | My son cried constantly, but the doctor said it was "normal." Finally a friend told me to give him a bottle. Thank God I listened to her! |
| Catherine Morrissey | Raleigh, NC | 2017-03-02 | My first born was 3 months old and 11 pounds because I was scared to supplement with formula. I thought it meant I was a failure as a mom if I did. |
| Ginger Day, RN | Fairbanks, AK | 2017-03-02 | I am a NICU nurse. I have seen hungry, jaundiced babies too many times. Hospitals, some nurses, and some lactation nurses put too much pressure on breastfeeding instead of feeding. |
| Sarah Grubbs | Houston, TX | 2017-03-02 | This could have easily been my son. I started supplementing formula the first night we spent at home. He cried and cried and my milk wasn't in. I felt like a failure for not breastfeeding. My milk finally came in days later and I began feeding him breast milk again, but he was not getting enough, he wasn't happy. I eventually fully |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | formula fed my son and he's turning 5 this year. Happy and healthy. Fed is best. |
| Kelly Stephenson Peterman | Mount Vernon, IL | 2017-03-02 | I watched this happen to my sister. |
| celina johnson | Telford, England, UK | 2017-03-02 | If it hadn't of been for me discharging myself and formula feeding my son he would have been very poorly. My milk didn't come in and I was told to wait 5 days later still no milk. I believe there is a link between milk supply from Mums and traumatic labour |
| Deryck Collins | Houghton le Spring, England, UK | 2017-03-02 | Sue Collins too. |
| Sarah Guinty | Sierra Vista, AZ | 2017-03-02 | My son suffered from insufficient exclusive breastfeeding as well. The information about breastfeeding is not accurate and do not include many issues my son was dealing with. I luckily had a pediatrician that noticed right away and urged me to supplement. I was very discouraged but I'm thankful. But not everyone has a pediatrician like mine. The signs that pointed tho a number of problems such as severe jaundice, incessant crying and cluster feeding were all normal according to any verbal and literature based advice. That was not true. He was starving. Women need honest education so that these warning signs are addressed before tragedy strikes. |
| Sarah Meyer | Poulsbo, WA | 2017-03-02 | New moms need to know they have a choice to supplement with formula if they feel the need... it should not matter if they choose too and they should know their options! Breast isn't always best |
| Zachary Ferreira Nuncio | Pearland, TX | 2017-03-02 | Education and scientific awareness is key to saving lives. |
| Stephanie Lander | Denton, TX | 2017-03-02 | As a nursery and special care nurse, there are some women and babies that physically cannot breast feed. Don't force or guilt a mother into breastfeeding. It's her right as a mother to choose formula. The child is getting fed. Formula is great for babies. Stories like these make me angry. It's OK to supplement with breastfeeding. The people trying to force or guilt mom's into breastfeeding have not suffered such a loss nor have not struggled with breastfeeding to extent of these other moms. |
| Ilyssa Tomlinson | Jacksonville, FL | 2017-03-02 | Parents need positive support. It's already difficult raising children, why do we bully and pressure to make others think and feel certain ways? We need to positively encourage parents and new moms to boost their moral and prevent PPD |
| Rebecca Zorn | Barnwell, SC | 2017-03-02 | Feed is best has been my moto since 2008. Some people just don't produce enough milk and that should be okay. No one should feel guilty about feeding their baby. |
| Stacey Holt | Sutton in Ashfield, England, UK | 2017-03-02 | I had many issues with breastfeeding my son, who would latch but not suck. I decided after 3 months to combination feed and eventually move to formula full time. My experience with certain healthcare professionals and the persistent social stigma that |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | now comes with not breastfeeding left me depressed and I struggled for months to bond with my son. Whilst I will always advocate breastfeeding, we need to be kinder to new mothers who have enough to deal with without facing this battle as well, and encourage new mothers to be kinder to themselves. Breastfeeding is hard, and whilst encouragement and support is always welcome, there should be more understanding and help for mothers regardless of how they feed their child. |
| Sara Batista | Burley, ID | 2017-03-02 | I struggled to produce with my son. I breastfed exclusively for the first 2 weeks, even though he wasn't gaining, was hard to wake, and would nurse for hours and just cry. Hubby was sneaking him formula on the sly and suddenly he was just active and alert and gaining. Thank goodness hubby started doing that. I felt such guilt at not being able to produce and could not see that my determination could have seriously harmed my son. I both breast feed and bottle feed now without any guilt. A fed baby is really what is best, however it is done. |
| Joanne Savianp | Hoffman Estates, IL | 2017-03-02 | Please help innocent newborns get the proper nutrition they need to grow healthy and strong!! |
| Hannah Peskin | Watertown, MA | 2017-03-02 | Fed is best and there is nothing wrong with formula if that is what works for you and your baby |
| Deborah Painter | Ellicott City, MD | 2017-03-02 | There are many factors that contribute to inadequate milk supply. Children need nourishment it shouldn't matter the form. Babies need to be Fed. Breast is best but when supply is inadequate Fed is Best. There should be no shame in this. |
| Jonathan Edwards | Wendell, NC | 2017-03-02 | My child wasn't getting milk but we didn't know it. It was scary when we realized it and began bottle feeding. |
| Hattie Deards | Twickenham, England, UK | 2017-03-02 | Clear and honest information must be given to mothers regarding this issue |
| Elizabeth Faraone | Cookstown, Canada | 2017-03-02 | I had difficulty breastfeeding at first and I know the pain and fear of not knowing what the best decision is for my child. I was so fortunate to have made the decision to supplement just a bottle or two but it could have been different. Could have happened to me. Mothers need to know fed IS best. |
| kim secco | Englewood, CO | 2017-03-02 | Please investigate the CDC |
| Lisa Ross | Olathe, KS | 2017-03-02 | I tried so hard to breastfeed all 3 of my kids. With my middle son I took him in for his 3 day old checkup and the nurse practitioner thought his birth weight had been written incorrectly. I finally ended up giving him formula. I could tell he felt so much better. When the representative from the breast pump company came to pick up the rented pump she argued with me as I stood there, feeding my son with a bottle. I can't imagine what could have happened if I hadn't. |
| IYnn Waldrop | Tucson, AZ | 2017-03-02 | Have |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Jenny Bringloe | Rossett, Wales; Cymru, UK | 2017-03-02 | I had a c-section, and my milk didn't come into day 5 after my daughter was born. She was fed by bottle, whilst I tried to express. Without formula in hospital, my daughter would have starved! |
| Nora Flum | Oakland, CA | 2017-03-02 | I had to fight to get formula for my infant in the hospital after she went for 5 days without eating or drinking. |
| Jennifer Hanton | Auckland, New Zealand | 2017-03-02 | The pressure on women to breastfeed is an outrage. I can't believe it has got out of control to the point that children have died. |
| Roberta Connauton | Brooks, Alberta, Canada | 2017-03-02 | Babies should not be dying from lack of milk. |
| Madeline Munn | New Haven, CT | 2017-03-02 | I experienced similar issues. |
| Marta Alejandro | Denver, CO | 2017-03-02 | My daughters were born 18 1/2 and 17 years ago. I was lucky enough to have my children before the breastfeed-only climate got out of control, and to have very supportive pediatricians and obstetricians who supported me through the whole process. With what I hear and see now, I am not sure they would have survived. I also started motherhood determined to breastfeed only for at least six months, but reality set and things went completely different. My oldest daughter was one of those children who had problems latching, was losing weight and cried non-stop for the first two days. Thank goodness that her pediatrician recommended to start supplementing her with formula after the second day (first night at home with her). I stopped producing milk altogether bu her second month, and I was constantly questioned about it by well meant friends and relatives.. With my second one (who got significantly jaundiced but was pretty big at birth and able to recover without having to go to the hospital) I was able to exclusivel |
| Julie Stice | Fairview, TN | 2017-03-02 | I am an RN working in NICU for the past 8 years, and 5 years of well-baby nursery before that. Fed is Best. |
| page zhang | Toronto, Canada | 2017-03-02 | In Canada, there are many free prenatal classes offered by various organizations. In all of them, one message is the loud and clear: breast is the best and don't give up. I was almost to the point brainwashed that I will have enough milk for my son and regardless the circumstance, do not give him the bottle. Being a first time mom, I believed them all, thinking all these organizations are for the best interest of me and my son. As such, after I delivered, I breastfed only. For the first four days of his life, my son has blood in his urine. After an emergency c-section and painkillers every four hours, I was in no condition to make any sound judgement so I had to rely on the doctors and nurses in the hospital. And none of them voiced any concern. I am lucky that my story did not have bad ending because my family doctor herself did not produce enough milk and in his first check-up, she told me to supplement right away. Imagine if my family doctor is not a new mom herself recently, what would have happened to |
| pam flynn | Dublin 13, Ireland | 2017-03-02 | 37years on, I still live with guilt for starving my child instead of just feeding him. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Denise Acuna | Tucson, AZ | 2017-03-03 | My son was born over a year ago, we tried everything to be successful at breastfeeding but it wasn't enough and my baby cried because he was hungry. While we continued to try and breastfeed we started supplementing with formula, we continued both for a while and eventually we stopped trying to breastfeed and I started to exclusively pump. I was never personally shamed for our decisions but I still felt ashamed because I couldn't exclusively breastfeed. To me, fed is most important and that's why I support this petition |
| dana james | York, England, UK | 2017-03-03 | I've had 5 children and yet I never knew about this. My baby cried and fed all the time. He went yellow and spent a week in scbu. Nobody told me why. Mum's should know what to look for and what to do. Children are too presious to us; we need to be enlightened about this! |
| kathleen thomas | Hamden, CT | 2017-03-03 | mothers need support |
| Lindsay Carlson | Milford, CT | 2017-03-03 | I myself struggled with nursing both of my children though through hard work and guidance from a responsible lactation consultant was able to nurse successfully. My son had an undiagnosed tongue tie, was not diagnosed until he was 7 weeks old and, had I not supplemented him, I'm not sure what would have happened! We need to PROPERLY support new moms regarding how to feed their babies and educate them about when to seek help and that supplementation is OK! I has to supplement my daughter as well but she has been EBF for months now |
| Donna Pahignalo | Valenzuela, Philippines | 2017-03-03 | I want to promote RESPECT to all moms who breastfeed and formula feed their babies. Respect for the choice on how they wanted their kids to be fed and to STOP THE SHAMING by letting them feel you made a better choice. No choice is better than the other as long as your intentions are for your kid's safety. |
| Carly Silcox | Mount Laurel, NJ | 2017-03-03 | My daughter was hospitalized when she was 2 months old because I was exclusively breastfeeding and not producing enough milk. |
| krista randall | canton, MS | 2017-03-03 | I'm a nurse who firmly believes in patient-friendly and nurse-friendly hospitals. |
| Deanne Parsons | Shippensburg, PA | 2017-03-03 | Daughter has a newborn and experienced Lactation Nazi breast-only info & baby lost 9% in hospital. Posterior tongue tie upper lip tie made breastfeeding unbearable. Day 6 at home baby jaundiced; 15 days old finally permission to supplement. 2 months old and Thriving on bottle & formula, now. |
| Robyn Paege | Turner, OR | 2017-03-03 | I am an RN, I support this petition 100%! With all our medical knowledge and advances in science we should not be adhering to such stupidity. Should be ashamed of ourselves! |
| Elizabeth Pickett | Brownsburg, IN | 2017-03-03 | Because a fed baby is best. World needs to be open minded to breast and formula. Feed the baby please |
| Celeste Barstis | Chevy Chase, MD | 2017-03-03 | I'm signing because I believe in this cause. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Joan Petrosino | Dix Hills, NY | 2017-03-03 | My son suffered from hypoglycemia due to insufficient breast milk and I was kept uninformed. |
| Mary Anne Romero | Auckland, New Zealand | 2017-03-03 | I support the petition because of my shared experience of having a baby who lost 11% of his birth weight due to delayed lactation. He slowly recovered with the persistent help of nurses and midwives at the auckland city hospital plus with the added nutrition of formula for my hungry and jaundiced baby. I was fortunate to have that support and stay at the hospital through that stressful time being a new mum away from immediate family and friends. |
| Margaret Resnik | Van Nuys, CA | 2017-03-03 | Fed is best!!! |
| Gena Anderson | Phoenix, AZ | 2017-03-03 | We must due what we need to to help the babies and protect them from possible brain injury. It's the least we can do. |
| Mamia Tuisaula | Hamilton, New Zealand | 2017-03-03 | I had an emergency C-section with my first child, and by day 3 at home, my baby was starving.....I only realised it because he would not stop crying and so in the middle of the night I sent my husband to the 24 hour supermarket to get a bottle and formulae. I was devastated and dissapointed with myself..... |
| Bonnie Rogers | San Tan Valley, AZ | 2017-03-03 | I am a pediatric RN with 25 yrs of experience and I am an advocate for safe feeding practices. Very very rarely have I ever cared for a bottle fed newborn that had hyperbilirubinemia. The majority of newborns treated for this are strictly breastfed! Breast milk is best but sometimes it is not enough and formula or expressed breastmilk needs to be provided. Any breastfeeding new mother with a newborn admitted into a hospital needs to be provided with a breast pump and teaching on how to use it. It promotes breast milk production along with the newborn nursing at the breast. So sad that mothers are trying to do what is right and the end result is tragic! This must STOP!! |
| Jennifer Cook | Richmond Hill, GA | 2017-03-03 | A very similar situation also happened with my pregnancy.... emergent c-section, PCOS history and the hospital refused to let her have a bottle because they felt breast was best. We went along with them for four days. Discharged home and luckily my husband forced me to give her a bottle and everything was perfect after that. So many women are made to feel insufficient for not being able to produce breast milk, but no matter how hard you try, or how many tears are shed while trying, sometimes you just aren't able to produce the milk. It's time to face reality, breast is not always best. |
| Jessica Chavez | Redlands, CA | 2017-03-03 | My son had lost 10% of his birth weight as a newborn due to insufficient milk supply. It was very scary and he developed jaundice. Looking back st the pictures I can now see how thin and fragile he looked. |
| Kelsey Sweeney | Lewistown, MT | 2017-03-03 | I'm signing because.... breast isn't always best, learned the hard way when we almost lost our baby. Wish I would have heard about Fed is Best |
| Lisa Bacoyanis LVN | Los Angeles, CA | 2017-03-03 | "Breast is best" is misleading. Some in the medical community have lost sight of why that campaign was started - to do what is best for the new born...which is not always breast feeding. Despite my |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | very obvious challenges breast feeding while still in the hospital, the post partum staff never once suggested supplementing with formula, claiming it would only confuse my child. Well, my son lost a lot of weight by his first Doctor's appointment 3 days after birth and again, instead of suggesting formula supplementation, we were referred to a breast feeding counselor who suggested herbs and an unreasonable schedule of pumping/latching alternation. After a week of trying without success and feeling like a complete failure, the nurse in me came out and decided to stop the insanity....breast is not best if my kid is starving. Today's formula is complete in all nutrients needed for development. Yes, it's missing the passive-immunity associated with breast milk...but my child was starving! He wasn't getting an |
| Jaime Hanson | Chapel Hill, NC | 2017-03-03 | Wow. Line by line, Jill's story feels eerily similar to my first several days with my son Cooper. By 48 hours after discharge when we went to our first peds appointment, our pediatrician was already quietly recommending we supplement for our screaming, starving newborn. (Thank God for Dr. Fitz!) But even then she recommended it as only temporary—a few days at most until my milk came in—so I was still chanting the mantra that "breast is best." As the weeks went on and my milk never really showed up, we kept supplementing, but only barely. Four ounces a day at most...for a full four months! Coop still cried ALL the time, but I was so ashamed (and vocally, publicly shamed multiple times by the "baby friendly" leaders in our hospital's new mothers club) for supplementing that I was scared to even tell anyone. I still remember being at my in-laws' house for Thanksgiving—so exhausted and shell-shocked that I actually asked someone where my baby was *while* I was nursing him—and sneaking off to an upstairs bed |
| Teri Dantes | simi valley, CA | 2017-03-03 | In honor of Baby Landon! |
| Jolene Kuebler | Simi Valley, CA | 2017-03-03 | Babies deserve to live, breast fed or not! |
| Ashley Millican | Grandview, MO | 2017-03-03 | I'm signing because I'm an LDRP nurse who cares about safety over statistics!#fedisbest |
| Laura Bowman | Toronto, Canada | 2017-03-03 | My baby almost died because of breast feeding pushers, I had to beg in tears for formula. I was told everything was fine when it was not fine. I was discharged with a crying hungry baby who was losing weight. I was guilty to breastfeed and confused by the wrong reassurances. We then spent hours not feeding at a lactation clinic followed by 5 days in pediatrics the day after I was discharged. |
| ria badiola | quezon city, Philippines | 2017-03-03 | while i believe that breastmilk is the gold standard in infant nutrition i also acknowledge the fact that not all mother's are capable of succesfully breastfeed their child. i want to make a stand for the most vulnerable members of our society (our children) that they may be provided the nourishment they need and they deserve |
| Nikki Hunt | Bristol, England, UK | 2017-03-03 | No mother should ever have to go through this. Love and support to those families what a heartbreaking story, I hope they can find some peace in knowing that they did everything right. A child's health comes above everything this should never happen due to options on the best way to feed a baby. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
|--------------------------|----------------------|------------|---|
| Nikki Hunt | Bristol, England, UK | 2017-03-03 | No mother should ever have to go through this. Love and support to those families what a heartbreaking story, I hope they can find some peace in knowing that they did everything right. A child's health comes above everything this should never happen due to options on the best way to feed a baby. |
| Barbara hirnyk | coral springs, FL | 2017-03-03 | Not enough education for new mothers on breast feeding |
| Nate Klingler | Iona, ID | 2017-03-03 | No mom should feel guilty about supplementing. |
| Angela Tanner | Ropley, Israel | 2017-03-03 | I spent 28 years working in a neonatal unit. We always supplemented our babies if needed via naso gastric tube or once desire to suck became strong, by bottle. Towards the end of my working time new guidelines were introduced to say bottle supplements should notBe given as it "confused " babies as different sucking techniques were Required for each method. I personally know this to be nonsense.Many ,many babies went on to breastFeed successfully with the help of early bottle supplements , whilst , mothers who were discouraged (i.e. Told negative info ref bottles) often gave up due to the distress of a hungry baby and the exhaustion and discomfort involved in persevering solely with the breast.I do not believe guiltning mothers in to solely breast feeding is the best practice. Each baby, and each mother is an individual and should be treated as such.We sent many happy mothers home breast feeding but also knowing that should Dad or other career need/ wish to feed their baby that their baby could swap easily betw |
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| Meaghan Taylor-Macdonald | Pickering, Canada | 2017-03-03 | As a mom of 2 who was unable to breastfeed my two children. My first was almost hospitalized due to dehydration. I am so sick of the stigma associated with formula feeding. |
| Rachel Elkington | Germany | 2017-03-03 | I gave birth in a Baby-Friendly Hospital that promoted exclusive breastfeeding at the cost of my own physical and mental well-being. The hospital said that only 2% of mothers don't make enough milk. I didn't make enough milk, and that 2% figure is not true. Please make the starvation risk from exclusive breastfeeding part of the standard education for new parents. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Lucie Wight | Leuchars, Scotland, UK | 2017-03-03 | Fed is Best, unequivocally!! |
| Lori Skoviak | Lakeville, IN | 2017-03-03 | For baby Landon. |
| Julie Lovely | West Bridgewater, MA | 2017-03-03 | I'm signing because I was the victim of a "baby friendly hospital" and in this day and age NO ONE should be forced into breastfeeding. |
| Jasmine Washington | Los Angeles, CA | 2017-03-03 | We need to bring awareness regarding this matter so no other family will suffer like my high school classmates regarding happen to sweet Landon... |
| Sondra Richardson | Tomball, TX | 2017-03-03 | As a loving and very connected mother I am horrified by the thought of a baby starving to death or having brain injury. Thank you for bringing this to light. |
| Daniel Moore | McKinney, TX | 2017-03-03 | After our first son was born, my wife wanted to breastfeed exclusively because everyone tells you that breastfeeding is better. However, our son seemed hungry all the time. We discussed and debated what the problem was and what to do. Even though we originally intended to breastfeed exclusively, I ended up giving him a bottle once or twice during that first week. We asked the Pediatrician about it during a follow-up appt. and she referred us to a lactation consultant. We went the appt. with the lactation consultant, she weighed the baby, my wife breastfed him, and then she weighed him again to see how much weight he had gained. The result: No change in weight. His weight was exactly the same after breastfeeding as it was before breastfeeding. The lactation consultant called our Pediatrician. The Pediatrician said to get him to the ER immediately. The lactation consultant's office was in a bldg. connected to the hospital, so we brought him down to the ER. In the ER, they sent a nurse in to start an |
| shannon morris | Nashville, TN | 2017-03-03 | As a certified nurse-midwife, certified obstetrical nurse, and professor of nursing, I know the benefits of exclusive breastfeeding. But, I also know that it is up to us as healthcare professionals to support the choices of our mamas and the needs of their babies. I always tell my patients "I'm not the one taking this baby home. I want you to feel empowered and comfortable feeding the baby however YOU want to". Bullying, judging, or shaming has no business in healthcare, especially when it comes to new mothers. Fed is best <3 |
| Max Nizialek | Grand Island, NY | 2017-03-03 | I see the pressure new mothers get and are being taught to ignore their instincts, this is wrong. I knew the pressure to breastfeed was way off but I didn't realize how dangerous it was. |
| Vanessa Shook | Township of Taylorsville, NC | 2017-03-03 | I was pushed to breast feed but I knew I wasn't making enough for my son, so I got formula to feed him I'm not going to let him go hungry while I try to get my milk to come in. |
| SueAnne Wake | Tomball, TX | 2017-03-03 | My first child was a preemie and I was unable to produce milk for her. My second child was born full term and I wanted to breast feed him. By the time I left the hospital I still wasn't producing milk but the nurses encouraged me to keep trying and to only give |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | him water bottles if he still acted hungry. He cried so much - I felt horrible. After being home a few days, thankfully, I developed an infection and was quite ill. So my husband took care of the baby giving him formula bottles. After a week, I was feeling better but still had not produced any milk so we decided to continue with bottle feeding. How grateful we are that I got that infection because I know now it saved our baby's life. And we are grateful for nurses that encouraged us to give him water so that he at least remained hydrated during those first few days. Women need to be better informed about feeding their infants, instead of being made to feel guilty about not being able to breast feed. |
| Clare Corcoran | San Francisco, CA | 2017-03-03 | Medical practice should be based on evidence, not ideology. |
| Monica Warstler | Springville, IN | 2017-03-03 | My baby was hospitalized for jaundice because I was not producing enough breast milk and the hospital did not want to provide formula. |
| Sheryl P. | Bel Air, MD | 2017-03-03 | My son was born via c-section and weighed 9 1/2 pounds at birth; a very big baby. While breast feeding for five days in the baby-friendly hospital I felt like he was never satisfied. He wanted to feed constantly. I was never tested but think that I was just not producing enough milk for him. Within a week of leaving the hospital, I decided to supplement with formula. Yes, I did feel shaming from some individuals, but I just knew that my son needed more nourishment than my body could give. Prior to learning about Fed is Best, I had no idea how many other women suffer with this issue. It makes me so sad that women and babies have to go through this pain. I'm so grateful that I stuck to my instincts about feeding my son formula. (When considering formula, I spoke to my mother and other relatives who almost exclusively used formula for their children. It was a common practice years ago. In fact, my 3 siblings and I were all formula-fed and turned out just fine.) Yes, there are so many valuable benefi |
| melissa graciela | san salvador, El Salvador | 2017-03-03 | me paso con mi bebe por que el casi no comía y solo dormido pasaba ni siquiera lloraba y consulte al día 3 de nacido y me dijo el medico que eso era normal que los recién nacidos solo dormidos pasan pero al cabo de 5 días note su rápida perdida de peso mi bebe se estaba deshidratando y estaba muy bebil y aunque yo tenia leche suficiente el no se prendía de mi pecho así que aunque me recomendaron solo leche materna opte por darle biberón y con los días se fue notando la diferencia con su aumento de peso y combine las 2 formula y leche materna hoy ya es un bebe de 1 año gracias a Dios a si que a pesar de las recomendaciones es mejor seguir nuestra propia descicion que es lo mejor para nuestros bebes por que no todos los casos son iguales |
| Jennifer Hudson | North Miami Beach, FL | 2017-03-03 | I am an advocate for best clinical practice for my special and vulnerable patient population. |
| Rondell Merritt | Friendswood, TX | 2017-03-03 | I have read the article written by the Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine, and I am sorry to say that it appears that group cares more about Breastfeeding than about babies. No baby (or mother, or family) deserves to go through this because of the militant EBF campaign. I personally think the EBF movement is shameful. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | Mothers (and families) have enough to deal with in the early stages without the judgement, and misinformation about formula feeding. I would just like to ask--Why are they afraid to give out true information. They even admit that is IS a risk (although they downplay the frequency of it). We have to to be told every minute risk of taking medication and having surgery. Malignant Hypothermia is also very rare....but it is a risk and we all have to sign documents before surgery stating we know the risks. And "monitoring moms and babies at the most risk more closely", while a great idea, will not catch all cases. Again--what is the harm in warning Moms of the dangers? I just do not understa |
| Nicholas Vogel | Savoy, IL | 2017-03-03 | My daughter needed to be remitted into the hospital 3 days after birth due to dehydration because our doctors and nurses pushed ONLY breastfeeding so hard. We were first time parents and didn't know any better. |
| kayleigh evans | Cardiff, Wales; Cymru, UK | 2017-03-03 | My baby was starving due to a breastfeeding problem (did not regain birthweight for 3 weeks - until I began supplementing her). As a naive first time mum, I followed the breast is best advice completely as I was only taught the benefits of breastfeeding, not the potential problems and what to do about them. I feel let down by my anti natal classes and the hospital staff for not preparing me to feed my daughter adequately. It could have been much worse. |
| Kaitlyn Mazzini | Thatcher, AZ | 2017-03-03 | No baby should starve accidentally and no mother should have to feel the heart break an blame for it happening. Mother's should be educated and should not feel like less of a woman because media puts so much pressure on mom's to breastfeed. Some mom's can't and they need to know that it is okay because FED IS BEST! |
| Kayla-Anne Hall | Mooreland, OK | 2017-03-03 | Because I have friends who struggle to feed thier babies via breastfeeding and are looked down upon when formula feeding plus I, myself, have a newborn on breastmilk and sometimes I don't produce enough and have to give her formula as well. |
| Laura Davis | Croxley Green, England, UK | 2017-03-03 | Even after my 3 day old son was hospitalised and NG fed for exactly the same reasons, I was still pressurised to breast feed constantly. I asked why can't I breast feed and give a bottle after, the answer was because then I won't produce enough milk and I won't be able to breast feed long term. I was told breast is best and made to feel a failure. I am a nurse and find the whole thing utterly ridiculous. From day 4 I switched to bottle feed and have a perfectly healthy boy with no allergies. I still feel guilty to this day that he lost so much weight and had to be hospitalised because I didn't give a bottle. I think this lady is so brave to share her story and I want to let you know that you didn't do anything different to me and I'm so so sorry for your loss. God bless x |
| Steven Kim M.D. | New Providence, NJ | 2017-03-03 | My son experienced dehydration and hyperbilirubinemia after he was born from our attempts to exclusively breastfeed him. We had to admit him to the NICU where he was placed under UV light, an IV and hydration. Fortunately he recovered, but It was one of the most terrifying and I believe, preventable experience of our lives as new parents |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| helen wyszynski | Sutton Coldfield, England, UK | 2017-03-03 | I experienced this issue with my son |
| Becca Hamlet | Southaven, MS | 2017-03-03 | No mother should feel inferior just because they give their baby formula. |
| Elizabeth Wytiaz | Herriman, UT | 2017-03-03 | Breast milk is best for babies & I promote breast milk over formula. However, i feel that new parents should be made aware of this & be provided help to prevent this from happening to families in the future. |
| Michelle Butler | Payson, IL | 2017-03-03 | My first baby was suffering the same way for a little over 24 hours, 72 hours after birth. My Great Aunt Grace told me to, "feed that poor baby," after I told her I called the breastfeeding hotline. She proceeded to tell me babies needed a boost sometimes, and give me recipie they used to make and share between women in families. My husband and mother-in-law bought bottles and formula. We fed my son, he burped and slept for 4 hours straight. From waking every 1/2 hour, what a blessing. 6 babies, having nursed and supplement them all; Even the dreaded rice supplement bottle for my 3rd baby-second son, who is now a 15 6' 5" 200lb basketball player. On my 5th baby, I informed the lactation specialist I would be nursing and supplementing both. She frowned and explained nipple confusion to me, something we never had problems with. I thanked her, and did what I knew was best. My mother said it is too bad we don't have the familial network women used to have to help one another with practical experience advice. |
| Marcos Germano | Plantation, FL | 2017-03-03 | Please join us!https://petitions.whitehouse.gov/petition/stop-baby-starvation |
| kelly davis | san francisco, CA | 2017-03-03 | No baby should go hungry. New mom's have enough stress, supporting them to feed their babies whichever way possible is the best way to go. |
| Katie Cunningham | Stratford, NJ | 2017-03-03 | I felt immense pressure to breastfeed and wanted nothing more than to do this. But I found out I had flat nipples and was given nipple shields to help feed my daughter. Nothing seemed to work and after her first day she was taken into the NICU for low blood sugar. The nurses were feeding her formula to bring up her blood sugar. I feel so blessed they caught it early and showed me it was ok to feed her in other ways. I was told my breasts were too large and my nipples weren't ideal but breast was best. My daughter is a healthy 3 month old now because I pump milk for her and supplement with formula. Had she not been taken to the NICU early I don't know if we would have caught it because the guilt to breatfeef was so strong, I don't know if I would have given up. I think moms need to know there are other options and not to feel guilty. A healthy fed baby is the only thing that matters. Whether you breastfeed, pump, or use formula, you shoukd never be made to feel guilty about your decision as long as.your bab |
| Lisa Ngo | Santa Ana, CA | 2017-03-04 | I'm signing because I was not able to produce enough milk and after 2 days cried as I fed my daughter formula. I felt like I failed her but I know I did the right thing because she stopped crying |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | and thrived after that. I tried again with my second child and still couldn't produce enough milk. Both my daughters were formula fed and are healthier than most of the breast fed kids I know. I did what was best for me and my kids and will do the same for my son who is due in a month. |
| Melissa Winters | Zionsville, IN | 2017-03-04 | All babies deserve to be fed! |
| Christy Mathatas | Aurora, CO | 2017-03-04 | My second child, Katie, ended up back in the hospital with jaundice because my supply was so low. I felt so guilty that I didn't see what was happening. Luckily at the hospital a nurse said something eye-opening (yet tactful) and I realized she was hungry and not "crying it out." I still feel guilty but I was told if I gave her formula it wouldn't help my supply any. You hear a lot from breastfeeding advocates that very few people actually have a supply issue, but some people really do! I think it's hard for people who don't have a supply issue to understand. I also felt like I had to choose one or the other, and now I really feel like, what's wrong with both? There is so much pressure to choose the right way to feed your baby, but there are so many other factors that go into parenting and mothering that I believe matter more. |
| Karen Warr | Cardiff, Wales; Cymru, UK | 2017-03-04 | Had I not taken my son off the breastfeeding and put him on the bottle, against doctor and health visitor advice, I would have killed him, thank god he was my third child n not my first so I had the experience of my girls who thrived on the breast, only after putting him on the bottle was I diagnosed with gaulstones which is why my milk had no nutritional value, so I would have lost him had I listened to the so called professionals. |
| Jennifer Thompson | Janesville, WI | 2017-03-04 | I'm signing this petition because when I had my son almost 17 years ago I tried too exclusively breastfeed. He did not take to it well and I had no idea what to do. The nurses in the hospital told me to keep trying, he would figure it out eventually. They said if I gave him a bottle he wouldn't want to go back to the breast. I was only 23 and didn't know any better. I tried for 4 days and finally trusted my gut instinct that he was not getting enough to eat. I went out and bought him formula. The second that bottle touched his lips he gobbled every drop and was finally satisfied for the first time. When I went to my 6 week appointment with my OB and shared with her what had happened she told me thank god I had listened to my instincts because he could have starved to death. I thank god everyday for my healthy child. Thank you to all the mothers who are sharing their stories in hopes of saving someone else's child. |
| Theresa Valentin | Bethlehem, PA | 2017-03-04 | I am a tech that worked with children many years and feel breastfed mother's need to be aware of the symptoms. I never once heard about this happening and it makes me very sad and upset that the supplement was never offered as an option to this mother. Please raise awareness to help save babies lives |
| Erin Quandt M.D. | Alexandria, VA | 2017-03-04 | As a pediatrician who believes in the benefits of breastfeeding, I was hopeful that I would be able to nurse my son as his primary source of nutrition. However, when he failed to latch at all during our first 48 hours together and was down 10% from his birth, I gave him some formula I'd brought with me to the hospital for |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | just such a situation. The nurse at our "baby-friendly" hospital walked in while I was syringe-feeding my son formula and yelled at me, asking who had given me formula and telling me I was going to "ruin their metrics" by formula feeding when my admission paperwork said that the planned method of feeding would be by breast. The so-called "planned" method WAS by breast, but I, like so many mothers, wanted to make sure my child received the nutrition and hydration he needed, regardless of whether or not that came from my body. Advocating breastfeeding does not have to mean criminalizing or stigmatizing the use of formula. Fed is best. |
| Paola Womac | Los Angeles, CA | 2017-03-04 | My infant son was miserable the first 7 weeks of his life because I produced so little milk. Finally, when he looked like a skeleton, why pediatrician told me to give him formula, and finally, he was happy. I was shamed into thinking that I shouldn't give him formula. The real shame was that I let him starve. |
| Suzanne Smiley | Levittown, PA | 2017-03-04 | In the baby-friendly hospital, where my son was born, I attempted to exclusively breastfeed. but after his blood sugar dropped dangerously low one night, the nurses had us feed him sugar water and begin following up with formula after every feeding. I felt like such a failure at the time, but now I'm so glad that they did. It seemed that my newborn needed an ounce or two of formula after every feeding and he was still almost diagnosed with Failure to Thrive, by the pediatrician until we upped our formula game even more. The hospital where my son was born focused on breastfeeding, but they knew the value of some babies needing a little extra help. More hospitals, especially the proclaimed "baby friendly" ones, need to take this approach. |
| Allyson Earles | Riverview, FL | 2017-03-04 | I can't imagine the pain of losing a child for any reason, and if this helps save anyone's baby from dying I will support it! |
| Sarah Voss | omaha, NE | 2017-03-04 | My daughter was hospitalized in the NICU less than four days after being sent home following her birth. She had jaundice and wasn't eating right but I couldn't tell she wasn't getting enough from my breast and the "experts" told me she wouldn't starve herself. When we went to the ER, we were told she was dehydrated and it was only discovered in time because of our efforts to follow up and use home health following her hospital discharge. My heart aches for those who have lost a child in this way. |
| Formula Propaganda | Traverse City, MI | 2017-03-04 | I hope Nestle pays you well for your bullshit. Just google "formula recall", or "deaths caused by formula" or "CDC warns against formula". Some mom's need to use formula, but what Christie del Castillo-Hegyí is doing is criminal. I hope to God I never am in Little Rock AR and have to end up at the ER that she works at. |
| Alexandria Romei | Issaquah, WA | 2017-03-04 | This is very important and should be information every mother receives. |
| Tammy Megraw | Lakewood, CO | 2017-03-04 | I'm signing because I had low milk supply with my first born son. It was the most horrible experience. I felt shame when I needed to supplement with a bottle. All my breastfeeding education told me i would mess up the breastfeeding process and be a failure. But in fact what I should have been taught is that I shouldn't starve |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | my son. I want this message and cause to be SHOUTED OUT OVER ROOFTOPS!!!!!!! |
| Debbie smith | Rhos on Sea, Wales; Cymru, UK | 2017-03-04 | Too many babies are dying as no one realises there starving to death!!! |
| Barbara Chen MD | Grapevine, TX | 2017-03-04 | Hello, I am a practicing OB Gyn. I recommend my patients to consider breast and bottle-feeding the first 2-4 weeks of having a newborn. During this time, the mother can observe her milk volume without worrying about starving her child. For my patients that want to exclusively breastfeed (many do due to the loud voices of lactivists), I strongly advise them to follow closely with their pedi to ensure adequate intake. Unfortunately and at times, my patients especially ones that are first time mothers do not believe in using breast and bottle as a result of the strong voices of the breastfeeding only agenda. I do say it is an agenda especially when everyone cannot breastfeed. The hospitals are also forced financially to push the breastfeeding only agenda as well. As a result, I have many patients who regret proceeding with breastfeeding exclusively; only after the fact, they realize that they were starving their child. We practice obstetrics today to avoid and prevent the smallest potential risks to the baby. T |
| Christine Lupiani | Rochester, NY | 2017-03-04 | Because I often assist new moms Shortly after being discharged from hospital - I have to deal with the doubts that are now in the mothers' heads that they are not good enough - if they choose to calm their crying infant and offer formula. The woman feels guilty, is extremely exhausted and frustrated and ready to give up on breastfeeding - why do we do this? |
| Debra Moore | Dexter, MO | 2017-03-04 | I went thru this with my youngest biological daughter and the Dr was amazing at recommending breast feeing with supplementation with formula. She suffered with severe stomach issues all her life and developed crippling anxiety as an adult. Luckily it was caught early. |
| Kelly Klein-Lessentien | Homer Glen, IL | 2017-03-04 | After having a C-section with my premature twin boys (born at 36 weeks) I was practically forced to breastfeed. When I'd beg for a bottle of formula, my nurses would send in lactation consultants who told me I was just tired... |
| Jacqui Bahr | Australia | 2017-03-04 | I had low supply plus a number of other issues and was pushed too hard to breastfeed. y baby dropped wait rapidly and wouldn't stop screaming (because he was hungry!) I lost my mind and didn't properly bond with my baby because I was strapped to a breast pump after every feed, day and night. Not one postnatal care professional suggested supplementing with formula, even though I had ongoing chronic depression and felt suicidal. I fed my baby exclusively with breastmilk for the first six weeks before beginning to supplement with formula and paid a huge price for putting myself and my family through it. I wanted to give my baby the "best" and had already had it drilled into me that breastfeeding was the way to go. Something needs to be done about the pushy "breast is best" culture and the way midwives etc deal with the issue and educate new mums. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Michelle Diaz | San Dimas, CA | 2017-03-04 | For Landon |
| Cheri Ando | Marlborough, MA | 2017-03-04 | I am signing this because as a postpartum nurse I am tired of seeing starving babies and guilty moms for having to make the choice to supplement there babies |
| MaryAnna Domenic | Jersey City, NJ | 2017-03-04 | Fed is best! |
| Steven Seitz | Sykesville, MD | 2017-03-04 | This could have been our son. We went through something similar with our hospital. If it weren't for our pediatrician immediately putting him on bottle feeding upon our first visit, it scares me to think about what the consequences could've been. |
| Crissi Franulovich | Anacortes, WA | 2017-03-04 | As a breastfeeding mother my child lost over a pound in 1st three days and was jaundice. I feel like moms shouldn't be discouraged from supplementing in this situation, as supplementation is safe. Moms should have education to not feel like a failure if they have to supplement in the begining of breastfeeding and not fear it will not enable them to continue breastfeeding if they desire. Fed is best. |
| Kristin Pace | Klamath Falls, OR | 2017-03-04 | I'm signing because my son was starving his first few days because of insufficient milk. We had no idea. People need to be better educated and need to have greater access to options when it comes to feeding infants. |
| Amanda Millington | Sheffield, England, UK | 2017-03-04 | My baby was accidentally starved due to breastfeeding advice |
| Elena Franco | Atlanta, GA | 2017-03-04 | I just became a great-aunt nearly 2 weeks ago. My niece was born 4 weeks early and her mommy's milk has not come yet,so Mommy is supplementing with formula. My grand niece is doing fine and is a content baby. |
| Natalie Phillips | Chicago, IL | 2017-03-04 | My son was born at 41 weeks at 6 lbs. He was determined to be SGA, and suffered from high bilirubin levels, which much to the chagrin of the lactation folk, required bottles to supplement my nursing. In the end, it was a single a bottle a day that saved his life and prevented him from incurring brain damage. Despite round the clock nursing that would extend for 2-3 hours at a cluster and never left my son satisfied and 'power pumping' in my 'off time', my child was admitted to the hospital at 5 weeks of life, having failed to gain any weight and receiving the tentative dx of Failure to Thrive. Following one week of hospitalization wherein he received bottle after bottle, he had gained one pound and was a much more contented child. I am an educated mother who works with infants, toddlers, and preschoolers, and was all the more determined to do what was best for my son by breastfeeding. I have never recovered from the guilt that I felt following his near starvation, and am passionate about making sure that othe |
| Cokeydo Alley | Houston, TX | 2017-03-04 | i am a nurse that works mother baby and i am sick of the breast feeding bulling that happens at my job and countless other hospiatlis in the US |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Jessica Anderson | Orem, UT | 2017-03-04 | I believe that every mother has the right to safely feed their baby. No hospital should withhold formula if the mothers milk has no come in! |
| bianca drews | Oswego, IL | 2017-03-04 | I strongly encourage hospitals to educate their new moms on this serious situations. FED is BEST |
| Josie Roberts | Minot, ND | 2017-03-04 | We were discharged after 36 hours even though my baby only was able to latch for 4 feedings (one right after birth, 2 others next day and one right before we left). I do not fault the hospital, quick discharges are the norm. Then baby fussed and "nursed" constantly the day and night we went home. A wet diaper was missed. Day 3 of life she was lethargic. With help of a lactation consultant I was able to pump milk and feed her (my milk had come in) but we found baby was unable to extract it on her own. Then between 4 and 6 months when she was still exclusively breastfed and nursing every 2 hours around the clock (she learned to breastfeed week six) she gained no weight because my milk had dropped off. I didn't see the zero weight gain and feel so guilty she was starving for 2 months. She seems well now at 18 months but I still feel very guilty she might be harmed (and it will show up later) by my adhering so stringently to only breastmilk. I understand wanting to only breastfeed but there needs to be a more ba |
| Lisa Smith | Provo, UT | 2017-03-04 | That's absolutely untrue, and total libel. Lactivists like you are the reason this whole thing exists. Punishing women for not using their breasts the way you want is obnoxious. Formula companies have nothing to do with this foundation whatsoever. Be careful you aren't sued. |
| Sara Natrillo | Cheshire, CT | 2017-03-04 | I spent too much time feeling like a failure for not being able to breast feed. My son needed to eat. Period. |
| Karen Capone | Carlisle, PA | 2017-03-04 | I had a horrible experience when my son was first born at a 'baby friendly' hospital. He was a month early and had trouble breastfeeding. He was losing weight and there was no mention of supplementation. It seemed so hypocritical to me. They made me feel like a horrible mom and fearful of my child's health, yet it was more important that he be breastfed than healthy. This story has much more to it, but I find the practice of bullying moms and putting babies' health second to the act of breastfeeding disgusting and bordering on child abuse. |
| Toni Lawrence | Winder, GA | 2017-03-04 | Both my babies required early supplementation. Thankful for the nurses and doctors that told me it was necessary and okay. One nursed exclusively for over a year afterward, but was in danger of starvation initially. Listen to your baby. |
| Jimmk Amick | Pinson, AL | 2017-03-04 | Formula saved my baby! I had insufficient supply and struggled for 6 weeks before giving him formula. |
| Jade De Castro | Valenzuela City, Philippines | 2017-03-04 | I remember being humiliated by people just because I didn't continue breastfeeding. Little did they know that I tried my best but it didn't work. So I had switched to formula milk and thanks God I did. My preemie baby gained weight rapidly. (She wasn't gaining while in NICU and fed exclusively by the milk I pumped). |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | Being under the impression that "breastmilk is the best for babies," I did my research and found out that milk formula has almost equal or probably more nutrients that babies need. I believe that we, mothers, are the best person to decide what milk to give our child. Other people should not demand you to give breastmilk just because of their own opinion. |
| pat johns | lexington, KS | 2017-03-04 | Fed is best. Not everyone can provide proper nutrition. Used formula it's there for a reason. |
| Lauren Minton | Deatsville, AL | 2017-03-04 | I'm signing because I felt immense pressure to nurse my firstborn and found out at six months he was underfed and underweight, I had no idea. In one week he gained five pounds after being switched to formula. He is now Autistic. I carry the burden everyday that I did this to him due to my own ignorance of not knowing he wasn't being nourished. |
| Joe Lemmons | Burlington, MA | 2017-03-04 | My wife and I were harassed by nurses and lactation specialists with my first child. My wife struggled getting her to latch and the milk was just not coming in. My daughter was screaming that she was hungry. My daughter ended up with jaundice and we had to stay an additional day at the hospital. I ended up getting in a shouting match with them to just get her some formula. Wouldn't you know, when she was checked for jaundice later and the blood work was done, she was perfectly fine. With my son, I never gave them the chance. I refused the lactation specialist and gave him supplemental formula shortly after my wife had tried to breast feed. My wife gave everything she had, but her milk was never consistent and then she got mastitis with both children. This ridiculous battle over breast milk needs to stop! Feed you baby and make sure that you do what you can for their health. You can always do both. |
| Kim Kennedy | Smiths Falls, Canada | 2017-03-05 | I feel that women are being shamed into breastfeeding and not encouraged to follow their instincts. Offering support is not the same as telling new mothers that they must breastfeed. I did a combination of both and my son is smart, healthy and successful! |
| Vivian Pugh | Round Rock, TX | 2017-03-05 | Md |
| Pamela Damer | Apple Valley, MN | 2017-03-05 | When both of my granddaughters were born they literally were starving and the nurses would not allow any formula. My daughter never produced milk. It was pathetic. Second time around at least we knew to get out of the hospital fast. |
| Meaghen Haynie | Baton Rouge, LA | 2017-03-05 | My children went hungrier than they should have, because I was told supplementing at all would ruin my chances to breastfeed. |
| Mychalena Magoon | Rockford, IL | 2017-03-05 | BFHI was implemented between my second and third babies at my hospital. My postpartum experience with the third baby was the closest I've come to postpartum depression. I didn't sleep for more than 30 minutes at a time over three days because they wouldn't take my baby to the nursery, because they didn't "have one of those" anymore. My mom had just recently died and my closest friend had major surgery so my husband NEEDED to be home with the other children. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Cristin Murphy | Orlando, FL | 2017-03-05 | I'm signing because I tried to exclusively breastfeed my son and he ended up in the er at one week old because of a low heart rate and dehydration. My milk had not yet come in and I was told this was normal to keep nursing. Once in the er I began pumping and supplementing with formula and he began to get better. I eventually switched to formula after a month of pumping and he is a healthy 3 year old. Mothers should know that there is nothing wrong with supplementing with formula. Fed is always best! |
| Tam Tran | Australia | 2017-03-05 | My wife and I went through the same thing with our daughter. She had lost 10% of her body weight and it took my wife breaking down before they would provide our daughter formula. We overheard the nurses calling her a trouble child prior to the breakdown, but fortunately after being fed she has been an amazing child ever since! Mother knows best. |
| Brooke Cyphers | Vallejo, CA | 2017-03-05 | I had postpartum depression due to the pressure to breastfeed. |
| Anna Johnson | OAK PARK, IL | 2017-03-05 | My first-born grew increasingly agitated in the first 24 hours after birth, even after breastfeeding. I was a distraught, tired, concerned new mom. A sensible nurse said that my milk had likely not come in, that he was getting hungry, and that a bottle would probably help. We gave him a bottle and he was instantly happy. At the time, I was just relieved that my baby was content and that the nurse didn't judge me for supplementing with a bottle. Now, eleven years later, I see that she might have prevented a tragedy. I'm so grateful that one nurse had the good sense to question the extremist "breastfeed only" dogma of the time, and I'm glad to see Fed is Best advocating for common sense and moderation! Supplementing for the first few weeks helped me through the rough patch of early nursing, and I went on to nurse that baby for 18 months. |
| Christina Skifstad | Fairport, NY | 2017-03-05 | lactation consultant kept telling us to breast feed though I was not producing any milk. I supplemented with formula after 1 day. Thank goodness. |
| Amanda Zacharias | Philadelphia, PA | 2017-03-05 | Only after 4 days of trying to breast-feed and coming dangerously close to losing too much weight were we advised to supplement with formula at my so-called "baby friendly hospital". We discovered that my daughter was not fussy, just hungry! Even though she is happy and healthy now, it still breaks my heart to think of those first few nights she was crying from hunger and we just didn't know because we were first time parents. I thought the medical team was there to help us but I feel like they really let us down because of the excessive promotion of exclusive breast-feeding. I later learned that the Stanford guidelines suggest that any baby less than 6 lbs (as mine was) should be supplemented. I don't want any baby to go hungry, much less suffer grave consequences from these foolish policies. The default should be to breast-feeding with supplementation and then wean from the supplement if breast-feeding is sufficient. |
| Rene Stephens-Kresse | Gig Harbor, WA | 2017-03-05 | Fed is best. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| joanne layson | dumont, NJ | 2017-03-05 | i am a nicu nurse and i am also a mother. it breaks my heart to see babies suffer from these consequences. accidental starvation should never happen again. |
| Valerie Wald | New York, NY | 2017-03-05 | My baby spent his first week of life undernourished because I was set on exclusive breastfeeding. A pediatrician realized what was happening, and gave him a bottle of formula right there in the office. It was emotionally devastating for me -- not only was I failing to produce enough milk, I had unwittingly let my newborn go hungry. I do not want any other baby or mother to go through what happened to us. |
| Rebecca Chmela | Birmingham, AL | 2017-03-05 | I'm signing this because this happened to me and my son at a hospital that was nearly finished becoming certified as a "baby friendly" hospital. He was born at 6lbs 3oz and went home at 5lbs 7oz with a rising bilirubin level. He was 5 days old before we were told we would need to supplement until my milk fully came in...it never really did. I felt like a failure as a mother and as a woman. We are beyond blessed and grateful that he is thriving! #FedisBest |
| Helena Yoo, MD | Rockville, MD | 2017-03-05 | My son was the victim of a mom/physician determined to do the right thing and push through the first rough days of hearing my newborn cry constantly as I waited for my milk to come in. By day 3, his urine output was down to 3 diapers in 24 hrs and he was visibly jaundiced and wrinkled from dehydration. Luckily we took him into the hospital in time.... and low and behold, at that point we were encouraged to give him formula to supplement what I had (not much.) I wish all moms would be given space to feed their babies without being made to feel guilty if they don't stick to breastfeeding only. So many babies and families have been hurt by our fixation on "breast is best." Helena Yoo, MD |
| Ania Etlender | Tracy, CA | 2017-03-05 | Breast milk is important, but making sure your baby is fed is more important! I asked the nurse to give me formula while my milk wasn't there yet or at least pump, and they all refused! Not worth it! |
| Laura Milo | St. Petersburg, FL | 2017-03-05 | I am a nurse and mother who is concerned about the health of all babies. I work in a "baby friendly" hospital and have definitely seen instances of mothers being pressured to exclusively breastfeed even when it may not be in the best interest of the baby. |
| Hannah Yan | Silver Spring, MD | 2017-03-05 | My baby was not fed enough by breast milk but no one instructed me to give her formula. |
| Yeny Hay | Beltsville, MD | 2017-03-05 | I have a 5 month old now, but when she was 5 days old she was hospitalized for two days for dehydration. So lucky nothing tragic happened but it could have! She kept losing weight and finally on the 5th day I took her directly from the pediatrician's office to the ER. The hospital never really diagnosed her with dehydration or even educated me on the subject, I started researching on my own. We need to educate others to prevent tragedies. |
| Tiffani Acosta | Darien, CT | 2017-03-05 | I am a mother of 3 and I want to support those who have lost their child because they didn't know what to do for their child but only what they were told. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Vanessa S | Orlando, FL | 2017-03-05 | I wanted to breastfeed only and day 1 everything was fine, but by day 2 baby cried and cried and would feed almost continuously, yet no dirty diapers. Lactation consultant showed how to check if there was milk, but how can you when you've become so sore? Finally the next night a nurse convinced me to try a bottle, which I never had any opposition to truly, just thought i was doing what was best by breastfeeding because everybody always says that. Well wouldn't you know she drank so quickly and immediately went to sleep! Found she had lost almost exactly 10% of her body weight in 3 days. I cried that night realizing I had been starving my poor defenseless baby. I thank God for that nurse or I might not have my beautiful baby still with me and well today. I say mothers should be asked to pump at least once a day for a week until we are sure the baby is indeed getting enough. Otherwise, don't be ashamed to use the bottle. There is a stigma attached to it. My own mother told me when I told her we were bottle- |
| Alison Clifford | Daniel Island, SC | 2017-03-05 | I'm signing because my first child, who is now 12 and doing great, ended up in the hospital one day after he was born, related to lack of breast milk production. I am happy to share my story. I found this organization and petition from an article I read recently about a tragedy related to this issue. |
| Chris Shelton RN | Birmingham, AL | 2017-03-05 | I witnessed this dogma being taught to my daughter (an RN) who gave birth two months ago and I was not!!!! happy. My wife (RN) had not heard this as she has not practiced for some years in the hospital and I were able to appeal to ur daughters common sense that our Grand Daughter needed additional nourishment. Keep it up!! |
| Suzanne Mayfield | De Soto, MO | 2017-03-05 | I couldn't breast feed my son. I didn't produce enough milk. There was no support for supplementing or even formula feeding. Awful. |
| James Wallace | Kingwood, TX | 2017-03-05 | I'm signing because my son is alive today because we switched to formula early enough - and my wife received nothing but hostility and shaming from the professionals she reached out to for help. This is a real problem. |
| Taraneh Kerley | Harleysville, PA | 2017-03-05 | We were told that my son's 11% in-hospital weight loss was just because I wasn't pumping enough. I physically hurt myself from pumping nearly constantly, and he wasn't gaining weight. After a lactation consultant reviewed our situation she recommended formula. FINALLY, our baby's health improved. I am SO grateful for formula and I wish more mothers were free from the shame and guilt trips used to force exclusive breastfeeding, HEALTHY babies and HEALTHY moms are BEST!!! |
| Isabelle Chabot | France | 2017-03-05 | Because My grandmother and other ancestors knew how important it was to feed a baby and how, because they knew what would happen, would have worshipped the alternative of formula when it came to their baby. My eyes have myopia and are'nt perfect, my mom's cells block insulin and are'nt perfect and as are my breasts that could'nt produce milk fast and plenty enough.Nature si flawses.For all babies that are hungry for the wrong reasons because no reason is right : fed si best ! |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Xuanxuan Gan | Wellesley, MA | 2017-03-05 | Stop the misleading information to ask mom to feed new-born exclusively by beast-fed milk! It leads to life threatening situation from insufficient feeding situation from many new moms! |
| Deidre Springstead | Hamilton, Ontario, Canada | 2017-03-05 | My son lost close to 20% due to the pressure to breastfeed. I felt that supplementing him was failure. My milk came in quickly, but he was a sleepy boy who would fall asleep shortly after latching. Today he's 6 and has speech issues and I believe they are attributed to his starvation in those early days. |
| R Ricca | London, UK | 2017-03-05 | I'm interested to hear this story because I have never heard of this happening before , and I too was never given any kind of warning about breastfeeding when I was a new mother. I was told that you always produce the right amount etc. However my child failed to gain weight, - in fact lost weight for a few days and had to be readmitted to hospital and was suffering jaundice. She was very cranky, fed continuously and didn't sleep. Breast feeding counsellors said I was feeding correctly and not to top up with formula as my milk would reduce. Eventually she did feed and she was unharmed, but at the time a lot of older women kept saying she's hungry and I should bottle feed. - I wouldn't listen as I'd been told that this wasn't possible. I think a bit of honesty around breast feeding is necessary - it's much harder than you would ever believe to get the baby and your body in sync, and the possibility of it going wrong needs to be told to mothers honestly |
| Barb Swope | Chagrin Falls, OH | 2017-03-05 | I had such a bad experience when my son was born. Did I want to breastfeed? Yes! Was it easy to do? No! I was producing enough milk but could not get my son to latch on properly. I was in a constant state of try to nurse/pump/bottle feed that I could get no sleep. I would breakdown every day as the sun fell my post-partum depression was so deep. It took 3 weeks for everything to 'click'. To this day I am still angry at the lactation consultants (and myself!) for not just grabbing the damn bottle of formula and feeding him that way. I too was completely brainwashed and believed the only milk I should give was my own. I felt like lesser of a woman because it didn't happen naturally, like the consultants insisted it would. I would never want anyone to go thru what my son and I went thru. A mom isn't 'lesser' if she bottle/formula feeds. Fed IS Best |
| Bob Xu | Lexington, MA | 2017-03-05 | my baby get issue because the nurse did not give formula |
| Anne Onion | Chesterland, OH | 2017-03-05 | I feel its right |
| Brandi Johns | Elk Grove, CA | 2017-03-05 | We should have the option to give our babies the best nutrition possible, whether that is breastfeeding or formula. And most importantly not be shamed for our choice. |
| Tanay Williams | Gilroy, CA | 2017-03-05 | I am a NICU nurse at a small community hospital that is currently seeking certification via the 'Baby Friendly' organization. I have seem new mothers struggle with the guilt of choosing not to breastfeed, or not being able to breastfeed their newborn. It is imperative that the families know that there are mulipte options available to them. Parents need to be informed that exclusive breastfeeding can have it's own risk factors, and that's something we do not teach our families. We are providing a disservice to our |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | patients by not informing them of those potential issues. I think it's time to support our new families in whatever feeding method they choose, for whatever reason they choose that method. As care providers it should be our goal for our new families to have healthy newborns not only in the hospital but for months to come. |
| Erin Sullivan | Framingham, MA | 2017-03-05 | As a mother/baby nurse, I want the see babies fed! Nursing doesn't work for everyone and the guilt the mother feels is outrageous! |
| Jacqueline Dance | Sandy, UT | 2017-03-05 | Militant breastfeeding advocates and articles caused wreaked havoc on my ability to listen to my inner voice telling me my children were not receiving enough from breastfeeding. Thankfully, after 24 hours of not producing wet or poopy diapers, my husband and my pediatrician talked sense into me and we formula fed. Up to that point, my son had been jaundiced and very lethargic all day. I tremble to think what would have happened had I not listened to those voices of reason. |
| Mengyue Wang | New York, NY | 2017-03-05 | I'm signing this because my family is victim too. My baby starved the first night when I had no milk, although those nurses kept telling me I did. My girl cried so badly that my husband had to hold her to soothe her the whole night, and his cold got a lot worse from insufficient sleep. Thankfully the cold was not passed to her. I did not rest well either after 24 hours in labor w/o sleep. We spent 30min arguing with a nurse to get some formula, and she immediately took the whole bottle, non-stop! |
| Lorian Taylor | Bothell, WA | 2017-03-05 | I 100% agree with that Breast Is Best. As a first time mom I was fully committed to exclusively breastfeeding my baby. My baby was born premature and failed to latch effectively. My milk never came in enough to keep him fed. The all or nothing messaging around breastfeeding is toxic. I wish I hadn't suffered weeks of pressure and guilt before a lactation consultant finally said it was ok to feed as much as my body would make and supplement with formula for the rest. Any is better than none. It was such a relief to hear that from a professional. In an effort to educate moms that breastmilk is better than formula we've created a culture of pressure and shame for mothers who can't exclusively breastfeed. Isn't a live, healthy, growing baby better than a starving one? |
| Shannon Jurca | Perrysburg, OH | 2017-03-05 | Not one nurse or doctor recommended supplementation during my 2 day hospital stay after birth. After reading the fed is best website I realized that my baby was starving during her first few days of life and I feel terrible about it. Her pediatrician recommended supplementation on her 3rd day of life, otherwise I would have ignorantly starved my child. I didn't have much experience with babies and am a first time mom, so I trusted what the doctors, nurses and lactation consultants in the hospital were telling me. I wish they had been more diligent in making sure my baby was fed. |
| Kejun Xu | San Jose, CA | 2017-03-05 | My 1st baby was dehydrated because my milk didn't come in until 3rd day. She was cranky and yellow and electrolytes messed up. We had to check her into ER. Everyone in the hospital told us to exclusive breastfeed.... which is pretty stupid now I think about it. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Jake Puente | Lynnwood, WA | 2017-03-05 | My wife struggled to breast feed, she had massive outside pressure from nurses, doctors and others in the field that if she didn't breast feed she would be a bad mother. after no sleep for 2 weeks we gave our son a bottle. he was finally happy |
| Diana Mendez | San Jose, CA | 2017-03-05 | I'm signing this petition because to this day I am haunted by the experience I endured the first few days of my babies life. As a first time mom, I vowed and wanted nothing more than to protect my child, but while at the hospital's postpartum unit I felt powerless. I knew my baby girl was hungry and wanted to feed her, but was faced with the reality that I was not producing sufficient Colostrum. By day 2 my baby had lost 1.5lbs (17% of her weight) and was constantly crying for milk. I informed the nurses my baby was waking up every 20 minutes looking to feed only to end up with an empty stomach. The nurses didn't seem to care or move urgently. I was made to feel delusional. The only thing that brought me some peace was that my baby found comfort in being held in my arms and using my breast as a pacifier. After pleading for support, the nurses insisted on a long tedious process that lead to finally meeting with a lactation consultant on the 3rd day of my daughters life. She confirmed what I knew, my daughter wa |
| Lynn Cook | Lexington, KY | 2017-03-05 | This breaks my heart! |
| Lucy Scarfe | Reading, England, UK | 2017-03-05 | During my antenatal classes we were told that if you wanted to breast feed you could and that the only reason mothers gave up was because they didn't try hard enough. I tried but when I came home from the hospital my baby wouldn't latch onto my breast and didn't eat for 12 hours during which time he screamed constantly. Out of desperation we fed our baby formula which had the immediate effect of calming him. I feel that there is too much pressure to breastfeed exclusively, even to the detriment of the baby's health. |
| Elizabeth Ortega | Glendale, AZ | 2017-03-05 | I was pressured to avoid giving my son formula the first 24 hours after he was born even after I tried to breastfeed and not enough colostrum was coming out. I had to ask the nurse three times for a bottle with formula before it was given to me. I never knew this was a major problem until I saw the article. |
| Laura Wallin | Santa Barbara, CA | 2017-03-05 | Shamed into exclusive breastfeeding with my first baby. A midwife told me that if I gave formula to my daughter she would be "smart enough, not a rocket scientist." |
| Jennifer Seeley | Gilbert, AZ | 2017-03-05 | I am signing because I know individuals who almost lost their baby because their doctor didn't inform them of the dangers of baby starvation. It is such a needless way to die these days when we have the option of supplementing with formula. |
| Vicky Peavoy | Cambridge, England, UK | 2017-03-05 | The pressure to breastfeed and the desire of health professionals for this is blinding them to the primary aim of healthy baby healthy mother and silencing the instincts of parents who feel something is wrong and are being given poor advice. Of course promote breastfeeding but be alert to the cases where it doesn't go smoothly and the health of the baby is at risk. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Jessica Anderson | Orem, UT | 2017-03-05 | I wanted to breastfeed my twins, but I was unable to produce enough breast milk to exclusively do so. I was pressured by lactation specialists to pump every hour because "that's what you need for twins." I thought I was going to go crazy. When I finally switched exclusively to formula it was a relief. Moms shouldn't be pressured into something their body can't do! |
| Jo-Ann Mapa | Marikina City, Philippines | 2017-03-05 | I helplessly watched my daughter starve while we were at the hospital because they wont give us formula milk, she cried almost all the time even if latched properly. It was stressful for both of us and it made me feel less of a mother because I couldnt give her enough milk. |
| Rosalyn Lee | Meadow Vista, CA | 2017-03-05 | I am not able to exclusively breast feed and have experienced the pressure to breast feed and the "shame" associated with bottle feeding. |
| Patricia Turbowitz | Basking Ridge, NJ | 2017-03-05 | I am a grandma! |
| Sherry Kindt | Perry, OH | 2017-03-05 | I went through the same thing. If it helps with awareness for others to note you do NOT have to breastfeed. Bottle is fine! |
| Choi Chin Lau | London, England, UK | 2017-03-05 | I went through a similar experience 5 months ago. My daughter cried NONE stopped the day after she was born and would hardlt sleep although she latched on perfectly. My daughter felt lighter the day after she was born and appeared to be losing weight. I felt something wasn't right so I tried hand expressing/use a pump. An hour of trying, I could hardly get one drop so I quickly gave my daughter formula despite the midwives kept saying everything was fine and she wouldn't need much as her stomach is very small. I have been combo feed since as I am a strong believer in as long as baby is fed, gaining weight and healthy is what matter - NOT how it's fed! #FedisBest |
| Jing Wang | Davis, CA | 2017-03-05 | My baby used to have the same situation. I could produce the enough milk at all. The hospital didn't prevent me from providing formula. However with all of these articles about breast milk will come as long as you feed the babies, I felt so bad about myself not to be able to do so and ignored the fact he went dehydrated. Finally i could not see he got worse and worse and gave him the bottle. Really the hospitals cannot just say everyone can breastfeed immediately. Poor suffering babies! |
| Choi Chin Lau | London, England, UK | 2017-03-05 | I went through a similar experience 5 months ago. My daughter cried NONE stopped the day after she was born and would hardly sleep although she latched on perfectly. My daughter felt lighter the day after she was born and appeared to be losing weight. I felt something wasn't right so I tried hand expressing/use a pump. An hour of trying, I could hardly get one drop so I quickly gave my daughter formula despite the midwives kept saying everything was fine and she wouldn't need much as her stomach is very small. I have been combo feed since as I am a strong believer in as long as baby is fed, gaining weight and healthy is what matters - NOT how it's fed! #FedisBest |

