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3 Phoenix, Arizona 85020

4 [REDACTED]
5
6 *Gregg R. Woodnick* [REDACTED]
7 *Isabel Ranney* [REDACTED]
8 *Attorney for Respondent*

9 **IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA**
10 **IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA**

11 In Re the Matter of:

Case No.: **FC2023-052114**

12 **LAURA OWENS,**

**RESPONSE/OBJECTION TO
PETITIONER'S MOTION FOR
CONFIDENTIALITY AND
PRELIMINARY PROTECTIVE
ORDER**

13 Petitioner,

14 and

(Assigned to The Honorable Julie Mata)

15 **CLAYTON ECHARD,**

16 Respondent,
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19 Respondent, **CLAYTON ECHARD**, by and through undersigned counsel, hereby
20 provides his Response and objects to Petitioner's unverified Motion for Confidentiality and
21 Preliminary Protective Order. As a threshold matter, Petitioner's requested relief under Rule
22 53 constitutes an impermissible prior restraint of protected speech. Beyond that, it also
23 represents tremendous overreach in the use of Rule 53 to diminish Respondent's rights as a
24 litigant.
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27 Apparently, Petitioner feels she is entitled to what is essentially a backdoor *Motion to*
28 *Seal* after this Court already denied her attempt. *See Minute Entry dated 10/19/2023. Why?*

1 Because *after she* contacted tabloids and the media to disparage Respondent, the publicity *she*
2 initiated backfired when it was exposed that she had engaged in previous pregnancy
3 fabrications and that her “medical evidence” was lacking in science. The entire underpinning
4 of her Petition to Establish Paternity was predicated upon a con/scam and fraud upon this court.
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6 Petitioner has furthered her noxious agenda by failing to appear at a properly Noticed
7 Deposition (*see Notice filed January 17, 2024*). This occurred notwithstanding three (3)
8 different attorneys in a matter of weeks having discussed the deposition and ongoing discovery
9 issues (**Exhibit 1**, for example). Meanwhile, she continues to advance meritless lawsuits
10 against the media for questioning the narrative *she* shared with *The Sun* while simultaneously
11 contacting the media. Now Petitioner has the chutzpah to flout Court Rules and suggest this
12 Court *ignore* the First Amendment, while in the same breath arguing that *she* is entitled to
13 protection by the Court.
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16 To the extent applicable, Respondent incorporates his pending filings. As and for his
17 Response/Objection, Respondent states as follows:
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- 19 1. Currently pending before the Court are:
 - 20 a. Respondent’s *Motion for Leave to Amend Respondent’s Response to Petition to*
21 *Establish* (filed December 12, 2023);
 - 22 b. Petitioner’s *Motion to Dismiss* (filed December 28, 2023), Respondent’s
23 *Response/Objection* to the same, and Petitioner’s *Reply* (ostensibly, this matter
24 has been ruled on, as the docket reflects an evidentiary hearing set for February
25 27, 2024);
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- 1 c. Respondent's *Expedited Motion to Extend Dismissal Date on Inactive Calendar*
2 *and Schedule an Evidentiary Hearing* (filed December 13, 2023) and Petitioner's
3 *Response*, and Respondent's *Reply* to the same (also ostensibly addressed by this
4 Court setting the matter for an evidentiary hearing);
5
6 d. Petitioner's *Expedited Motion to Quash Deposition of Petitioner* (filed January
7 1, 2024) and Respondent's *Response/Objection* to the same;
8
9 e. Respondent's *Motion for Sanctions Pursuant to Rule 26* (filed January 3, 2024).

10 2. **The Court must begin with the presumption that prior restraint on**
11 **protected speech is dubious and subject to the highest scrutiny.** Petitioner does not address,
12 or even attempt to explain, *why* prohibiting Respondent from speaking about the issues *she*
13 brought in this action would withstand Constitutional scrutiny. This is not the least restrictive
14 means to accomplish the ends stated, nor do the concerns Petitioner express outweigh the
15 substantial interests of Respondent's freedom of expression, freedom of the press, the public's
16 interest in open legal proceedings, etc.
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19 Petitioner's demand would trigger a woefully unnecessary and inappropriate procedure
20 overtly designed to thwart disclosure. Recall, she has entirely failed to comply with Rules 49,
21 Rule 62 and Rule 57, *Arizona Rules of Family Law Procedure*. Petitioner has not shown good
22 cause for deviating from the ordinary process for petitioning the Court for confidentiality or
23 sealing documents when the Court deems it appropriate. Here, she seeks to hide behind Rule
24 57 as a justification for willfully failing to attend a properly noticed deposition and for
25 continuing to fail to provide *any* disclosure going on eight (8) months. Meanwhile, initiating
26 contact with the media, publishing articles and otherwise soliciting media attention.
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1 3. **The fact that discovery may annoy or embarrass Petitioner does not mean**
2 **that sealing and confidentiality are appropriate remedies.** Petitioner not only brought this
3 action in bad faith, but also, she shared it with the media and even wrote a *de facto* Op-Ed
4 furthering her fictitious narrative and painting herself as a “*victim*.”

