

THE TAKEOVER

FADE IN:

INT. SEMINAR ROOM - NIGHT

TORI

Hello everyone, I am your facilitator, Truth Telling Tori and welcome to the Takeover. Many of you may be wondering what exactly is this seminar about and what is

(makes air quotes)

"The Takeover." Well it is my honor, privilege and duty to provide you with as much knowledge as possible in efforts to answer those questions.

(takes a breath)

However, before we get started I must be completely transparent. This is NOT your grandmother's pregnancy seminar. I will not use baby friendly language, tell of old wise tales, or bore you with various myths on how you can tell if you are having a boy or a girl! We will not spend countless hours covering your pregnant glow, the beauty of growth, the huge societal milestone that is "having a baby", "starting a family", or "giving life". I have the utmost respect for seminars that have preceded this one that may have: used lite language to decrease the blow of pregnancy truth, told you "what to expect" in the sweetest most delicate way, glorified all the beauty that is pregnancy and so on. It is the only truth they have known. So it's all they could have shared with you. They didn't know any better. I do!

Tori steps from behind the podium as she continues her intro.

TORI

(almost mockingly)

Now before you all think I am a complete wacko ... let me go on

(MORE)

TORI (cont'd)

record saying that child birth and pregnancy, overall, is a beautiful experience, in theory! I mean ... The idea of having something grow inside you that you are literally giving life to, is amazing! Pregnancy elicits all types of beautiful, genuine, raw, and pure emotions. There are no words that can truly describe how intense the love is between a mother and her unborn child. With that said, this seminar will not utilize its words to take on such a major and seemingly impossible task;

(sarcastically)

especially considering, there have been so many sources that have already attempted. From books, to media, TV shows, to upbringing, all your life, as a woman, you have been told of how beautiful pregnancy would be. While men have been sold on the idea that their wife or partner will never be more beautiful than when she is carrying his child. It is because of these multiple sources of beauty and positivity that this seminar will not be focusing on the sides of pregnancy so often discussed. The purpose of this seminar is to completely prepare you for the random, absurd and down-right ridiculous changes your body will have to endure all for the birth of your precious baby! I will share with you the very rare, gritty, untold side of what pregnancy really is ... an outright "Takeover".

Tori walks back behind the podium.

TORI

So obviously, if you have come here with the intention of picking out nursery patterns or going goo goo ga ga over pregnancy and babies, this is not the seminar for you.

Tori points to a small inconspicuous sign that reads: NO REFUNDS!! (Especially for Mushy Mommies!)

TORI  
(pointing to the sign)

However, if you look at the sign we have placed for optimal visibility, you will see that we do not give refunds. So, I implore you to sit back relax and enjoy anyway.

Tori steps from behind the podium to show her belly.

TORI  
A little backstory about myself. As I stated before, my name is Tori. I am the wife of Thomas and the mother of TJ, short for Thomas Junior and soon to be Tristan.  
(Tori rubs her belly)

Most recently, my husband had the brilliant idea that we should try for a baby girl. And since I could only recollect positive loving moments from my pregnancy with TJ six years ago, I foolishly agreed. This is how I came to uncover the biggest conspiracy ever, pregnancy. You see upon becoming pregnant, I began to be plagued with all kind of weird and outrageous difficulties. Though they seemed completely unrelated, I soon learned from my doctor they were all caused by my pregnancy. This led to me to do research. I discovered thousands of women's stories and struggles all in the name of pregnancy. I quickly realized that my body was no longer my own. Since my discovery, I have made it my mission to share this knowledge with the world.

Tori rubs her belly.

TORI  
The war has definitely been an uphill battle, but at this moment I am still winning. However, I know factually that this is only  
(MORE)