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| Larisa Mortazavi | Los Angeles, CA | 2017-03-05 | I believe fed is best. |
| Meena Polich | San Francisco, CA | 2017-03-05 | That breastfeeding is easy and possible for everyone is one of the most dangerous myths for new mothers. what a baby needs is to be fed nutrients that are right for them, whether through breast milk or formula, and no mother should be pressured to do any one thing. rather we should all be supporting ourselves to do what we need to help our babies grow and develop into healthy little humans. my first was 6 weeks early, and I'll never forget the lactation consultant (after a slew of lactation militants) who gave me permission to accept I wasn't producing enough and should switch completely to formula. My relationship with my baby transformed into a beautiful bond with that pressure gone. Even better, without that pressure, I was actually able to nurse my second (born 5 weeks early) for even longer and with no feelings of guilt about supplementing. Both are healthy and happy which is all I could want for them. |
| Shiri Gutman | Los Angeles, CA | 2017-03-05 | I want babies to thrive! |
| Brucha Feldman | brooklyn, NY | 2017-03-06 | I'm signing because being exposed to such a site, would have made a world of a difference to me when I was struggling with feeding my babies. I only hope that no lasting damage was caused to my children because of the overwhelming pressure applied on me to exclusively breastfeed, although I clearly didn't have enough milk to sustain my babies. |
| Maria Ortiz | Katy, TX | 2017-03-06 | Estuve a punto de sufrir el mismo problema, por sentirme culpable al darle formula a mi bebe, gracias a Dios tome la decisión a tiempo. |
| Vanessa Vanderbrug | Seattle, WA | 2017-03-06 | Every family should be given the option to do what works best for them. |
| Erica Fan-Hudson | Longmeadow, MA | 2017-03-06 | This "Formula is inferior to Breast milk" nonsense has to stop. Parents should be encouraged to use their own judgement instead of getting external pressure of how to feed their babies. All the "breast-feeding recommended" language on the formula containers should be removed as they cloud parents judgement, and make mothers who are unable to breast feed their babies feel guilty, which is completely unnecessary. |
| Donna Livengood | Clinton Township, MI | 2017-03-06 | I did not know about this..... |
| Kelly Leung | San Antonio, TX | 2017-03-06 | My first born experienced severe dehydration and lost 17% of her body weight in the first week. We thank god that she recovered after 3 days of hospitalization, realizing it could be much worse. It was so hard for me to make the right decision when not only myself, but also EVERYONE surrounding me (husband, grandparents, friends, nurses, doctors, lactation consultants) was also brain washed and kept telling me formula was evil and i just had to keep breastfeeding the baby. I hope this would never happen to another mom and another baby ever again. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Angela Bruno | Laguna Niguel, CA | 2017-03-06 | The movement to exclusively breastfeed is creating a schism between mothers and hurting out children. |
| Jessica Foley | Boston, MA | 2017-03-06 | I'm signing because there is too much pressure to breastfeed and with quick discharge after a vaginal birth there is not much monitoring of the infant. I had a c-section and was in the hospital long enough that when my son's weight started to drop we got swamped by lactation and a pediatrician (which honestly was fine with me because I wasn't heart set on breast feeding - I ended up breastfeeding and supplementing). FED IS BEST. |
| Louisa Pretorius | Park City, UT | 2017-03-06 | I was overwhelmed, exhausted, and a first time mom. I remember her crying so much that it scared me, and I remember thinking that she must hurting. I was not producing enough milk, but luckily we had formula samples at home to feed her (we did not even think of buying a can of formula (as back-up)...cause we were going to breastfeed). Regardless, my baby girl had developed jaundice (dangerous level), due to lack if feeding. We had to do a week of treatment to get her levels down. **Make it mandatory to do the bottle, and supplement with the breast. If your milk comes in fully afterwards, then switch to exclusive breast.** This should be the standard, and this way we eliminate all guilt. I am educated, have a great job at a hospital, it happened to me, it can happen to any one. She does not have complications, but so easily could have. Do bottle 1st, breast second...take away the pressure on moms! |
| Yang Lu | Long Beach, CA | 2017-03-06 | I feel very fortunate that both of our children were fine despite mild jaundice and in Vera's case, hypoglycemia. My milk didn't come in until the 5th day when Jojo was born and the 3rd day when Vera was born, even though I tried to feed for hours and hours. Both times most nurses gave us pushbacks, guilt trips, and huge attitude when we asked for supplementation. It took a lot of courage to stand up for ourselves and our newborns during those draining, exhausting moments. I still feel terrible this day that I didn't ask for supplementaion early enough. Never a good policy when individual differences are ignored. And it makes no sense hospital performance is tied to % mothers who exclusively breastfeed their newborns in the hospital. More people need to know about lasting detrimental effects on newborns because of insufficient milk intake. |
| Linda Monselle mmmmmmmm | Santa Clarita, CA | 2017-03-06 | Everyone should be aware of this. |
| cynthia munoz | Woodland Hills, CA | 2017-03-06 | Of Landon Johnson |
| ami mendoza | round rock, TX | 2017-03-06 | No mother should be forced to breastfed or formula feed. They should be given options and not made to feel guilty or like a bad mother. Hospitals should not show only one feeding method. As a mother who struggled and watched her baby loose weight fed is best!! |
| Kaitlin Grate | Saint Charles, MO | 2017-03-06 | My newborn son, Stanley and my 20 month old daughter, Mollie who was re-hospitalized after EBF with High bilirubin levels, significant weight loss and some dehydration. She showed zero signs and we would have done anything we could have to prevent it. Today we left the hospital with our son and I felt guilty for |