5
6 Absent from Petitioner’s *Motion* is that *Petitioner* filed the underlying action, *Petitioner*
7 threatened repeatedly to bring her alleged “pregnancy” to the media, *Petitioner* reached out
8 directly to the media with her unsupported allegations (*The Sun*, People Magazine, TMZ,
9 Reddit, Medium) (*see Exhibit 2*), and *Petitioner* published information (including her alleged
10 medical records) about the case online. *Petitioner* now continues to contact the media to
11 advance her fictitious narrative while simultaneously asking this Court for special
12 accommodations for confidentiality? This, *after* the Court already denied her Motion to Seal.
13 (Parenthetically, Petitioner’s efforts to seal the other case with nearly identical claims of being
14 pregnant with “twins” and with similarly doctored sonograms was also denied seal protection.
15 *See generally*, CV2021-052893). Her conduct and legal positions simply do not align.

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19 **Petitioner is not special.** Respondent does not doubt that Petitioner will be annoyed or
20 embarrassed by examination by oral deposition, but if that were the legal standard to oppose a
21 deposition, the exception would swallow the rule. *Every* litigant is uncomfortable being
22 examined under oath. That is inherent to the adversarial system that Petitioner triggered with
23 her filing. It is only when those burdens are undue, or the discovery process is abused that those
24 concerns become sufficient grounds to prohibit discovery mechanisms. All litigants are entitled
25 to use discovery for legitimate purposes, which includes gathering information, testing the
26 deponent’s knowledge and truthfulness, exploring patterns of past behavior (including other
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1 fictitious pregnancies, appearances under oath in Court with a fake pregnant stomach, collateral
2 proceedings, etc.) and other acts relevant for impeachment and/or to show that the underlying
3 cause was malignantly filed. Moreover, Petitioner cannot now evade deposition (critical for
4 establishing evidentiary foundations) after *she* invoked Rule 2.
5

6 The fact that Petitioner finds participating in the litigation embarrassing is no different
7 from the experience of anyone else, except that in this case, *she* brought the petition, *she* made
8 sensational allegations, and *she* threatened to (and did) bring media attention to the case in an
9 attempt to control Respondent's behavior (and disturbingly, to get him to sign a dating *contract*
10 and coerce him to "*explore intimacy*" with her (*see Exhibit 2*)).
11

12 Not only is Respondent entitled to the information and discovery necessary to defend
13 against her claims, but he also has a fundamental Constitutional right to discuss the nature of
14 those claims (just like any other litigant). Petitioner is requesting an order that would prohibit
15 Respondent from defending his character in public view despite the fact that *she* made his
16 character a matter of public interest and that she *self-identifies* as a public figure. The toothpaste
17 cannot be put back in the tube. Moreover, that the public is interested in the case only adds
18 weight to maintaining transparency, not limiting it, even if Petitioner now finds that interest
19 uncomfortable after *she* invited it.
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23 4. **Respondent has the right to depose Petitioner pursuant to Rule 57, Arizona**
24 **Rules of Family Law Procedure.** This is not in dispute. Petitioner has provided zero Rule 49
25 disclosure to date and now files this unverified motion alleging, for the first time, that *she had*
26 *a miscarriage?* Petitioner appeared on video during trial on October 24, 2023 wearing what
27 appeared to be a moon bump (a device used to appear pregnant) and asked the Court if she
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1 could show Respondent her “*pregnant stomach*” (which Judge Gialketsis promptly denied).
2 (Note, the Motion for Protective order was filed *after* Petitioner was copied with a Spoliation
3 Notice to Amazon.com, Inc. to preserve records confirming the purchase of said moon bump
4 and to affirm that babies come from intercourse, not Amazon.com (**Exhibit 3**)).

6 On November 2, 2023 Petitioner testified that she was “100%” and “24 weeks” pregnant
7 by Respondent and that she was due “February 14, 2024.” Petitioner specifically testified that
8 she was having a *high-risk* pregnancy (due to her alleged epilepsy) and that she was being seen
9 by “Dr. Makhoul” and “Dr. Higley.” To date, Petitioner has provided no verifiable information
10 that supports these allegations (other than doctored sonograms ostensibly from Etsy, a
11 borrowed YouTube video of an *actual* sonogram, and positive HCG tests).