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| | | | supplementing him with the guidelines provided to me after meeting with the lactation consultant...but I want him to thrive in his first few days of life. |
| Rebecca Berinsky | Austin, TX | 2017-03-06 | I was pressured to exclusively breastfeed despite my child clearly struggling to do so, and even at the hospital, the lactation consultants implied I was letting my child down by giving him formula when my production was low and he had trouble latching. FED IS BEST! |
| Heather Batman | Houston, TX | 2017-03-06 | My baby had difficulty breastfeeding and I was not producing much milk. The lactation consultant in the hospital and the pediatrician who we saw upon hospital discharge told me not to worry about it that my body would produce what my baby needed. Thankfully I'm an OT specializing in infant feeding and development. I knew that loosing 11% of birthweight and my baby crying all the time was not right. I supplemented with a bottle and found another pediatrician. Had I not known I wonder if my baby would be alive today. There needs to be better unbiased education especially in baby friendly hospitals. |
| Lisa Miracle | Hopkinton, MA | 2017-03-06 | My child was re-hospitalized due to my inability to produce milk for her, though the discharge pediatrician and nurses all assured me she did not need formula. There is way too much pressure on new moms to breastfeed, and the babies suffer because of it. |
| Erin Carr | Hingham, MA | 2017-03-06 | My milk came in late with both of my sons. With my second, I requested to supplement before being discharged from the hospital. I couldn't stand to see him frantically hungry, and I knew from experience with my first that supplementation did not impede breastfeeding (my first breastfed for 2.5 years despite heavy supplementation in the early weeks). The pressure to exclusively breastfeed is overwhelming today. Moms face so many challenges in the early weeks - they need to know that supplementing is okay, and sometimes necessary, and that they are not a failure and are not alone. |
| Maryann Zurbuch | Mamaroneck, NY | 2017-03-06 | I had a scheduled c-section a week before my due date. While I fully intended to breastfeed my baby, I wasn't producing yet. The nurses kept encouraging me that colostrum would be enough even though I wasn't really producing that either. Although the hospital and staff were wonderful, I was feeling very guilty about asking for formula but after about 30 hours, my baby's apparent hunger outweighed my guilt and I demanded a bottle of formula. Our society needs to stop guiltning women who choose to give their babies formula to prevent potential tragedies! |
| Lois Davis | Towaco, NJ | 2017-03-06 | New mothers do not have the experience to realize if their baby needs more milk! I nursed three children and I was lucky, but all new mothers need help. |
| Andrea Post | Santa Clarita, CA | 2017-03-06 | Signing..... |
| Erin Lyons | Lomita, CA | 2017-03-06 | My breastfed baby fell from 34% to less than 1% weight for age in less than 3 weeks before my lactation specialist and pediatrician recommended supplementing with formula. Because I cried every |