14 Petitioner then filed a *Motion to Dismiss* claiming, for the first time, that she was “*no*
15 *longer pregnant*” but still refused to provide *any* information whatsoever about what happened
16 to the alleged twin fetuses. Now, for the first time she alleges that she “*miscarried*.” That is a
17 salient fact in dispute because Respondent does not believe that Petitioner was *ever* pregnant
18 (and certainly not by him as they did not have intercourse). Moreover, if Petitioner did miscarry
19 that late into a pregnancy, a fetal death certificate would be produced and there would be
20 corroborating medical records. *See* A.R.S. § 36-329. Respondent has repeatedly asked for this
21 death certificate and even provided the vital records request forms to Petitioner. *See* “Exhibit
22 A” to *Respondent’s Notice of Non-Appearance as Deposition Pursuant to Rule 57(g)* (filed
23 January 17, 2024).

27 Due to Petitioner’s historic refusal to provide *any* medically verifiable information to
28 support her allegations and her history of arts and crafts “*medical*” evidence, written discovery

1 is not sufficient. **She does not get to dictate which discovery rules apply to her.** A deposition
2 is the most efficient and least burdensome way to ascertain the validity of Petitioner's claims
3 under oath. Her fear of inculcating herself criminally (perjury, filing false police reports, etc)
4 is the *antithesis* of good cause. Limiting Respondent to the "*alternative means*" of discovery
5 referenced on page 6 of Petitioner's *Motion* would incapacitate Respondent's ability to obtain
6 relevant and necessary evidence. Ironically, Petitioner also requested Respondent's deposition
7 immediately upon hiring her current attorney (i.e., before taking any other action to address the
8 supposedly burdensome discovery, Petitioner first retaliated by scheduling Respondent's
9 deposition). Petitioner cannot have her cake and eat it too.

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12 5. **Respondent is entitled to depose Petitioner about all relevant matters,**
13 **including similar false pregnancy allegations made against past putative fathers and**
14 **inconsistent statements admissible for impeachment purposes.** Not only do those
15 allegations speak to her credibility, but they also establish an overt and escalating pattern of
16 fraudulent behavior and abuse of legal process. Respondent cannot properly bring his
17 counterclaims of non-paternity, sanctions, and attorney's fees without deposing Petitioner and
18 receiving definitive statements under oath about her past actions. The scope of inquiry
19 *absolutely* includes:
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- 22 • Relevant questions about past relationships that resulted in similar threats and
23 legal actions (brought by Petitioner, in writing and in prior litigation);
- 24 • Emails and text messages she sent to other men with nearly identical verbiage;
- 25 • Prior doctored "evidence;"
- 26
- 27
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- 1 • Factually similar matters about which Petitioner authored editorials, TEDx
- 2 Talks, podcasts;
- 3
- 4 • Petitioner's medical and associated health conditions.

5 After discovery, nothing prevents Petitioner from seeking confidentiality or other
6 appropriate protective orders as to limited portions of the deposition if the Court were to then
7 determine they exceeded legal scope. However, preventing those questions from being asked
8 in the first place would improperly limit Respondent's ability to defend himself and stymie this
9 Court's ability to make findings pursuant to the law.

10
11 In addition to the misuse of court procedure, there are significant First Amendment
12 concerns here. Prior restraint against relevant discovery is an extraordinary remedy that is not
13 remotely warranted in this matter. Petitioner has not shown good cause to override
14 Respondent's legal rights, the public's interest in transparent proceedings, and this Court's
15 legal and equitable duties. Petitioner's prospective concerns (after willfully failing to comply
16 with Court Rules for eight (8) months) are nothing more than an opaque attempt to thwart this
17 Court's ability to make findings. Petitioner cannot simply seek generalized and speculative
18 relief as a means to justify a blanket restriction *prior* to providing *any* discovery/participating
19 in a deposition. Moreover, her objections are not valid grounds for a willful failure to appear
20 for a validly noticed deposition. *See Respondent's Notice of Non-Appearance.*

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24 **6. It is premature to designate as confidential documents, recordings, or**
25 **records that do not exist and have not yet been produced.** To the extent a response to this
26 assertion is warranted, there is nothing to be designated confidential. No deposition has
27 occurred (due to Petitioner's willful failure to appear). Petitioner has not provided *any* Rule 49
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1 disclosure, and there are no exhibits or sensitive documents in the Court record that could be
2 designated confidential, even if Petitioner had shown good cause. Simply put, Petitioner's
3 request is impossibly premature, and the discovery being sought is relevant (including the
4 "HIPPA" [sic] releases referenced in her *Motion*). Further, and contrary to Petitioner's
5 assertions, discovery cannot be conducted *during trial*.