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| | | | day as an exclusive breastfeeding mom, watching my baby get skinnier every day. I am a PICU nurse and knew of these dangers- and was neurotic watching for symptoms. Many do not know what to watch for and should be supported to feed their babies. Period. I now pump 7x/day to give him 100% of my milk, and all the benefits it offers- but I'm so happy to see his chunky thighs now, thanks to formula supplementation. |
| Caroline Green | Springfield, VA | 2017-03-06 | I produced very little milk with both of my babies, and had I not been allowed to supplement with formula while in the hospital, there could have been serious complications. (Even with a bit of supplementing, my younger daughter became lethargic from dehydration and our pediatrician advised us to feed her formula right away.) |
| Jenna Spier | Salem, OR | 2017-03-06 | I tried my best to breastfeed but my body wouldn't produce enough milk and my baby was going hungry. The breastfeeding advocate extremists go too far with encouraging breastfeeding and discouraging formula, causing some babies to not receive adequate nutrition. These advocates need to stop shaming mothers that are unable (or even those who are unwilling, due to their own personal reasons) to breastfeed. Fed is best, whether it comes from the breast or bottle. |
| Rachel Lerner | Brooklyn, NY | 2017-03-06 | I was one of those moms who had to give her newborn formula supplements because my baby was losing too much weight. Thank God I have a great pediatrician, but I still felt ashamed about the formula feeding, because the hospital where I delivered leaned so hard on exclusively breast feeding and my lactation consultant kept urging me to drop the supplements. Something has to change. |
| Amanda Auker | Altoona, PA | 2017-03-06 | Because this could have been my child. If I had listened to my motherly instincts I could have prevented my 5wk old son from being flown to a nearby pediatric hospital. |
| Leslie Smith | Graceville, FL | 2017-03-06 | This could have been my Emma who was 6 weeks early and I was NOT producing enough of my own milk for her.... |
| corinne ackerman | edwards, CO | 2017-03-06 | My delivery was 8 years ago via C-Section (not by choice) and yes i was forced to try to breast feed for 24 hrs (with the knowledge that i had a breast reduction at the age of 22). Thanks to the amazing night nurse who recommended that i start giving formula right away when my baby girl was losing weight after the 24 first hours : (All moms know it is best to breast feed but sometime life happens (not always as plan) and you need to feed your child another way to survive. |
| Marilyn Musick | Waterford, MI | 2017-03-06 | I had a problem with my third child not getting enough breastmilk at a few weeks old & was a LaLeche League leader at the time. It can happen to anyone. |
| Nancy Plaat | Albany, NY | 2017-03-06 | I have two healthy granddaughters who have been breastfeed by their mom from the start for a year or more. |
| Sarah Packard | Papillion, NE | 2017-03-06 | I'm signing because I felt pressure to exclusively breastfeed my first child. I took classes, read books and did everything I thought I |

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| | | | could to prepare. After being released from the hospital I continued to nurse him like I had at the hospital, except he wasn't getting enough. It seemed like I was constantly nursing him and wasn't even able to sleep. His diapers were barely wet and sometimes even dry hours after feeding him. He hadn't had a bowel movement in 2 days. He was crying all the time. I finally called my mom (a pediatric nurse) and she came to visit. She explained to me that things to me, told me that we could just supplement him - no one had ever offered this suggestion to me. That night we had a terrible snowstorm. The next day there were no lactation consultants at the hospital, my pediatricians office was closed and the road conditions were not safe for us to get to the hospital. I was so grateful that my mom was able to convince me to supplement my son. I can't imagine what might h |
| Dara Robbins | Joppa, MD | 2017-03-06 | Every parent deserves education on breastfeeding and the right to choose whether or not to supplement. |
| Jenna Embry | Campbellsville, KY | 2017-03-07 | I'm signing because too many babies are unnecessarily harmed from exclusive breastfeeding. I fear for what could've happened to my baby girl if I had let my nurses bully me into exclusive breastfeeding. Her bilirubin levels had continuously worsened, her weight was steadily decreasing, and she was visibly becoming dehydrated. I kept asking if she was getting enough milk from me and kept getting reassured that she was fine and all of these things were normal. Finally, the night before we were to be released she had a really bad night and by the next morning my husband and I were both in tears because we knew she was hungry and we didn't feel ready to be discharged as we were supposed to be that day. We knew the right thing to do was to put her on formula but we didn't feel like we could do that without being scorned by the nurses. Thankfully, the nurse we had upon discharge was extremely supportive and apologetic that I had been bullied into something that I never felt was right for my daughter. So we put her |
| stacey miceli | smyrna, GA | 2017-03-07 | I went through similar situation.. Felt guilty into breast feeding at birth and didn't realize I wasn't producing milk.. Had bad advice from staff and was starving my child. my child survived but went through an ordeal that could have been prevented. |
| Jamilyn Lane | Lacoochee, FL | 2017-03-07 | I'm signing because I felt pressured to breastfeed. I lost my first son due to cervical incompetence, and having my rainbow baby in my arms after his birth was the most amazing feeling. I felt pressured to breastfeed and that because my son was a month early, he would really benefit from my milk. Due to stress and a NICU stay, my milk didn't come in. My husband finally had to tell nurses to stop asking when I was in tears due to the pressure. Always advocate for your baby and fed is definitely best! |
| Monica Foley | Fort Worth, TX | 2017-03-07 | There is sooooo much pressure to breastfeed. We had to supplement early on and we're able to get back to EBF. I was so exhausted my milk dropped off and I would have starved my baby if we didn't supplement. Pumping, rest, hydration and a good diet then I was able to breastfeed again. Formula, breast milk, donor milk, a mix of all of the above, doesn't matter! Fed is Best! |

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| Dianna Keith | Lebanon, IN | 2017-03-07 | I am beside myself with anger at the lactation consultants and MD'S lack of education in this situation as it has gone on long enough. I am an RN and if it weren't for me and my baby being in the hospital for 7 days I would not have known that my milk wasn't coming in very quickly and I had to supplement with formula. But if this was not provided for me in the hospital and if it weren't for me being encouraged to pump every 2 hours to encourage my milk to come in, I might not have ever known to supplement with formula. If it weren't for being able to pump frequently and actually see that I only had colostrum and milk was not in yet, I might be it the same situation God forbid! This has to be stopped and as a Nurse I am willing to be on any committee to help but it must be right away, before more deaths occur! Dianna Keith RN. BSN. |
| Grace Shelton | Glenpool, OK | 2017-03-07 | I could have lost my daughter. |
| vanessa diaz | Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic | 2017-03-07 | I wanted to exclusively breastfeed since the moment I found out I was pregnant, I read many books about breastfeeding, spoke to mothers that had breastfed their babies and went online researching all I could and even signed up to La Leche league, then I had a C Section and my milk didn't come in till 4 days later. Thank God my pediatrician told the nurses in my hospital to give my son formula, I still breastfed him, but ended up supplementing because he was always hungry after breastfeeding him for hours. We should feed our babies however we can. Babies should never have to hungry. Fed is best. |
| Jennifer F | Olney, MD | 2017-03-07 | My PPD was greatly affected by how I fed my child. I could not produce breastmilk but my "baby friendly" hospital gave me no other option. I went to formula, almost secretly, on my own and felt terrible, when in actuality it was the best thing for me and my son. Now, he's the healthiest 3 year old I've ever seen. No major health problems, hardly ever sick, slept through the night at 5 weeks, and he has never been out of the healthy weight range. To say "breast is best" is incorrect. Feeding IS best, however you do it. Breastmilk is not for every family. I want other mothers to not feel ashamed or afraid of formula feeding their babies. |
| Malinda Longoria | Canoga Park, CA | 2017-03-07 | It is so important to spread awareness and break the silence! |
| Trish Coleman | Toronto, Canada | 2017-03-07 | I felt a similar pressure to breastfeed even though my son was not getting the nutrition he required. I visited the breastfeeding clinic multiple times a week, pumped as much as I could and supplemented with formula but finally gave up after six nightmarish weeks and switched to just formula. My son thrived from that time on and I was finally able to get some rest. Breast is great if you can but Fed is Best! |
| Alexandra Coscia | Scarsdale, NY | 2017-03-07 | I'm signing because I believe all children should be given the best shot a healthy life, right from the start. I also felt wrongly pressured by the hospital staff to exclusively breastfeed my newborn, even when she was obviously starving and not getting enough from me alone. I am so happy that I ultimately gave her a bottle, and am scared at what might have happened if I hadn't. I feel the "exclusive breastfeeding" rhetoric is dangerous and puts the most vulnerable lives at risk. I want this misinformation to stop. I want babies to |

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| | | | thrive. I want mothers to get the support, and formula, they need to feed their babies, especially at the most critical times. |
| Richard De Vuyst MD | Pampa, TX | 2017-03-07 | As a board certified pediatrician I have seen too often the negative health consequences of a fanatical adherence to protocols designed to support breastfeeding. Although I obviously think breastfeeding is the best source of nutrition for a newborn, I have seen too many dehydrated babies with hyperbilirubinemia coming from "baby friendly" nurseries. I have seen far too many anxious mothers, who have been bullied to a certain degree, into exclusively breastfeeding when they do not feel comfortable doing so. |
| Jennifer Cook | Grand Prairie, TX | 2017-03-07 | My son was born with a life threatening birth defect that required surgery at 1 day old. His time in the NICU he had an NG tube for feeding. When he was finally able to have his chest tube removed the incredible NICU team fed him every 3 hours, via a bottle. I had complications that required medications and even my pumped breast milk had to be dumped. I felt like such a failure first because he was born with a birth defect and second because I couldn't breastfeed. The thing is neither of these were my fault and I had nothing to feel guilty about. My son is 18 now and healthy! We need to support each other as women and new mothers. A healthy baby is not a cliché, it's what we all want as mothers. Some of us simply CAN'T breastfeed. It just wasn't in the cards for me and I should have never been able to feel like a failure for not being able to do so. |
| Jessica Burrell | Neptune City, NJ | 2017-03-07 | No mother should feel pressured on how to raise their baby - and FED truly IS best! |
| Veronica Torres | The Colony, TX | 2017-03-07 | I am signing because I combo fed my son as an infant and it was the best decision I EVER made. Not all new moms can get their milk in right away so or even know of if the baby had enough so yes I feel that bottle and breast is best! Now my son is a strong and healthy toddler! Forget what others say do what's best for your baby!! An infant's full stomach is more important and someone else's ego. |
| Hayley Harding | Worcester Park, England, UK | 2017-03-07 | I struggled to feed my son when he was first born. Due to the strict protocol of midwives no one considered that maybe my son may actually need food and let him lose weight for days on end. Were it not for one sensible midwife my son could have ended up back in hospital with no end of problems. Hospitals should be taught to look at the individual and the possible causes for the problem not just dogmatically tell mothers to 'keep pumping' at all costs. |
| Julia Dewolf | Alameda, CA | 2017-03-07 | I wasn't able to feed my child exclusively from the breast, and was made to feel extremely guilty from society for not. |
| AnnMarie Roach | Mission Viejo, CA | 2017-03-08 | My son lost too much weight in the beginning and fortunately for us, our pediatrician handed us formula to supplement. We went straight home and I pumped and my milk came in but I hope that no mom ever feels pressured in that situation to make something work that might not be working. FED IS BEST! |
| Teresa Raniere | East Northport, NY | 2017-03-08 | I nursed and nursed and my baby ended up being underweight. I learned I couldn't produce enough and my son had a cow's |

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| | | | milk protein allergy, so I needed to supplement with prescription formula. I felt so inferior to other mothers who could properly breastfeed and nourish their child. I eventually came to terms that it was okay to give him formula and for me to pump on the side because making sure my baby is healthy and fed is ALL that matters. |
| Terri Cooley | Fort Worth, TX | 2017-03-08 | I myself have experienced guilt caused by lactation specialists. I was made to feel if I didn't breastfeed I was a bad mother. Thank GOD I realized due to a breast reduction I did not have enough milk. Even though I was incapable of breast feeding I cried for weeks because I felt guilty for not being able to. No mother should be shamed for feeding their baby no matter whether breast feed or use formula! |
| Charles Borg | Saint Catharines, Canada | 2017-03-08 | Fedisbest. |
| Claire Berry | Morden, England, UK | 2017-03-08 | I'm am signing because I totally agree with this! |
| Amanda Exarchos | Chelmsford, MA | 2017-03-08 | I am a mother of 2 formula fed babies who struggled with breastfeeding my first and had no support from the nurses. I am also a Postpartum nurse who will stand beside moms and their choices to protect and have healthy well fed babies |
| Joyce A. Bartlett | Greensboro, NC | 2017-03-08 | I am signing this petition because babies need adequate calories and hydration in their first days of life. In countries where there is no formula wet nurses are used when babies indicate they are not receiving enough nutrition and hydration by crying. Here in the USA we need to make sure that babies are getting enough calories and hydration by weighing exclusively breastfed newborns twice a day, checking them for hypoglycemia and other tests to ensure they are getting adequate nutrition and hydration. If they have excessive crying indicating that they may be not receiving adequate nutrition and hydration we need to listen to their cries and provide them what they need. As a Pediatric Nurse I feel this is very important to prevent complications due to starvation. |
| Sajid Raza | Sunnyvale, CA | 2017-03-08 | Demanding emergency c-section mothers try to breadt feed after hemorrhaging is immoral. Our first obligation as parents is to feed our children and not hold fanatical beliefs about breast feeding. |
| Carolyn parent | Oklahoma City, OK | 2017-03-08 | My son was failure to thrive at 6 weeks on breast milk only. I changed pediatricians and was told it was ok to give him a bottle of breast milk. We are lucky this didn't happen to our son. Breast milk is the best but they have to eat whether it's breast milk or formula. |
| Jen G | Mission, KS | 2017-03-08 | I experienced failure to lactate, resulting in my son losing over 10% of his body weight. He was hospitalized for 5 days after his birth and we began supplementing on day 3. If we had been a a different hospital, it is possible that my son would have died. It's ridiculous that something so easily preventable could be happening. There is no reason for newborns to die or experience brain injury from starvation. |
| Amara Moore | Pearl River, LA | 2017-03-08 | I am a NICU nurse with much knowledge on this subject.I agree with this organization platform and purpose! |

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| Polly Sapakie | San Francisco, CA | 2017-03-09 | I'm signing because I have two healthy babies despite the fact that I didn't breastfeed. I called my husband from the hospital 48 hours post-C-section begging him to smuggle in a bottle of formula so our screaming hungry baby could eat. I'm still traumatized. |
| Amy Cregar | Ambler, PA | 2017-03-09 | Fed is best. If it okay for women to abort a baby at any stage, then it better be OK for a woman to have the choice to feed it when it's born. |
| Hailey Jenkins, RN | West Jordan, UT | 2017-03-09 | I am a nurse in Newborn Nursery. When I read this article, I was so happy to have something I could tell new moms about when they are in tears about having to give their baby a bottle instead of exclusively breastfeeding. I can't count the number of mothers that tell me they feel like they are a "bad mom" if they need, or even want, to feed their baby a bottle. I am definitely pro breastfeeding-when it works; but there are times that you have to supplement. In our "baby friendly" world, we should all be more worried about these tiny humans actually being fed what their bodies need instead of just the source. There is so much shame put on mothers who use formula, it's ridiculous! Please share this petition and the Fed Is Best blog with anyone who can benefit or make a difference! |
| Adreanna Resendiz | Vista, CA | 2017-03-09 | I can relate to this. I had a c-section and the lactation nurses would pressure me to breastfeed my baby. I was so lost and didn't know what to do. I thought i was being a bad mom for not breastfeeding my baby. It was my first child. Thank god i gave my baby formula. My baby had jaundice so I told the nurses I needed formula for my baby. I couldn't help him seeing him crying over hunger. New mommies don't let nobody pressure you. Always listen to your heart and your baby they have ways to communicate with you. |
| Jean Markevich | Boca Raton, FL | 2017-03-09 | Fed is best!!!! |
| Taylor Piracci | Worcester, MA | 2017-03-09 | I struggled with whether or not I should have been breastfeeding my baby. Mothers should be able to feed their babies however they feel is best without having any ounces of guilt. Doctors need to listen to the parents because they know whats best. We know what our babies need. |
| Ronke Osibajo | Kenner, LA | 2017-03-09 | Children should not starve amidst abundance. |
| Colleen Fairto | Simi Valley, CA | 2017-03-09 | I don't want to see any child die or have a brain injury from with holding bottles when the mother might not produce milk. |
| Paul Thelen | Alameda, CA | 2017-03-09 | I'm signing this because my twins were pushed to breast feed for weeks not growing as they should. The stress their mom was put through was ridiculous. No one should be forced to feel this way. Our doctor confessed that they expect mothers to need formula, but if they didn't push it...mothers would try hard enough. That attitude must be fixed. |
| Jaclyn Hughes | Wimbledon, England, UK | 2017-03-10 | I have a 8month old, the pressure of breast is best is too much. A woman is at her most vulnerable and reliant on "experts" who have personal opinions rather than what the baby needs...milk from bottle or breast |

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| Adie P | Jeffersonville, IN | 2017-03-10 | I am signing this for my first child, who was admitted to the children's hospital when she was 4 days old with severe high sodium levels (hypernatremia). She had been on my breast continuously from day 3 to day 4 at home and was crying if she was not on my breast. I was exhausted from an almost 24 hour labor and lack of sleep. At home, I was lucky to get 5 minutes without her on my breast every few hours to relieve myself. I knew newborns were difficult, but I thought, "It should not be this difficult; something is wrong." By day 4, she was extremely sleepy, had only urinated once that day, did not have a bowel movement that day, and usually had only brick dust in her diaper before she was admitted to her second hospital stay. I had a feeling she was slowly dying so I called the on-call doctor who sent us from home to the ER. Even though I had asked a nurse about the redness that was constantly in her diaper when she was less than 36 hours old, I was told it was probably blood from vaginal discharge; I wish |
| angel mcneill | Suitland, MD | 2017-03-10 | I agree and have witnessed such issues as a RN |
| Stephanie Watson | New hope, MN | 2017-03-10 | I'm the mother of two twin baby boys. My goals were always to breastfeed. I have been educated on benefits and so that was my goal. I did everything the hospital demonstrated and even talked with a lactation consultant. I have tried suggested foods, supplements, teas, pumping rituals etc. but I still am not producing enough to keep my two babies fed. I do supplement, which doesn't hurt anyone except my wallet. By telling women they should only breastfeed, we are missing so many case scenarios when it isn't possible. Not to mention it is a personal family choice. Stop telling women what they should do with their bodies! |
| April Murphy | Greensboro, NC | 2017-03-11 | I was pressured to breastfeed even though my nipples were flat and my son couldn't latch on. He cried when I tried to breastfeed him. If I hadn't insisted on formula I believe that he would have starved to death. I reasoned that I was a formula feed baby and turned out just fine so he would too. I had to insist the nurses bring him formula and bottles. They finally did but they made me feel guilty the entire time. I tried pumping to feed him but it was incredibly painful because of my flat nipples and I wasn't getting the amount the said he should be eating g from a bottle. Again I say he would have starved to death if I hadn't insisted on formula. He is 9 now and I still feel guilty because you always here that Breast is Best. I tried to breastfeed my second child too. It still didn't work because of my flat nipples. Even though they are 8 years apart I was still made to feel guilty because I wanted to feed my child formula. I understand there are a lot of good reasons to breastfeed but not everyone can and |
| Jessica Stirling | HAMILTON, Canada | 2017-03-11 | Fed is best. |
| Felicia Rogers | clifton heights, PA | 2017-03-11 | My struggle with not having enough breast milk. Many factors involed over months of trying and surching for answers would receive conflicting information. My daughter was later diagnosed with failure to thrive. She was tube fed for 1 yr. I did my best to get us through her first 2 yes. She is now 29 yrs old and expecting her second child. I believe in breast feeding. It's not the right choice |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | for every mother. I work with new moms, guiltng mothers about breastfeeding needs to stop. |
| Jenna Ng | Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia | 2017-03-12 | I'm signing this petition because I care about the health of newborn babies |
| Jennifer Shepherd | Harker Heights, TX | 2017-03-12 | I'm a PNP working in a Newborn Follow-Up Clinic and I deal with these Complications daily. Not Rare! |
| Jim Williams | Danielson, CT | 2017-03-12 | My first child was slow to nurse, and we had to start him on bottle feeding after three days. But first we had to overcome prejudices about the wonders of breastfeeding. I had no idea there was a danger of brain damage. Fortunately he turned out fine. |
| Sarah Cleary | Hamilton, Scotland, UK | 2017-03-13 | As with many others, I was reassured in hospital that my son was receiving enough milk from me, despite my reservations. He became severely dehydrated and was admitted to NICU on day 5. Mothers need to be educated that supplementation with formula milk may be required, and does not rule out mixed or exclusive breastfeeding once milk supply is established. |
| Alison Goebel | Columbus, OH | 2017-03-13 | Fed is Best prepared me to be open to the needs of my baby and to not worry about the source of his nutrition. |
| Courtney Griffin | Addison, TX | 2017-03-13 | I'm signing because I almost lost my daughter in my quest to only breastfeed. |
| Vickey Kleist | Eau Claire, WI | 2017-03-14 | I have been an ob nurse for several years and have had baby friendly shoved down my throat. I see issues everyday with exclusiively breast fed infants however am not allowed to support supplementing. I have a grandchild with cerebral palsy which in turn makes me very compelled to prevent unnecessary brain damage. |
| scott penny | Portlethen, Scotland, UK | 2017-03-14 | It shouldn't matter if it's breast or bottle. Babies should be looked after and looked out for properly by professionals after they are born and parents should not be judged for how they feed their child all that matters is the child is fed and happy. |
| Brett Walker | Maple Grove, MN | 2017-03-14 | Because My hospital not only pressured us in to breast feeding they didn't even check to make sure he was even getting enough. The lactation specialist only came in one time and said that they would be back in an hour to re evaluate. They never came back in. They sent us home knowing i was "high risk" for not being able to provide enough (right in our chart). our baby was so fussy and unhappy after we went home. 2 days later we went to his pediatrician and he had lost over a pound. Thank god we only waited 2 days to go in. I am so Mad that we got "Bullied" into breast feeding and then after being bullied not even being followed up with! |
| Gina McHugh | Lyndhurst, NJ | 2017-03-14 | I am an RN at a post-Partum unit of a Baby friendly Hospital. I have seen first hand the suffering of starving babies, I have seen babies sugars dropped while exclusively breastfeeding. I have also had to supplement babies with high bilirubin because formula helps hydration and helps them get rear of the bilirubin. Not the colostrum, so why to wait until the baby is sick to supplement? I |

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| | | | am NOT against breastfeeding, like some of my patients had said. However, I Am PRO FED & HAPPY babies. |
| Danielle Burgess | Montgomery, AL | 2017-03-15 | Starving a baby for ego or bragging rights is never "best". |
| Lauren White, CPNP | Niles, MI | 2017-03-15 | As a Peds NP and mother, I seek to inform families and protect other infants from any potential further harm. |
| Katherine Jones | Oldbury, England, UK | 2017-03-15 | There is not enough education on all the possible feeding methods available to new parents and it is putting lives at risk. |
| Andria Sibert | Minneapolis, MN | 2017-03-15 | Formula feeding has worked beautifully for me and my family! |
| Jennifer Bar Hoover | Eden Prairie, MN | 2017-03-16 | I'm am a pediatric provider who has seen increased jaundice and poor growth since our clinic has adopted Baby Friendly standards for breast feeding. |
| Elizabeth Boxell | Republic, MO | 2017-03-18 | I'm signing this because I am a new mom to a five week old baby boy. I had assumed that my my desire to breastfeed was all I needed. I educated myself during pregnancy through hospital provided classes, books, and internet resources. It turns out I am producing about one half an oz at each feeding and so my son was malnourished for he first few days of his life. Once released from the hospital, he did not produce any wet diapers, so at the 30 some hour mark, we consulted our emergency nurse number and was told to supplement until my milk came in, which if still hasn't. Though I was and still am devastated at my body's lack of milk production, I am so grateful for formula. My son is growing well. I still nurse with what little I produce, but about 95% of his nutrition is formula. I wish I would have known about the "fed is best" mentality and the possibility of my will Power not being enough to make exclusive breast feeding work prior to my son's birth. |
| Lesley Howard | Little Braxted, England, UK | 2017-03-18 | I am the mother of two very healthy sons who were formula fed as I had insufficient milk to breast feed. I was made to feel like an uncaring ignorant mother/woman by the breast is best mafia. It is an individual choice - do not be bullied. That was over forty years ago - things need to change. |
| Jason Hawkins | Colorado Springs, CO | 2017-03-20 | Every parent needs to be aware of this |
| Cara Hawkins | Colorado Springs, CO | 2017-03-20 | There should be more awareness on this topic. |
| Amanda Hibbert | Oswestry, England, UK | 2017-03-20 | I have three children who are now 13, 17 and 20. They were all relatively heavy babies, born jaundiced due to my blood type, and I remember the pressure to breastfeed vividly. I did actually breastfed all three, each for about one year, however, the guilt that has remained with me ever since because I "topped up" my feeds has never left. With my first I was bleeding whenever she latched on, in excruciating pain for the first couple of weeks in spite of her position and suck being textbook, and she was hungry all of the time, yet I was told not to use formula. Thanks to a wonderful midwife who convinced me that I was not jeopardizing the health of our baby girl I introduced the occasional formula top up - the result |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | - I ended up breastfeeding her for 14 months. Nevertheless, with daughter number two and later on my son, I still hid the fact that I was topping up some feeds from the health visitors and midwives. This campaign is so, so necessary. Thank you and I gladly add my voice to it. |
| Beatrice Pan | Auckland, New Zealand | 2017-03-22 | I'm signing because I don't want any baby to starve during his first few days of life like my son did because of the pressure of "Breast is Best" given to us. He ended up at the hospital on day 3 of his life as i didn't produce any breastmilk. He was diagnosed with Hypoglycemia and was so dehydrated that he had to be on tube for 4 days. No babies should be in this condition.All mothers should be informed of the consequences and the risks. I wasn't. I wish I had given the bottle. I regret and I feel so guilty. |
| Sarah Casey | Australia | 2017-03-23 | The pressure to breastfeed robbed me of precious time with my newborn |
| Rosalia Abreu | New York, NY | 2017-03-23 | This is an issue very near and dear to my heart. Please consider signing along with me. |
| Allyson Lim | Bukit Mertajam, Malaysia | 2017-03-23 | i believe in the fact that Fed is Best. |
| K. C. Davis | Palmer, AK | 2017-03-23 | I am a smart person but I was pulled into the breastfeeding trap by midwives, doctors, hospital nurses, and other mothers repeating the same buzzwords at a time when I was most vulnerable and very easy to be persuaded because of exhaustion and the need for approval from medical doctors and nurses and everybody around me. Women are not given the option to not breastfeed, and if they decide to formula feed, they get a lecture. There are too many variables to determine whether or not a mother is going to be able to breastfeed. Not all bodies were created equal in this regard. Breastfeeding is a choice, and we should not have to get extra medical exams or approval from others to make a safe choice for our babies that just isn't what surgeon political factions of medicine want. |
| Ming Yin | Belmont, MA | 2017-03-23 | I am signing because I want to help protect life and prevent avoidable tragedies. |
| Jill Lanouette | Waterbury, CT | 2017-03-23 | As a RN and Breastfeeding Counselor I'm sick of seeing babies starving because mom is exhausted or BF because she thinks she should! |
| Anna Hildebrand | Moses Lake, WA | 2017-03-23 | I was given terrible and false advice and information leading to the starvation of my baby and a stay in the nicu. While there we found out he has a metabolic disorder (mcd) which means he cannot fast or it could be fatal. He could have died and I blame it solely on the information I was given as a new mom. |
| Maranna Jones | Lincoln, IL | 2017-03-23 | All children and parents deserve the best information and support that they may ever need or want no matter what. |
| Kelly Trespalacios | Jenkintown, PA | 2017-03-23 | Because FED, not breast, is always best. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Laura Nelson | Boise, ID | 2017-03-23 | My exclusively breastfed baby was thriving and doing great until around 12 weeks, when we started to notice she was becoming fussier on the breast and just cried more in general than she ever had. People had always commented on how tiny and skinny she was, but I didn't take notice. After becoming more and more fussy, I finally took her into the pediatrician at 15 weeks assuming she had an ear infection. She didn't, but she weighed exactly the same as she had at her 11-week appt. I was starving my baby. I wasn't producing enough milk for her, and I didn't know, so she was starving. I had always been told that my body would always produce enough for my baby, but it wasn't. We started supplementing with formula that day, and she gained two pounds in two weeks. I felt awful for making her suffer, but I am grateful I took her in and had the support from my pediatrician to do the right thing. Mothers need to be educated on other options besides exclusive breastfeeding. They need to know that a bottle can do more goo |
| Lea Russelle | Palatine, IL | 2017-03-23 | It's the right thing to do. |
| Allison Hendrickson | Aurora, IL | 2017-03-23 | At 3 weeks post partum, I finally gave up breastfeeding. I couldn't even pump 2 ounces every 3 hours, and had to supplement after getting home from the hospital because my baby was showing early signs of dehydration. Breastfeeding was one of the most miserable times of my life. Fed is best no matter what. What's best for mom is best for baby. |
| Melissa Rice | Weatherford, TX | 2017-03-23 | I'm signing because my 2nd child was born 12/21/16 in Fort Worth TX to a large hospital chain. We had a similar experience after 72 hours normal Cesarean section delivery and a healthy 6.11 lbs baby boy we where sent home with a baby that had moderate high jaundice levels. 2 days later when we returned to the hospital his jaundice was sky high, he was lethargic, dehydrated, had lost 10% of his birth weight, and his blood sugar was dropping to dangerous levels. Not once did the nurses or pediatricians tell us we should supplement to prevent his jaundice from getting worse, not once did the 4 LC we saw warn us what could happen or what was going on. We where lucky my son was admitted to NICU Christmas Day and recovered quickly after being Fed and put under the bilirubin lights. But all of this could have been prevented which is also something I still didn't understand until I found the Fed is best organization. Because NICU didn't say much about my milk either knowing full well we should be supplementing which |
| Louise Dodman | Australia | 2017-03-23 | Forcing mothers into exclusive breastfeeding whether medically or by guilt shaming them is common practice and must be stopped! |
| Di Hoffman | Visalia, CA | 2017-03-23 | I'm a NICU RN who puts babies health above politics and money |
| Nat Urquhart | Australia | 2017-03-23 | I don't believe innocent babies should be starved just so the breast is best agenda is rammed home to new mums. |
| Melody Herring | Redmond, WA | 2017-03-23 | I was not told in the hospital that having PCOS means that I may have low milk volume and that I should watch for symptoms of |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | hunger. My daughter is now thriving on a mix of breastmilk and formula. |
| Natashia Chant | Goonellabah, New South Wales, Australia | 2017-03-23 | Because I was refused formula in hospital despite my daughter being severely jaundiced and screaming in hunger for three days. I wasn't even told that calorie flushing would assist with the jaundice as they were worried that it would effect my breastfeeding relationship. Breastfeeding is great, but it isn't more important than any other aspect of parenting. And it certainly isn't more important than the health or life of a child. |
| Kaisa Rantanen | Pääkaupunkiseutu, Finland | 2017-03-23 | This is a problem in Europe, too. |
| maura dundon | Washington, DC | 2017-03-23 | My son was sent home from the hospital having lost close to 9% of his birth weight and with borderline bili levels. The hospital said nothing at all about supplementing with formula. By the next day he was down 12% and the pediatrician ordered us to give formula. I feel the hospital failed to guard my newborn's health due to their commitment to breastfeeding promotion. |
| Carly Richardson | Perth, Western Australia, Australia | 2017-03-23 | It is archaic to continue with this one size fits all notion that breast is always best when science and women's experiences prove this to be untrue. Women deserve education and support and babies deserve to be fed and nurtured. |
| Griselda Cortez | Los Angeles, CA | 2017-03-23 | I believe fed is best. |
| Dana Wittenberger | Blainville, Canada | 2017-03-23 | This happened to me and my child was in a life-threatening state of starvation. |
| Shannon Warner | Portland, OR | 2017-03-23 | I've breastfed 3 children and despite plenty of milk once it came in, early on I did not make enough to keep my babies fed. I was blessed to have a good pediatrician with my first and fought against BFHI hospital policies with my second so they had formula (didn't need it with my third, though she did have a small amount of pasteurized donor milk provided by the hospital due to low blood sugar). Many moms, especially new ones, would not stand up to the dangerous BFHI policies and put their babies at risk. These policies need to stop. |
| Kirsty Findlay | Lincoln, England, UK | 2017-03-23 | The pressure to breastfeed at all costs causes avoidable harm to both mothers and babies and the current 'breast is best' discourse is highly pernicious in its current form. This needs to change. |
| Medea Cygan | Moscow, ID | 2017-03-23 | It is very important that these risks are not overlooked. I was criticized by healthcare providers for feeding a baby sooner than two hours when the baby was screaming in hunger. I am a mother and I know when my child is hungry. I should not be made to doubt that. Newborns are not three year olds crying for a cookie and we should not be withholding basic and essential nutrition when they demand it. I have had to demand that a borderline hypoglycemic baby receive formula rather than wait for a crash and an IV. 5 mL of formula three times stabilized his blood sugar after I gave him all the colostrum I had. I had to demand it and the only reason I was comfortable doing that was because it was my fourth baby. Nurses |

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| | | | should not be hesitant to offer formula as a viable option to prevent hypoglycemia and an IV. 15 mL of formula was all it took and in no way affected my milk supply. |
| Katie Herr | Marmora, NJ | 2017-03-23 | I am signing because the quality of care I received and the risks to my health that were placed upon me and my child while at a hospital following the WHO's recommendations were unacceptable. I chose not to take pain meds after a long and painful delivery because they had no nursery, and I feared I would fall asleep or drop the baby while on them. We can do better than this, all hospitals should be mandated to have a nursery! |
| Beatrice Pan | Auckland, New Zealand | 2017-03-23 | Elijah was born 2 weeks earlier, with 2.695kg. He's my 3rd baby. I should have known, I should have supplemented formula earlier, as I knew that my milk production only came 3 days later with my 2 other babies. But midwives told me "don't worry, keep putting him on your breast, your milk should come earlier as it is your 3rd baby".... but it didn't come. He kept crying and crying... to the point he was too weak to cry, and was so dehydrated that he started to roll his eyes. I was so scared. I didn't want to loose him. That was on day 3... I was told that it is "normal" that he cries a lot.. babies cry a lot... But something is wrong... he was so lethargic, not responsive... We took him to the Emergency... he didn't want to feed anymore, so weak that he didn't want to latch... The emergency staff put us on the ambulance straight to hospital. He had hypoglycaemia, very low in sugar level.One hour late and I might have lost him. To see all the tubes on him... heartbreaking. So tiny... he should not be suffering |
| Lariz Diane Maranon | Manila, Philippines | 2017-03-24 | I have 2 kids. I also experienced not having milk supply until after 3 days. My son was agitated. I asked for help bec I said I think i wasnt producing any milk and nurses keep on telling me its okay, your kid is getting enough.we were really worried so we just decided to buy a formula milk while still in the hospital. If i would not have formula fed my son, he could die from starvation and dehydration.Not until after 3 days that i had my milk at very low amount.I think Breastfeeding is not for everyone. Not every mom produces huge amount of milk.Nothing is bad in formula feeding |
| Elizabeth Schafer | Keego Harbor, MI | 2017-03-24 | No baby should starve and no mother should feel baby for feeding her baby! |
| Michelle Barbely | East Islip, NY | 2017-03-24 | My daughter was severely dehydrated in her first three days of life, yet the LC tried to talk me out of pediatrician subscribed supplementing. |
| Nicole Navarro | Plattsburgh, NY | 2017-03-24 | My son was in admitted to the NICU with prolonged jaundice after being encouraged to continue breastfeeding him when I had inadequate supply. |
| Sara Hefner | Monongahela, PA | 2017-03-24 | No mother should be ashamed if formula is needed...our babies depend on us. Fed is best! |
| Jenna Reyna | Bothell, WA | 2017-03-24 | I've experienced nurses and lactation consultants telling my baby was getting enough. Even though my milk hadn't come in, they said colostrum is magic and he only needs a tiny bit. 4 days later, the day after we left hospital he was showing signs of dehydration and |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | was well below the 10% weight loss. He was under 5 lbs. We got him in formula. It was a long and difficult road to get his weight up-pumping, nipple shields and formula feeding by a tube. I was set up for success by my pediatrician, not the nurses and consultants in hospital. That is not right. |
| Amanda Cordar | Gainesville, FL | 2017-03-24 | I'm signing for Ollie. |
| Cherie DeLorme | Brattleboro, VT | 2017-03-24 | I'm signing because of the struggles I had with breastfeeding and the shame I felt supplementing my baby from just a few days old. NO momma should feel bad about FEEDING their baby. |
| Dana Like | La Mesa, CA | 2017-03-24 | I had a same experience with not producing enough milk and feeling guilty and pressured to continue to EBF. This initiative is great and hope it takes a lot of guilt of moms! I was right there with ya! |
| Cara Shelton | Trinity, AL | 2017-03-24 | I am signing this petition because I have witnessed friends and family members with low milk supplies force exclusive breastfeeding upon themselves and their children due to misinformation and the guilt our modern society lays upon women who choose to supplement or exclusively formula feed. I have a 2 week old with severe reflux and an aversion to my anxiety medication, so I chose to stop breastfeeding after 5 days for the physical and mental health of both of us. The guilt and shaming from the EBF community has been relentless, but I stand by my decision and fully support the Fed is Best foundation and its mission, as it helped me find peace in how we feed. |
| LaCresha McCallister | Edwardsville, IL | 2017-03-25 | I'm signing because, I did exclusive breastfeed. But, I never received any information on what to look for if she was not getting enough milk. |
| Ginny Abrey | Monroe, NY | 2017-03-25 | I delivered in a BFHI hospital and the concerns I verbalized about my twins presentation were minimized by multiple healthcare providers; by the time someone finally agreed to check their blood sugar their glucose levels were dangerously low. |
| Melissa Griffin | Stapleton, AL | 2017-03-25 | My son struggled with latching, and I was not able to produce enough milk for him. He cried at every feeding and used his arms to push my breast away. The first 2 weeks of his life were very difficult. I had no idea that his biliruben levels were related to being malnourished. Education and resources for struggling mothers are scarce. I felt alone in my failure and extremely guilty because I couldn't provide for his needs. It was my husband and a friend who'd been through a similar situation that helped me to overcome the guilt and to recognize that the most important thing was to feed him. Once we started formula, he was (and continues to be) one of the happiest babies I've ever known. |
| John Nix | Ashland, VA | 2017-03-25 | I am a baby girl. |
| Cathy Eppinger | Wadsworth, OH | 2017-03-26 | When I had my son at 35 weeks, I was told breast is best. He weighed 4lbs 15oz and couldn't suck, swallow and breathe at the same time. We fed him with a dropper for two days until he was able to fed. He would eat for 10 mins on one side and fall asleep. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | I had to finish pumping both sides. By the time I finished that, he was awake and it started all over again. He was throwing up and unhappy. After 6 weeks, I called the doctor and said what formula do I put him on. They told me the same thing, it really is better to breast feed him. I told them I couldn't do it anymore since all I was doing was pumping and feeding him only for him to throw it up. Once I put him on formula, he stopped throwing up, started gaining weight, slept longer and was much happier. I now know that he was hungry. In this day and age there should be no reason why this should EVER happen! Fed is best!! |
| Megan Rice | Port Orchard, WA | 2017-03-26 | I'm signing because I don't produce enough breast milk so this is very important to me! |
| Mary Beth Potamkin | Whittier, CA | 2017-03-27 | I truly support breastfeeding but think it is wrong to make a mother feel like a failure if it doesn't work out, or if she supplements. Information is powerful and necessary for the mother and the baby! |
| Lauren Sullivan | Mobile, AL | 2017-03-27 | My child's jaundice levels doubled because he was not getting enough milk from me and the hospital made me sign a waiver to supplement. I felt ashamed. |
| Paula Porcoro | Scranton, PA | 2017-03-27 | This needs to stop. |
| Judith Barnes | Newark, DE | 2017-03-27 | I'm signing because I also went through this with my first born. They did finally give me some formula to supplement but only after a tortuous second day of his life and by me pushing for something to be done. |
| Jondra Vance | Lexington, KY | 2017-03-27 | I had a very similar experience with my first born child. |
| Marisa DiBiaso | North Hampton, NH | 2017-03-27 | When my baby was born, he wasn't receiving enough breast milk, had mild jaundice and lost nearly 10% of his birth weight. I felt very unprepared to take him home and as a first time mother who didn't know what options were available beside breastfeeding to keep my baby fed. Fortunately hospital staff determined he wasn't receiving enough milk before we were discharged and set me up with a a prescription for donor breast milk, a rental breast pump, bottles and formula. I was happy to happy to have the means to ensure my baby was fed but struggled with guilt and embarrassment that I couldn't provide enough milk for him. I felt very judged by people who knew I fed my baby formula and would feed him in private when we had visitors so I wouldn't been seen feeding a newborn with a bottle. I believe the current literature on breastfeeding promotes "breast is best" to point of putting babies at risk. Even after being discharged, I met with lactation consultants many times and in the end, my baby was a poor breast fee |
| Amanda Bill | Elkridge, MD | 2017-03-27 | I think the society push on exclusive breastfeeding is outrageous. I felt pushed into breastfeeding, I did so and it was not for me at all. I think letting Mom's know Fed is Best is am incredible movement!! Thank you for existing! I wish I knew about your site 4 years ago with my first! Keep it up!! |
| Angela Haley | Morrice, MI | 2017-03-27 | I refuse to see a baby starve! Exclusive breastfeeding is not for everyone. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| julie stanfield | Gwynn Oak, MD | 2017-03-27 | Fed baby is best. Doctors and nurses and lactation consultant's should stop forcing moms to breast feed babies. I had a set of twins and they were forcing me to breast feed, these were kids 5/6 and i already knew i didnt produce breast milk. Why force me into something i cant do. |
| Diane Rauzi | Dayton, MN | 2017-03-28 | Fed is best needs to be part of the health care for women and infants. |
| Karyn Steele | Hammonds Plains, Canada | 2017-03-28 | Fed is best!!! No child should suffer!! |
| Ma. Suzette Timbreza | Las Piñas, Philippines | 2017-03-28 | I'm signing because I have the same experience and praise God worse thing did not happen. If only people would understand the pressure of being a new mom who have insufficient knowledge of her new journey. They would know that being a mother is already difficult why add more load to it. |
| Diego Etcheto | Brooklyn, NY | 2017-03-28 | My wife and I were pushed into breastfeeding and discouraged from using formula even though our son wasn't getting enough milk. |
| Jessica Kovacs | Pittsburgh, PA | 2017-03-28 | Because I successfully pumped for my son and supplemented with formula in his first days of life. I am disgusted that hospitals are allowing biased and incorrect information to be given to vulnerable, new mothers. Protect babies with evidence-based feeding! |
| Iulia Botnarenc | Auckland, New Zealand | 2017-03-29 | Had a similar experience. Baby lost too much weight. Was told off by midwife for giving baby water over night(he got very dehydrated and we didn't have any formula)Prior to his birth midwife said not to keep formula as 'we will be tempted to use it' and as breast is best it will not be the best think for our baby.Midwives are witches!Sorry, but they nearly killed my child. |
| Ginene Pound | Kansas City, MO | 2017-03-29 | I'm a mother/baby nurse that seen to many exclusive breastfed hungry newborns that excessively cry until they sound hoarse |
| Melani Melnyk | Richmond Hill, Canada | 2017-03-29 | There is too much pressure to breastfeed and it's not always best |
| Andrea Grimes | Penns Grove, NJ | 2017-03-30 | My son had jaundice due to a blood type incompatibility. I knew something was wrong on day 2, but because of the BFHI, no one was allowed to offer us formula when I knew he was hungry, and I was too exhausted and confused to think of asking for it. Once his bili levels got too high, then they gave him formula and he had to go under phototherapy. Thankfully, this was day 3, so it wasn't too long. And, thanfully I had an emergency c section, which kept us in the hospital longer so they werw able to catch this. But it scares me to realize just how close he was to being one of these stories. |
| Vera Zolotaryova | Brooklyn, NY | 2017-03-30 | I had a similar experience at the hospital. Thank god for my pediatrician who immediately gave him formula and probably saved my son from severe injury. |

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| Eugenia Esteban Rodriguez | Zaragoza, Spain | 2017-04-01 | Seguridad de los bebés y no culpabilizar a las madres que dan biberón. |
| Alexandra Bebb | Hornton, England, UK | 2017-04-02 | I had a baby with severe feeding aversion due to allergies and reflux. The NHS were so poor in help and advising. |
| Cara Griesbach | New London, WI | 2017-04-02 | I'm signing this because I love my children and I love breastfeeding, but all women need to know not only the benefits of breastfeeding exclusively but also the dangers. |
| JOSHUA GIL | BAKERSFIELD, CA | 2017-04-03 | I could not successfully breastfeed my first born despite the help from consultants and nurses. I felt horrible but decided supplementing with formula until I could pump was the better option. Currently I have two friends who are struggling with breastfeeding, one who does not realize she's starving her son despite the help I've offered and found for her. I feel this is due to all the exclusive breast feeding that is forced on moms and they feel that is their only option. |
| Silvia Schmidt | Clackamas, OR | 2017-04-04 | RN- SO FRUSTRATED WITH STARVING BABIES, IT SHOULD NOT BE THAT HARD TO FEED THEM. |
| krystal lowrey | Fort Worth, TX | 2017-04-11 | My son is Gtube fed because he refused to eat both breast milk and formula by mouth. I get it. |
| Anne Iacobuzio | Yorktown Heights, NY | 2017-04-12 | I simply did not produce enough milk for my children. Being a new mother is so stressful, why would anyone make her feel like a failure? |
| SL Mims | Heathrow, FL | 2017-04-13 | I'm signing because a birth complication prevented my breastmilk from coming in fully. I was shamed, and no person should have to go through that. Fed is 100 percent best. |
| Samantha Spaulding | Wadsworth, OH | 2017-04-15 | I'm signing this because this has got to stop. It is never ok to starve a child. Period. |
| Judi Smith | Beverly Hills, MI | 2017-04-16 | When my son was born 6 years ago, I was convinced I would breastfeed exclusively for at least the first 3-6 months of his life. After all, you couldn't go anywhere without seeing "Breast is Best" and as a new mom, who doesn't want the best for their child. My son was hungry most of the time, so I just kept feeding him. He was not gaining as much weight as he should have been, but the pediatrician wanted me to keep trying harder to breastfeed and feed him more. I met with the lactation consultant again and was put on a rigorous pumping routine. I was staying off of my acid reflux medicine, and was suffering for it, because I wanted to do what I thought was best for my son. No matter what I did, I still was not producing enough milk. I was crying and anxious all of the time because I felt like a failure as a mom, and that I wasn't able to do what we had been told so many times was best for our son. My husband finally stepped in when our son was 4 weeks old and said we were going to start him on formula, j |

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| Brianna Chase | Rogers, AR | 2017-04-18 | The hospital tried to talk me out of giving my son formula when he wasn't getting enough to eat and was dropping weight fast. I've never heard a baby's belly growl before |
| Lorraine Ware | Newport, Wales; Cymru, UK | 2017-04-18 | The World Health Organisation needs to revise its stance on exclusive breastfeeding and listen to the experiences of mothers and more open-minded medics. |
| Renee Poutrain | Patton, PA | 2017-04-18 | I am signing this petition because no infant should die from a hospital that never informed a mother that this brain injury can be helped by feeding an infant more breast milk there should be more education on breast feeding. There should be classes given before a mother leaves the hospital because no mother should have to bury her infant son. I also have a grandson named Landon. Please know that this family is in my prayers. |
| Christian Ferrera | Netherlands | 2017-04-20 | 'Breast is best' has become dogmatic, tyrannical and serving wrong goals (vanity, arrogance) with moms and infants being the victims. This must stop. |
| Robin Llewellyn | Seattle, WA | 2017-04-21 | I am tired of women and babies being hurt because of the misinformed natural child birth movement and Lactivism. The refusal of intelligent people, most who claim to support science, to keep pushing this breast milk agenda to the detriment of many babies and mothers must stop; and the bias in the media to only support "breast is best" also needs to end. I want the bullying of women into breast feeding no matter what to end. It is not fact based no matter how much "they" say it is. |
| Mattie Burrell | Virginia Beach, VA | 2017-04-22 | I'm signing because I strongly believe in this organization. A fed baby is the best baby. |
| Amber Arntz | Stevens Point, WI | 2017-04-28 | A fed baby is the most logical thing I have ever heard. |
| Janet Davis | Syracuse, NY | 2017-04-29 | I am a retired RN from a BFHI institution. As nurses, particularly those who worked night shift, we witnessed the same scenario over and over and over again ... babies crying inconsolably, plastered to mom's chest pretty much all night, exhausted moms in tears. It was against hospital policy for nurses to offer supplementation to new moms, and in fact we had to document what we had done to dissuade those moms who were asking to supplement, as well as obtain a "doctor's order" to carry out mom's request. A 10% weight loss was not uncommon. If and when the babies were supplemented, it sounded like the formula was "hitting bottom" as they drank ravenously. Sometimes, only one supplement was all it took to settle the baby down and get some much-needed rest for mom, and in the morning she would be more relaxed, the baby would be calmer and not so frantic, and usually the dyad would continue to breastfeed successfully. My own granddaughter was born prematurely, and being in the NICU she was not held to the s |
| Mark Patrick | Buffalo, MN | 2017-05-03 | This happened to our son without any advice from the hospital when we went home. We returned to the hospital 4 days later after hours of inconsolable crying to learn that he wasn't receiving enough breastmilk, and had lost over 10% of his weight. I wish we were told about this risk, and about supplementing formula earlier. |

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| | | | There was too much emphasis on breastfeeding as the only way to feed our son. We're lucky that he recovered quickly and is doing fine now. |
| Mariane Spenser R.N. | Lockeford, CA | 2017-05-05 | I currently am employed in a "baby friendly" hospital. How is feeding a hungry baby not friendly? How is a woman who is old enough to be a mother not the best judge of how her baby should be fed? Maybe there should be a "mommy-baby"friendly policy/attitude to support a woman's choice-to go with all the other choices moms are allowed from conception to birth. So frustrating to work with humans under such restrictive policies. |
| Janet Davis | Syracuse, NY | 2017-05-05 | Totally agree. I recently retired from a BFHI hospital also. Exactly what we always said. We would not only have to document what we had done to persuade the mom against the requested supplement, but obtain an MD order. Forced rooming in, babies screaming much of the night and plastered to mom's chest, moms in tears from exhaustion ... not friendly for babies or new mommies. |
| Mariane Spenser R.N. | Lockeford, CA | 2017-05-05 | Thank you.Being required "by policy" to provide that care is so counterintuitive and can make you want to scream. To all who do not work under these policies- a nurse can be fired for not following them- and we have families to support also. Keep in mind "baby friendly" is the only policy you can provide care under in many parts of CA. |
| Lizz Anderson | Fort Worth, TX | 2017-05-07 | I am a first time expecting mother due in November and I want my baby to be healthy in all aspects |
| Scott Park | Bellefonte, PA | 2017-05-09 | My wife has insufficient glandular tissue and has often felt guilt for needing to primarily feed with formula supplementing as possible with breast. |
| Kandi Ormand | Canadian, TX | 2017-05-09 | My son cried all the time and was on my breast all the time and never slept and my husbands aunt gave him formula at 6 weeks old and he slept and didn't cry and I never breast fed again . Everything I read said I make as much as the baby needs and if I had kept trying to breast feed my son may not have lived I just didn't make enough ! |
| Judy Redmond | Havertown, PA | 2017-05-09 | I am signing because I went through a very similar situation. I delivered my first, a very healthy 6lb 8oz boy. I started breadt feeding right away after delivery. I met with the lactation specialist in the hospital and two days later we thought all was great and were discharged. Unfortunately, this was not the case. After being home only 6 hours he started to become very fussy and crying constantly. He fed on demand and was on my breast most of the night and the following morning. He cried through most of the night and the next morning. We had a lactation specialist come to our home in hopes she could direct us and get us in track. I began to pump and was barely producing any milk. Our son was becoming increasingly unresponsive as the specialist suggested we try to finger feed him the little breast milk that I had produced. While the specialist was working with me to pump, unknown to me... my Mom was downstairs with our son , feeding him bottles of formula (which was discouraged by the lactation s |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Shelly Flaten-Moore | Hartland, WI | 2017-05-09 | With my first born son, I was told to only breastfeed him for his best interests. Even though it was known that I had an endocrine disorder, PCOS, etc I was told I'd have more than enough milk to feed my son. He soon developed jaundice and was seeing a doctor every day, wrapped in the blue light blanket and at the breast every half hour, crying all the time. One early morning, while watching my son and I both crying, my husband said 'That's enough and fed him one of the sample bottles if formula we received in the mail. He ate two sample bottles in 10 minutes, and fell asleep for 4 straight hours....which had never happened before. From that point on I pumped and bottle fed to see how much breast milk he was drinking and realized he was only getting 2 oz at a time. The lactation consultant said that should be enough, but it wasn't. We supplemented with formula until my milk dried up within 3 months and fed solely formula from then on. His jaundice cleared, he ate 4-6 ounces at each meal and slept for 3-4 hour |
| Jessica Bugg | Marysville, OH | 2017-05-09 | I had a very similar situation. After taking breast feeding classes, exclusively breastfeeding my son, and meeting with lactation consultants on multiple occasions; I found out at month old my son was diagnosed with failure to thrive due to lack of breast milk, even though I was feeding him nonstop with proper latch - I experienced how easy it is to accidentally starve a child. We need to educate on the signs of inadequate breastfeeding and safe breastfeeding! |
| Melissa Fournier | Merrimac, MA | 2017-05-09 | I struggled to breast feed my twins and was made to feel inadequate and like a quitter by the hospitals lactation consultant who did not want me to feed my twins formula. |
| shawnd jarvis | alexandria, IN | 2017-05-09 | having my fifth pregnancy now. Hate being lied to (again) about what is best for the children i am bringing into world! none of mine could breastfeed not enough milk. even my husband tells me 'all women are the same. your milk just comes automatically put them up there and be fed. no worries hes still crying and hungry all women are the same. theres nothing you have to do to make your milk come in. it just does. and hes the expert bc his grandma had 12 and his moma had 6. and this is his 8th. tired of all the ignorance. |
| Jamie Lynne | Nashville, TN | 2017-05-09 | i think that we need to be as informed as possible. We tend to take medical professionals at their word even when our God given instincts are screaming at us that they are wrong. We need to be our own advocates. Do our own research. |
| Dawn smith | Boulder Creek, CA | 2017-05-09 | I hope to see all hospitals adopt Fed is Best policies. |
| Ava Lyons | Ainslie, Australia | 2017-05-09 | Babies need to be fed. That is our first priority as parents. |
| Jessica Tankard | Australia | 2017-05-09 | If I didn't supplement with formula with my daughter when she was a newborn I am very certain should've become gravely ill.I was told not to supplement with formula until I saw my midwives this didnt happen and I did what was best for my daughter at the time.She is Now a healthy 15.5 month old formula fed toddler. |
| Ashley Sanders | jacksonville beach, FL | 2017-05-10 | There is very little difference between formula and breastfeeding. That is a scientific fact not pseudoscience. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Lynnea Allen | Minneapolis, MN | 2017-05-10 | I believe that fed is best - I EBF all my children but my milk came in late. Thankfully, my doctors told me to use formula and I trusted them. My babies were unharmed, but some aren't so lucky and I want to be a voice for those newborns. |
| Sarah Smith | Brisbane, Australia | 2017-05-10 | As a mother of 4 and "failed" breast feeder. I can fully relate to the judgement when switching to formula. Only with my 4th baby did i produce enough, but due to some issues i can't physically breast feed, and express fed, Which i even got judgement for that. FED is best. Whether its exclusive breast fed, mixed feeding, or formula. Happy healthy Mother and Baby is the only thing that should matter. Normalize FEEDING, bottle or breast, there is no shame in either. And more professional's out there need to take that approach. |
| Cory Gonzalez | Stockholm, Sweden | 2017-05-10 | This is more than necessary! |
| Matty Riddell | Australia | 2017-05-10 | My wife has a low supply of breastmilk and always feels guilty to give our newborn formula (although she does) because of the associated stigma and pressure from society. |
| Anne Bransdon | Australia | 2017-05-10 | 48 years ago my mum thought she was doing everything right. I did not settle. She walked in the pouring rain to the Dr surgery. When the rain got too heavy she took shelter in a stranger's carpark.. he told her to get out. When she finally got to GP it was revealed that I was starving (through no negligence) .. bottle #... then my sister came... hospital staff were all over it. Mum breastfed in hospital but the staff were all over Mum's need for support..Was ack |
| Hannah Blackburn | Noosaville, Australia | 2017-05-10 | I believe that mothers need to relax and feel ok with feeding their way... in any way shape or form... |
| Frank Tavenner | Everett, WA | 2017-05-10 | My daughter is breast feeding her new infant and has been very frustrated by the experience. |
| Lacy Garrison | Sand Springs, OK | 2017-05-10 | I am a nursery nurse and I often see mother's bullied because of their feeding choice and that needs to STOP! |
| Jassmin Peter-Berntzen | Singapore, Singapore | 2017-05-10 | This almost happened to my own baby |
| Amanda Mansfield | Athens, OH | 2017-05-10 | I'm signing because when I asked my lactation consultant while I was still pregnant what the odds were I wouldn't be able to breastfeed, she told me that the odds were slim to none. Had my son not been rushed to the NICU after birth for other health reasons, I would have accidentally starved him as well since my milk never did come in. I had no idea that it's actually a common issue. |
| Kristi Ender | Devers, TX | 2017-05-10 | NICU nurse, I #% support fed is best ! |
| Kassandra Fisher OTR/L | Saint Clair Shores, MI | 2017-05-10 | I recently had an infant who failed at breast feeding resulting in an 8% weight loss in two days...I received very little support from the baby friendly hospital as I struggled to feed by crying baby who rarely slept the first two days from birth. My baby's pediatrician was the first medical professional who told me that it was OK to |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | fail at breastfeeding. We immediately started formula and my baby is happy and thriving. I feel I got lucky with a supportive pediatrician, as a first time mom you take professional advice and encouragement so seriously I think hospitals need to become more mom friendly and supportive of formula when breast feeding does not work for everyone. |
| Heather Shelton | Houston, TX | 2017-05-11 | Our newborn son came close to starvation in the hospital complete with jaundice. |
| Rebecca larsen | Ogden, UT | 2017-05-11 | My 6th baby was still very lethargic the second day of her life. Too sleepy to eat, she tired quickly and was-in my opinion-- (I'd already successfully breastfed 5 other children) too hungry and weak to try to nurse. Even after all the breastfeeding tricks to wake her, she immediately fell back asleep once in position. I requested a bottle of formula, but had to listen to two nurses (I'm already a nurse) lecture about the dangers of nipple confusion and the lack of nipple stimulation being detrimental to my breastfeeding success. I had to sign two forms, and then-- ah! She voraciously ate! Two ounces later, she was satisfied. And our breastfeeding routine was continued with MUCH better success, because she wasn't too weak to nurse. |
| D Dee | New York, NY | 2017-05-11 | The push to exclusively breast feed is very very dangerous and harmful and is causing babies brain damage and to die and needless suffering . Have you ever been hungry for more than 5 minutes ? Try see how it feels like to have no food no water for 24 hours , 48 hours ... then you will feel the suffering of these babies and expensive unnecessary hospitalizations . Humans are social creatures , they are not hard wired to starve until milk comes in, and likely had wet nurses or other moms nurse baby until it was possible . The Baby Friendly Initiative is misguided and very harmful really is ready for a bunch of lawsuits waiting to happen. It's the equivalent of malpractice. Have a heart, stop pushing breastfeeding . Start encouraging babies to be adequately fed and sleep well. Breast is optional. Fed is best. We have clean water here in the developed world , and high quality formula .why not use it? I wouldn't be surprised if autism is linked to brain damage related to refusing to supplement a baby with formula |
| D Dee | New York, NY | 2017-05-11 | Horrible ! I read about these crazy policies and what a lot of maternity nurses truly think of them. Hospitals receive funding (I wonder how much funding it is .. people bow down to the dollar, regardless of if it's ethical or not) so quiver in their boots if they will lose bonus funding for not following the " baby friendly " baby malpractice policy |
| Patsy Wagoner | Woodland Hills, CA | 2017-05-12 | I believe that Fed is Best....whatever it takes to make sure your baby is fed.....if you insist on breastfeeding make sure to mea sure what baby is getting...especially when they are constantly on the beast and not satisfied. |
| Ila Lepere | Beaumont, CA | 2017-05-12 | It is important that no baby starves to death. |
| Jackie Wright | San Luis Obispo, CA | 2017-05-12 | I'm signing because my best friend's child will now suffer lifelong disability because the hospital where he was born pushed |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | breastfeeding over basic needs. All of his medical conditions are directly related to this preventable issue. I'm signing because I am pregnant with my first child and I don't want this to happen to anyone else. Ever. |
| Deanne Parsons | Shippensburg, PA | 2017-05-12 | It is necessary |
| Deanne Parsons | Shippensburg, PA | 2017-05-12 | I do not understand why newborn care has changed so much since I was trained as an RN and had my own babies in the 1980's. All newborns were offered a bottle of sugar water to prevent dehydration and supplemented with formula. I did not have "rooming-in" as is now customary. Baby was brought to me every 4 hours at night and more often during the day. I was lucky to have hospital stays of 48-72 hours. New mothers need lots of rest and why the "village" is so necessary. Grandmothers, sisters or any other women in the same town stayed with the new Mom's and assisted in newborn care for the first weeks. It takes days/weeks for Mom's milk supply to fully "come-in" and Moms' have to sometimes nurse often; feels like non-stop. Unless you have your own personal Lac consultant living with you breastfeeding can be challenging without all the pressures associated with breast-is-best. FED IS BEST!!! |
| margaret arnett | Washington, DC | 2017-05-13 | I'm signing because I am a mother who breastfed my child, and I have a dear friend who experienced this tragedy. My hearts breaks reading this article. Our message to moms has to change #fedisbest |
| Diane Blais | Raleigh, NC | 2017-05-13 | I am signing this petition to help future parents from having this happen to them. |
| Colleen Kelly | Providence, RI | 2017-05-13 | I experienced this with my twins but thank god my father in law was a pediatrician and made me break down and supplement with formula. I shudder to thinnnof what could have been. |
| Marisa Van poznak | East Greenwich, RI | 2017-05-13 | Not all mothers produce enough breast milk. But current hospital practices strongly discourage women from supplementing. I had gestational diabetes, therefore my daughter's blood glucose was checked post partum. When her blood glucose measured 41 I asked for some formula. I was told to put her to breast, even though I had no milk yet a small amt of colostrum would be enough to increase her blood glucose. I am an MD and aware of the effects of hypoglycemia, so I insisted on giving her some formula. |
| Rita Nzere | Abuja, Nigeria | 2017-05-13 | I'm a mother and the knowledge I got from fed is best helped me to overcome the constant chastisement of not doing exclusive breastfeeding with my twins, instead I opted out for fed is best. I prefer to get my babies fed rather than go with a trend. |
| Myra Reisman | North Babylon, NY | 2017-05-13 | Women need to be freed from the harmful hypnotiuc trance they are in due to the breastfeeding fanatics. How can anyone say that starving a baby is better than feeding with formula. |
| Lisa Kress | Madison, AL | 2017-05-13 | My heart breaks for Christie- when my son was born I tried to breastfeed but my instinct was that he wasn't getting any food. He would sleep for very short periods of time; the hospital sent the lactation specialist in many times in the 2 days after my c section and she was very much of the opinion that I should just keep trying |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | and not supplement. The day we were discharged, my husband and I had a long talk and then asked for the formula samples; our request was honored but I am not sure it was respected. I never want anyone to feel that the choice that they make for their baby is wrong; a mother's instinct is usually correct. |
| Jackie Picazo | Walnut Creek, CA | 2017-05-15 | I was bullied into breastfeeding by my hospital after I expressed interest in bottle feeding when I was unable to keep up the high demands of breastfeeding exclusively. |
| Dana Jacobson | De Pere, WI | 2017-05-19 | I am a mother who had insufficient breast milk supply. My son's life depended on formula supplementation. This is very real. |
| Karen Florey | Brownwood,, TX | 2017-05-19 | Progress is not always for the good |
| Brie MacDonald | Winchester, VA | 2017-05-21 | I'm signing because I was starving my 4 day old son! I was told he was cluster feeding and it was normal! Even though those cluster feedings lasted for hours! I asked many questions including is he getting enough and I just kept being told to keep him on the breast. Did I mention from the time I entered Labor & Delivery to Mother/Baby to leaving the hospital I was constantly surrounded by signs that read, "Breast is Best". I was constantly being asked how I was feeding my child and they wrote it on boards for all to see. That when I said I did not know, I would like to try breastfeeding, I got a 10 minute lecture on not to use the word "try" in front of breastfeeding because then I truly won't ever try. That breastfeeding is what I need to do for at least two weeks, that I need to stay strong and not give up when it gets hard, and that truly there is nothing compared to breastfeeding/bonding with my son! Why, because "Breast was Best" and it would all work out in the end. Except it did not work out with "Br |
| Donna Rabon | High Point, NC | 2017-05-21 | I am signing simply to give infants another voice to hear |
| Marlene Hunsicker McClain | Frisco, TX | 2017-05-21 | My first born could have suffered the brain injury had I not listened to my instincts and began supplementing with formula. My son was obviously hungry and unsatisfied with breast only. Soon after, I was diagnosed with insufficient milk supply and began a regimen of breast feeding, supplementing and pumping. My son thrived. However, I was shaken by the fact that my son was unnecessarily hungry for almost a week and half because I had bought into the breast only mantra that has been forced upon new mothers. |
| Heather Baker | Columbia, NJ | 2017-05-21 | I'm a peds NP and thought I knew what to do with exclusive breast feeding. Luckily my husband couldn't take both of our crying the first night home and supplemented him and I realized this way sooner without complications. I continued to breast and bottle for 9 months until my son gave up the breast himself. I still spent months feeling guilty for never having enough milk and not pumping a large volume. I wish I could have that time back to just enjoy my days home with my son. I don't want to see any of my patients and moms go through that pain or have true medical emergencies. |
| Allison Blair | Greensboro, NC | 2017-05-21 | Both of my children suffered from accidental starvation due to misinformation received from BFHI hospitals and organizations |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Sarah Hunter | Easthampton, MA | 2017-05-21 | My son was readmitted to the hospital after failing to rouse for over 24 hours. It was terrifying for our family. Luckily we were able to supplement with formula and he is now a happy, thriving toddler. But I hate to imagine what would have happened if we had waited. The hospitalization also cost us \$1000 even with our health insurance and drove us further into debt. The stress and danger could have easily been prevented with better information about how to effectively supplement with formula in the first few days. Our next baby will be supplemented from the very beginning. |
| Suzanne Russo | Hamburg, NY | 2017-05-22 | Because as a neonatal nurse and mother baby nurse and former IBCLC I believe that as professionals we should be able to use our nursing judgement and supplement infants while in the hospital without the Health Dept. or hospital administration make you go through hoops. I believe we need to educate parents when they need to supplement without making them feel guilty. |
| Maisie Alcid | Burnaby, Canada | 2017-05-22 | I had every intention of breastfeeding my child. The day I realized that I couldn't (after consulting with a breastfeeding specialist) was the hardest day of my life. I am forever thankful that the hospital I gave birth at allowed us to give formula to my baby or he wouldn't be a healthy, thriving 2 year old now. While I believe breast is best, I also believe that there shouldn't be any shaming or stigma involved in formula feeding. A fed baby is really all that should matter. |
| Matthew Graybeal | El Paso, TX | 2017-05-22 | I have had this experience and I fought to breastfeed and asked for so much help but never got help to learn. My daughter was taken by CPS bc the doctor said she didn't gain enough in the first month when he told me she needed formula before we left the hospital. I got her home and just wish I didn't fight it. |
| Lauren Corke | Alden, NY | 2017-05-22 | My son was accidentally starved as well. We need change ! |
| Tiffiney Peoples | Pineville, LA | 2017-05-22 | A live baby is the best baby |
| Carol Martin | Fort Worth, TX | 2017-05-22 | I whole heartedly believe that all feeding options should be presented to the mother. No if, ands, or buts about it. I believe that obgyns should offer a booklet to those whom they plan to deliver so that the mother can make an informed choice before the baby is born and be prepared and make sure their infant is not going hungry. |
| Carol Martin | Fort Worth, TX | 2017-05-22 | I whole heartedly believe that all feeding options should be presented to the mother. No if, ands, or buts about it. I believe that obgyns should offer a booklet to those whom they plan to deliver so that the mother can make an informed choice before the baby is born and be prepared and make sure their infant is not going hungry. |
| Gloria Suggs | Columbia, SC | 2017-05-22 | It DOES NOT matter how a baby is fed, only that they are. |
| Justine Tatum | Palm Harbor, FL | 2017-05-23 | I feel women need prayer because some have complications with insufficient breast milk. |
| Brittany Pruitt | Kinder, LA | 2017-05-23 | I'm signing because I have a son who I did not produce enough milk for and had no milk come in until after we were out of the hospital |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | but thanks to formula he's healthy, happy, and he just made one! Breast isn't always best. A fed baby is a happy baby. |
| jessica grigg | Alvin, TX | 2017-05-24 | Two days after my daughter was born she was inconsolable because she was starving. My milk had not come in and I just did not understand that she was starving. I broke down and called in the nurse asking for her help and she explained that my daughter was starving and I would need to supplement. Thankfully she was fully supportive and explained the situation. I was fortunate enough to have a team, pediatrician included, that fully supported my supplementation and eventual decision to fully formula feed. My milk never came in and I always felt guilty for that but reading through your website and the information you offer has helped me come to terms with the decision. Fed is always best regardless of format. |
| Rebecca Reilly | UK | 2017-05-25 | Because breast is amazing and I fully agree with giving it a go, but feeding a hungry baby anyway necessary is essential |
| Diane White | Saratoga Springs, NY | 2017-05-25 | Babies should never be denied nourishment. |
| Christina Kuhn | Newport News, VA | 2017-05-28 | I have two children. My oldest was exclusively formula fed because she was adopted and I did not breastfeed her. I'm so thankful I had the experience of an exclusively formula fed child because I had the opportunity to learn that formula would provide excellent nourishment for her and help her thrive and grow well in her first year of life. I became pregnant with my son a few years later. I was told in the childbirth class, hospital tour, and breastfeeding class that formula feeding was "bad" and that "breast is best." I was also told that no formula would be given while in the hospital. Well, I was already on the fence about breastfeeding (and only wanted to give it a try), so I made sure to pack some "forbidden" formula JUST IN CASE breastfeeding didn't work out. I also, THANKFULLY, knew from my experiences with my daughter that a FED baby will not cry and cry for hours on end. My son started out doing well, or so it seemed, with breastfeeding, but when I realized he'd lost about 7 oz in his FIRST DAY |
| Laura Milo | St. Petersburg, FL | 2017-05-28 | I too am an RN in a "baby friendly hospital" I don't know who came up with these policies, but none of us who actually care for these moms and babies, think they are sensible or safe. In nursing school we were taught that care should be individualized for each patient, yet these policies are one size fits all. There is no flexibility for each patient's special conditions and needs. |
| Suzanne Yang | San Diego, CA | 2017-05-28 | I am a NICU RN who has seen too many dehydrated, malnourished, and brain damaged babies come through my unit since the "baby - friendly" initiative. It is breastfeeding friendly, but it is NOT baby friendly. |
| Marilyn Musick | Waterford, MI | 2017-06-02 | Newborn's who are breastfed need to be closely monitored for dehydration. Today's diapers can make that a difficult task. Hard to measure urine output. My third baby got dehydrated and had to be supplemented with formula for a short time. After that she was fine. Please monitor your breastfed babies. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Tami Begleu | Sunnyvale, CA | 2017-06-03 | I am signing this because my son is having his 3 month old daughter with held from him to do breastfeeding. He has had 2 hour visitations one day a week, with the mother being present to feed if necessary. She make sure it is necessary. He does not get the extra 20 to 30 minutes that was taken from him for feeding time. |
| Robert Mason | Baltimore, MD | 2017-06-04 | I'm signing because I'm a pediatrician who had their baby lose 8.5% of body weight in the first 24 hours of life by being told breast feeding was going how it was supposed to. I took matters into my own hands and demanded a bottle with formula at a baby friendly hospital which did not agree with what I knew was best. |
| Andrea Engelmeyer | Newburgh, IN | 2017-06-05 | No baby should starve to death, especially under the care and with guidance from medical professionals. Breastfeeding has become more of a "Cause" , generating too many emotions & blind convictions and has reached the madness level where healthcare providers are so obsessed with nursing that they're ignoring obvious signs of a baby's severe distress to the extreme. It's a known fact that not every mother can breastfeed and its reckless to ignore this in the name of "breast is best". I'm advocating for "thrive & alive" which supports sustenance, regardless of what feeding method is used. |
| Emily Sparnicht | Temple City, CA | 2017-06-06 | I struggled with breastfeeding. I had an inverted nipple and was sent home with a pump and little information about how to properly pump and feed to sustain a healthy milk supply. The lactation consultant that visited our hospital room told me that we weren't breastfeeding correctly and I immediately felt crushed. My supply did end up coming in, but the pressure of pumping and trying to stay ahead of feedings, continuing to attempt to breastfeed to maintain my supply, ultimately led to the diminish of my supply. I had postpartum anxiety and I truly believe it stemmed from the pressure of upholding the exclusive breastfeeding expectation. The first full day we were at home with my son, he constantly cried and I could not find a position that he liked, he refused to latch, and I was only able to pump 1 ounce. (I later learned how to properly use the pump from my sister-in-law). I broke down and told my husband that we had to get formula. As soon as we gave my son formula, he was consoled and napped for the firs |
| Patrice Pniewski | Alpharetta, GA | 2017-06-06 | I'm a mother, RN and grandmother. I don't think new Moms are aware of this potential risk and the devastating results. Heartbreaking! |
| Andrew Brown | Baltimore, MD | 2017-06-06 | My son was not getting enough nutrition the first week of his life on exclusive breastfeeding (as recommended by lactation experts). |
| Catherine McCumstie | Australia | 2017-06-07 | Our daughter suffered unnecessary dehydration and hunger due to lack of information given to us on how to breastfeed, pump and formula feed. I was discharged with a threat hanging over my head to make it work otherwise my daughter would have to go on formula and I wouldn't want that would I? Back then I trusted what I was told from these nurses and midwives, and the idea of formula was the end of the world for me. A sign of absolute failure, and a way to break any bond I may have had with my daughter and a way to destroy her health. So despite my jeopardised ment health, |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | I breastfed her with great difficulty for 7 weeks, then I exclusively pumped for her for 6months until my second pregnancy changed my supply and we successfully transitioned her to formula. My daughter's first night home was incredibly unsettled and by the time the visiting nurse weighed her first thing in the morning, we found out it was because she was hungry. She had lost 10% of her body weight that night, and she had jaundice. Thank |
| Phoebe Botros | Milwaukee, WI | 2017-06-09 | I'm signing because we need to change the "breast is best" slogan, as it is very subjective and not all encompassing. Please stop putting newborn babies in danger. |
| Rebecca Mikasa | Australia | 2017-06-09 | I am a new mother and FED IS BEST! |
| Elizabeth Gomez | Mission Viejo, CA | 2017-06-09 | My friend lost her newborn after 4 days of insufficient breast milk. All four of my kids had both breast milk and formula |
| Sarah Reifeis | Parker, CO | 2017-06-12 | Breastfeeding isn't always the best. Whether it's because of production or mental sanity of Mom. Feeding your baby is best ... Period. |
| Nicole mueller | Fort Lauderdale, FL | 2017-06-12 | RN |
| Pamela Killen | Supply, NC | 2017-06-12 | I work as a L&D nurse at a hospital that is going "Baby Friendly". We were forced to complete a 15 hour long course online and 5 hours in class in order to help in the efforts to do so. The majority of my coworkers disagree with what is being asked of us to do since it goes against feeding formula to hungry babies. I want to do my part in putting a stop to this ridiculous new concept of how nurses should teach now that the "Baby Friendly" status has come on the scene. |
| Laci Soqui | McKinney, TX | 2017-06-12 | I'm signing because my son has a genetic disorder that required he ate every 2-3 hours as a newborn. We didn't find out about his disorder till week 2. I am so lucky that he survived those first few days as my milk supply was building up. I wish I were informed of the risks of exclusively breastfeeding, especially those first few days. |
| Jam Sherlaine Abubakar | Makati, Philippines | 2017-06-12 | I'm an expectant mother and I want my baby to be as healthy as he can be. |
| Jamie Kennedy | Spearfish, SD | 2017-06-15 | I am signing because I care. |
| Sarita Bunnell | Vista, CA | 2017-06-15 | I am signing this petition because I have witnessed and cared for too many infants in the NICU suffering from starvation, dehydration, severe hyperbilirubinemia. I witnessed my own daughter being berated by lactation consultants for asking for a bottle to supplement until her milk came in. My daughter in law was also discouraged from giving a bottle when she had NO milk supply - I literally cried and begged her to supplement my grandson as I educated her and my son for 3 days on the dangers of starvation - by the time they supplemented him, he was lethargic, no longer able to wake himself up to cue to feed, and the jaundice was showing in his face. They were amazed by the difference in his behaviors and how much he actually took from the bottle within two feedings. The breast is best bullying, shaming, berating, and |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | scare tactics of parents MUST stop before we have a generation of infantile deaths due to starvation and mental disabilities due to hyperbilirubinemia all in the name of breastfeeding only! |
| Beatrice Pan | Auckland, New Zealand | 2017-06-16 | I'm signing because I don't want any baby to starve during his first few days of life like my son did because of the pressure of "Breast is Best" given to us. He ended up at the hospital on day 3 of his life as i didn't produce any breastmilk. He was diagnosed with Hypoglycaemia and was so dehydrated that he had to be on tube for 4 days. No babies should be in this condition.All mothers should be informed of the consequences and the risks. We did not have this information. I had my first daughter 7 years ago, and still there are no information about the danger. I wish I had given the bottle. I regret and I feel so guilty. |
| Lu Huang | Sunnyvale, CA | 2017-06-16 | I suffered this similar problem. As a first time mother, I was told by the nurses and doctors that I should not let my baby drink more than 8 ml of formula each time during the first few days. My daughter was crying all night, which turned out to be just starving. |
| Ronnie Welch | Pleasant Hill, CA | 2017-06-19 | I am a NICU nurse. I deal with the pressures of MANDATORY "Baby-Friendly" breast feeding daily. I have seen the damage that pushing breast feeding has on both the baby and the mother. The Baby Friendly program is all propaganda and, mostly, false propaganda (Thanks WHO). Basically, the medical community is currently basing their feeding guidelines on a program that is supported by an organisation that also said we had nothing to worry about with Zika. WHO is battling 1000 with babies. |
| Olha Hoy | Greenville, SC | 2017-06-21 | My child went hungry for the first 24 hrs of his life due to unnecessary push for exclusive breastfeeding |
| SusAnne Brewer | Richton, MS | 2017-06-26 | I am supporting this campaign because I have seen the detriment to these newborns first hand. I am a seasoned NICU nurse, and while I advocate for a mother to breastfeed, I believe that it is an injustice to the baby to withhold any sort of supplement until mom's milk comes in. More breastfed babies are readmitted to the hospital for extreme jaundice, and failure to thrive. I do not believe that it is the decision of any hospital or organization to force breastfeeding upon ANY mother, nor make her feel guilty for not breastfeeding her baby. There is a reason why that baby is crying their heads off for the first 3-5 days of life!! Every mother does not have their milk let down at the same time, so how on earth can any organization put guidelines on when a mother should or should not feed their babies. These baby friendly facilities are fine, but allow for a formula fed baby to be born there to. I also feel that it should be illegal for any insurance company to withdraw services or payments to a facility |
| Carey J | Grayling, MI | 2017-06-26 | I'm signing because there is far too much pressure on moms to breastfeed. Do what is best for you and your child without guilt. Supporting all mommas. |
| Christie del Castillo-Hegyi, M.D. | Little Rock, AR | 2017-06-30 | Elizabeth, oh my God. I am so sorry. I am so heart-broken. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Sandra Vanegas | Newark, DE | 2017-07-03 | I'm a Nicu nurse And more importantly my son was only breast fed for 5 long days by the 5 th one he became yellow with low urine output supplementing with formula Thank You Mom allowed us to become better at breastfeeding and stay healthy |
| Margo Haeussner | Palm Harbor, FL | 2017-07-07 | Hi. I am not an RN. I breast fed my 2 daughters, one for 11 months and the other for 9 months in conjunction with formula. The "propaganda" from almost all the reading material I found on breastfeeding stated over and over again not give a bottle/ formula to your baby because they will experience "nipple confusion" and never want to go back to the breast. This is a fallacy. I always used the breast first when I could and then the bottle and let them drink as much as they wanted afterward of the formula if they were still hungry. There were absolutely no problems with either one rejecting the breast after being exposed to the bottle. Breast feeding is not easy and takes much focus! This is also what the books don't tell you. We are making nervous wrecks out of these poor mothers who are being berated by the modern literature on this topic as well as their peers who, of course, have read the same literature. I felt the same pressure, only took the advice of some of the older women in my family, but not everyon |
| Anne Leedham | Sutton, England, UK | 2017-07-10 | I've not had children but suspect I'd have become so over-anxious and agitated if I'd struggled to breastfeed that my very pro-breastfeeding mother would have insisted I stopped. And I'd have felt that if she said it was OK to quit, then it was. New mothers and their close relatives need to be encouraged to collude and pull rank against over-zealous professionals and their dangerous pressure. This exclusive breastfeeding business has become like a very dangerous and fanatical religion for the modern age. |
| Nicole Giantomaso | Phialdelphia, PA | 2017-07-11 | I'm signing because I gave birth to twin girls at a baby-friendly hospital and they were very clearly hungry (jaundice, cluster feeding, chapped lips, constant crying) at our day 2 check-up. My pediatrician would not recommend formula. I drove straight from that appointment to the store, bought formula and fed my girls. Even with the introduction of a bottle of formula, I was still able to successfully breastfeed the twins for 14 months, with a daily formula bottle to supplement. They are 3 years old now - smart, beautiful girls. If I had listened to that doctor, who knows what would have happened. |
| monica gjesdal | Billings, MT | 2017-07-16 | Im signing because Fed is best. |
| Jessica Hill | Pawtucket, RI | 2017-07-19 | I am a mom to two healthy little boys! This information is important to know and we aren't given it as readily as "breast is best". |
| Vanessa Salinas | Humble, TX | 2017-07-19 | My son had the same issue. He would not wake for feeding and i constantly would tell the nurses. Their solution was to have the lactation consultant come in and help me. Four trips to my room from the lactation counselor and 8 -9 hours later, his night nurse finally decided to test his blood glucose level and it was at a 22, when she stated it should be in the 50's at least. He was then sent to the NICU for monitoring where they fed him by bottle bor 6 hours to ensure his sugar levels would stabalize. No ody would listen to me |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | that he needed a bottle until his night nurse came. He also was very jaundice and i too suffer from PCOS. |
| Mary Tiso | Baltimore, MD | 2017-07-20 | All babies and Moms are different and have different needs. Let's honor and respect that - and not make another Mom have to live the nightmare of finding out they have underfed their baby. |
| Laurie Radostits | edmonton, Canada | 2017-07-24 | https://funds.gofundme.com/dashboard/feedbabyL |
| Merlene Juergens | Temple, TX | 2017-07-26 | I am an RN who firmly believes in the right of mothers to choose how they want to feed their newborns. I am totally frustrated with the culture of shame that has been created to coerce mothers to breastfeed. |
| Amber Dailey RN | Valdosta, GA | 2017-07-28 | I am a registered nurse and new mother. I knew from the time I found out that I was pregnant I was going to breastfeed. I took all of the classes and even had a higher level of education as to why "breast is best." I knew it was going to be difficult at first but I was going to make it work. Then came my delivery day. It seemed as if everything that could go wrong that day did and I ended up having an emergency c-section. I didn't get the chest time to bond with my baby, they let me see her and then whisked her off to the nursery and never looked back. By the time I got into my post partum room and they brought the baby to me it had already been 3 hours since I delivered. The lactation nurse came in with her and immediately tried to get her to latch. No luck. So she went and gathered all of the equipment for me to pump. There was some colostrum but not even half an ounce. I was assured that it would all be better once my milk came in. So every two hours i got up, tried to get my baby to latch, failed, and the |
| Eugenia Esteban Rodriguez | Zaragoza, Spain | 2017-07-28 | I agree with you. |
| Rita Machado | Portugal | 2017-07-30 | I'm an RN Nurse in the mother baby unit in an Hospital that is trying to implement "baby friendly hospital" policies. They are too rigid and ridiculous and not in the best interest of the small infants we care for. We (nurses) are the ones who have to take care of the inconsolable babies and moms, stressed out because they are made to believe they are not doing their job right. they are pressured into breastfeeding exclusively and to refuse formula like it is the devil himself. Babies very often need just a bottle , a one time thing, to meet their needs and that gives time for the mother to produce enough milk next time they are breastfed. I'm a mother, I believe in breastfeeding but when I gave birth to a 8 pound 14 ounces baby that was feeding for two whole hours and after one hour of being asleep would wake up for another nursing session of two hours was constantly sucking on his hands trying to latch on anything that got near his nose, I knew that he was hungry. My colostrum wasn't being enough to satisfy |
| Charles Pennington | Fort Smith, AR | 2017-07-31 | I am signing because after visiting my two day old grandson I found my mother-in-law totally immersed in the importance of breastfeeding while the baby had no output. The internet is covered |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | up with non-professional want-a-be's who push breastfeeding at the expense of brain cells. Charles Pennington, Licensed Social Worker |
| Elin Aslanyan | Glendale, CA | 2017-08-01 | I was a first time mom with an accidentally starving newborn. Didn't know she wasn't getting milk. Thank God my pediatrician saw us on day 4 and advised I supplement w formula. No one at the hospital had even mentioned the possibility of either to me. I wouldn't have chosen to excluavely breast feed for the few days I did had I known. This is not right. My baby was very very hungry and thirsty and she didn't need to be. #fedisbest Education on early EBF risks and hunger red flags needs to be included at all hospitals. |
| Meredith Rawlins | Camden Wyoming, DE | 2017-08-02 | As a NICU nurse who has worked in both "baby friendly" and non "baby friendly" hospitals it upsets me to see the amount of unplanned NICU admissions in "baby frinendly" hospitals for otherwise healthy babies due to severe dehydration. |
| Sue Lee | smyrna, TN | 2017-08-04 | I am a mother 3. Oldest is a daughter, then 2 boys to follow up. I know that my youngest, 7 years younger the older boy. CSection after the 3rd morning lying on the delivery table, water broke on second day, meds and all prepped for delivery. My youngest had suffered a very long, difficult birth, not like my 2 oldest that were fast normal born mayoral almost without a push.... |
| Amanda Warner | Sketty, Wales; Cymru, UK | 2017-08-05 | I was thirty seven when I had my daughter (am fifty now), a successful, director at a management consultancy. I wanted to breast feed my daughter but produced very little milk and my daughter wouldn't feed. During the four hours each night of rest, I expressed milk. I continued to try for weeks ending up exhausted with a difficult, hungry child. In the end a kindly GP friend told me to stop as I was putting my health and child's health at risk. Up until this point everyone I had come in to contact with in the Heath service had continued on a crusade for breastfeeding, making me feel incompetent and selfish. Someone should have stopped me far sooner. I made myself and my daughter very ill. I have no doubt this contributed to the post natal depression I subsequently succumbed to |
| Jami-Lynn Town | San Tan Valley, AZ | 2017-08-16 | As a first time mother I was encouraged to exclusively breastfeed by hospital staff. It wasn't until I visited the pediatrician at 5 days old did I realize that my son wasn't receiving enough breast milk. I just remember feeding him around the clock and he just wasn't happy. As a first time mom I wasn't aware of what is normal and what isn't. He dropped from 7 lbs 9 oz to 6 lbs 6 oz and had a fever. She immediately sent us to the er where he was admitted for jaundice and dehydration. My son now suffers from sensory processing disorder and we also are having him evaluated by a developmental pediatrician to determine whether he falls into the autism spectrum or has adhd. If only I had known I believe he wouldn't be struggling daily like this. |
| Hannah Kish | Euclid, OH | 2017-08-19 | Agreed, I too work at a "Baby-Friendly" hospital and I feel this policy takes away the mothers autonomy of how to feed her baby. I do not believe in shaming mothers into breastfeeding and believe they should make their own decisions when comes to raising and caring for their child. |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| Patricia Velasquez Malaga | Arequipa, Peru | 2017-08-25 | Es necesario que ningún bebé sufra daños a causa de una mala alimentación |
| Holly Leppard | Colchester, England, UK | 2017-09-06 | As the founder of the support network 'Don't Judge Just Feed' I speak to mothers struggling with their breastfeeding journey every day. There are dangerous consequences to promoting exclusive breastfeeding without providing vital information on what to do if your baby isn't getting enough breastmilk. Formula is lifesaving yet many women are pressurised against using it. The current campaigns are unfair on mothers and potentially life-threatening for babies. |
| Elizabeth Morris | San Diego, CA | 2017-09-19 | I was pressured in 1992 to exclusively breastfeed, even though it would of benefitted my child to receive some additional fluids. |
| Jeri Nations | Deer Park, TX | 2017-09-19 | As a nurse who was routinely chastised on the Post Partum unit as well as Newborn Nursery by those Le Leche queens, I'm horrified at this sort of practice!! My be mothers would be frustrated, baby crying and I'd always gently talk to them about giving the baby a bottle. You have a new baby! You are in pain! Your baby is hungry! Give him/her a bottle and kick the breastfeeding advocates OUT of your room! I myself was planning to breastfeed and my daughter had a great latch, however I was hypervolemic from fluids being bolused during my emergency C-Section, that I could not handle the added stress of those women coming in and telling me (not so nicely), how I was hurting my baby by bottle feeding! Guilt trippers! I was furious and my husband told them to leave and not come back to "counsel" us. My daughter is almost 21 now and was a very healthy kiddo growing up! Shame on them. I'm not an advocate for lawsuits but this one I would have been right there with you! And I have a big mouth! God bless you and your pr |
| Elaine Navarro | Arlington, TX | 2017-09-19 | Heartbreaking story. Listen to your baby. Their crying means something!! |
| Ashley King | San Angelo, TX | 2017-09-25 | babies deserve to be fed! |
| Jessica Gutierrez | Saint Maries, ID | 2017-10-12 | To know that we live in a society with access to an alternative that could be life saving is truly a blessing. It is shameful and heartbreaking that hospitals around the country are allowing newborns to suffer unnecessarily. My baby was born with several factors that lead to his inability to nurse effectively. He became severely dehydrated depite my efforts to breastfeed him. He was then hospitalized due to high bilirubin levels. He is currently awaiting scheduling for an ABR hearing test because of the elevated bilirubin levels. I will never forgive myself for allowing this to happen to my baby. My baby suffered due to the ignorance of medical professionals who advised me in making the decisions I made. One ounce of formula could have saved my son's hearing and a lifetime of pain and suffering, physically and emotionally. |
| Jessica Nelson | Rootstown, OH | 2017-10-14 | I understand people want to breastfeed. I tried but it didn't work out. My daughter did with all three of her children. But to be discouraged from using formula, I don't believe is right. When babies are constantly nursing and crying, something is wrong. Losing weight and not producing the right amount of diapers, |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | something is wrong. Why would it hurt to try and formula feed, just to make sure that baby is not starving? It is not going to hurt that baby to give them formula. You would rather a mother risk her baby's life, then to try a bottle? Please change the way those hospitals take care of their patients. |
| Candy Floyd | Vacaville, CA | 2017-10-21 | I was determined to breastfeed my second daughter after having failed with my first. After two weeks of exclusive nursing, she weighed one whole pound less than her birthweight at her two week appointment. This was twenty seven years ago. No one ever told me that some women can't produce enough milk until years later. I applaud your effort to help these babies. |
| María Eugenia Wachtendorff | Santiago, Chile | 2017-10-23 | ¡Firmo porque todos deberíamos hacerlo! |
| Malka Ungar | Staten island, NY | 2017-12-02 | I'm signing because I want the negligence to stop . Nurses bullied me into exclusively breastfeeding my first born son. They sent him home dehydrated and told us never to give him formula. He suffered a stroke on day three as a direct result of accidental starvation. Today, he is an adorable six year old who is visually impaired and has a seizure disorder. He cannot talk, walk, or even feed himself . The purposeful ignorance and propaganda against formula must stop. A child's health comes first ! |
| Michelle Valdez-Alter | US | 2017-12-03 | Someone close to me has been affected by this. |
| Tiffany Chehova | Brooklyn, NY | 2017-12-03 | I didn't let anyone bully me into breastfeeding when I knew it wasn't for me. My children did fine on formula. |
| Sharon Druker | Cote Saint-Luc, Canada | 2017-12-03 | No child or parents should suffer from something so easily prevented |
| Tziporah Newman | New York, NY | 2017-12-03 | Whatever works for the child or mom. It's up to the mom to decide. |
| Esther Weiner | Chicago, IL | 2017-12-03 | I was not aware of this. This is unacceptable! |
| Raychell Larkin | Brooklyn, NY | 2017-12-04 | A fed baby is a healthy baby. |
| Stacy Jones | Bronx, NY | 2017-12-04 | Infant health is important to development and academic success. |
| Amira Rauzman | Brooklyn, US | 2017-12-04 | Amira rauzman |
| Miriam Massouda | Far Rockaway, NY | 2017-12-04 | There are many reasons why infants are not getting enough breast milk and supplementing with formula should always be an option and not made to make women feel guilty about supplementing if it will help the baby thrive and grow. |
| Vanessa Shimoni | Highland Park, NJ | 2017-12-04 | My son refused to take breast milk when he was a new born, this was difficult enough I can't imagine how much harder things would have been if I had medical personnel attempting to pressure me into breast feeding. |
| Mindy Cohen | Houston, TX | 2017-12-05 | If I wasn't smart enough to know the right words, my son would have starved in the hospital. He was carried by a surrogate, and I was told to wait until her milk came in. After a few hours, I explained |

| Name | Location | Date | Comment |
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| | | | that since my son could not be breastfed, he would never deal with nipple confusion, so I thought we should feed him something to tide him over. I could see that she was very happy that I came up with a good reason to feed this hungry baby. When the eyedropper half full of colostrum showed up 2-3 hours later, I knew I did the right thing!!! |
| Maura McGlynn | Ashland, VA | 2017-12-06 | My baby almost died was I was told he would figure it out. |
| Kristie Doyle | Winchendon, MA | 2017-12-10 | When I was a first time mother, clueless and nervous, I trusted my instincts against recommendations from doctors, nurses & family alike. I chose to supplement with formula, because I knew my child wasn't getting enough milk. Fussy and crying all the time, and there are only so many thugs to make a baby upset. I felt like a failure at the time but my love for my child meant way more than that. No one should feel that way or be made to feel that way. If breastfeeding is your best option, fantastic. If it's not the right option, you're not alone. Love is what matters, and needs to be taught from day one. |
| Miquela Alderete | Albuquerque, NM | 2017-12-13 | You are not alone, although my baby didn't die I went through that similar situation with my 1st child. Being 19 I didn't know what I was doing for two after taking my daughter home from the hospital I nursed her. My daughter Briana nursed and nursed over over and cried and cried over and over all day all night. People kept telling me maybe she is collic. Briana was losing weight she was literally skin and bones until my mom bought me a breast pump and as I pumped I got 1 ounce out of both breast so my mom made me a 4oz bottle and Briana drank it so my mom made me another 4oz bottle and she drank it after that she slept for hours. I stopped nursing and started giving her the bottle and she gained weight fast and was a very happy baby after that. Knowing what I have experienced with my first child I learned that I just couldn't produce milk with my other two children that I did nurse them, but at the same time I fed them the bottle. I'm really sorry for your loss, but you didn't know and you didn't do anything |
| Laura Hill | Bishopton, Scotland, UK | 2017-12-31 | My baby had to be rehospitalised as a result of these dangerous and unacceptable guidelines. Fortunately he has no apparent long-term affects of this, but countless other babies are suffering needlessly and this needs to stop, now. |
| Morgan Brewer | Tulsa, OK | 2018-01-06 | You are not a failure if you cannot breastfeed! Formula is made specifically for babies and will not harm them, whereas accidental starvation can! |
| Audrey Wood | Houston, US | 2018-01-16 | No baby should be at any risk because of these guidelines |
| Sue Johnston | Australia | 2018-01-18 | Common sense |
| Ruth Morrison | Victoria, Canada | 2018-01-27 | Fed is best stop forcing breastfeeding on to women |
| Danielle Pate | Houston, TX | 2018-01-30 | There are many ways to feed a baby, and none should be shamed. A lot of exclusive breastfeeding advocates give first time mothers misinformation. |