7 **7. Respondent is entitled to his reasonable attorney's fees and costs incurred**
8 **responding to this Motion pursuant to A.R.S. § 25-324.** After properly noticing Petitioner
9 of his intent to depose her and agreeing to a date and time, Petitioner willfully failed to appear.
10 Instead, Petitioner filed this *Motion*, which alleges speculative relief that cannot be granted,
11 seeks Unconstitutional prior restraints on protected speech, and lacks good cause.

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14 Petitioner's unreasonableness in this matter only persists as she continues to seek out
15 new ways to evade the disclosure and discovery obligations for the action *she* filed. Petitioner
16 has a history of being creative in coming up with ways to avoid legal accountability. She
17 previously made abhorrent allegations in prior proceedings involving similar false twin
18 pregnancy allegations against an officer of the Court to evade Court appearances (fortunately
19 foiled by Judge Bachus, whose Judicial Assistant intercepted Petitioner's *ex parte* effort, which
20 was subsequently addressed in proceedings.). As a result of Petitioner's behavior, Respondent
21 continues to incur attorney's costs and fees having to defend his right to exercise the discovery
22 tools available to all litigants. Respondent requests this Court permit him to file a *China Doll*
23 *Affidavit*.

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26 **WHEREFORE**, Respondent respectfully requests that this Court enter the following
27 Orders:
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1 A. Deny Petitioner's Motion for Confidentiality and Preliminary Protective Order
2 in its entirety;

3 B. Award Respondent his reasonable attorney's fees and costs incurred due to
4 Petitioner's unreasonableness pursuant to A.R.S. § 25-324;

5 C. For such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper under these
6 circumstances.
7

8
9 **RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED** this 19th day of January, 2024.

10 WOODNICK LAW, PLLC

11 

12 _____
13 Gregg R. Woodnick

14 Isabel Ranney

15 *Attorneys for Respondent*


16 **ORIGINAL** of the foregoing e-filed
17 This 19th day of January, 2024 with:

18 Clerk of Court
19 Maricopa County Superior Court

20 **COPY** of the foregoing document
21 delivered/emailed this 19th day of January, 2024, to:

22 The Honorable Julie Mata
23 Maricopa County Superior Court

24 Cory Keith
25 The Valley Law Group, PLLC
26 3101 N. Central Ave, Ste 1470
27 Pheonix, AZ 85012

28 
Attorney for Petitioner

By: /s/ MB

VERIFICATION

I, **CLAYTON ECHARD**, declare under penalty of perjury that I am the Respondent in the above-captioned matter; that I have read the foregoing *Response/Objection To Petitioner's Motion For Confidentiality And Preliminary Protective Order* and I know of the contents thereof; that the foregoing is true and correct according to the best of my own knowledge, information and belief; and as to those things stated upon information and belief, I believe them to be true.



Clayton Echard (Jan 19, 2024 12:38 MST)
CLAYTON ECHARD

01/19/2024

Date

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CLAYTON ECHARD (Jan 19, 2024 12:38 MST)

CONFIDENTIAL AND PROPRIETARY INFORMATION
THIS DOCUMENT IS UNCLASSIFIED

EXHIBIT "1"

From: Gregg Woodnick
To: Alexis Lindvall; Sarah Saxon; Tiffany Benz
Cc: Maribeth Burroughs; Isabel Ranney
Subject: Owens v. Echard - Pending Motions and Withdrawal
Date: Friday, January 5, 2024 12:32:47 PM
Attachments: Exhibit 15-Threat to Sue and Kill Herself ADMITTED.pdf
Exhibit 19-Email of Youtube Ultrasound copy ADMITTED.pdf
Exhibit #6-Laura Blocked #5 ADMITTED.pdf
Exhibit 14-Threat to go to the Media ADMITTED.pdf

Lexi,

You filed to withdraw with Laura's consent. Had you indicated that you were withdrawing under E.R. 1.16(b)(2), (3), and (4) (or even simply ER 3.3) I would, without hesitation, agree to courtesy extend time. But, you filed a lot of the pleadings that you must still reply to on the same day you withdrew (keeping in mind that Replies are not even required). I will also point out that **if** Laura chose to cut ties with your office (evidenced by her consent) she is accepting responsibility for her case. She can file the Reply *pro per*. As such, her request for an extension is respectfully denied.

Laura is well experienced in hiring attorneys and having them withdraw. What is inevitably going to happen is she is going to surface with yet another attorney, who is going to ask for more time because they are "new" to the case. They, too, will be ill informed by Laura about what has happened and will walk themselves into what has become a pattern of withdrawals from counsel navigating a client whose behavior requires an E.R. 1.16(b)(2), (3), and (4) withdrawal. Ultimately (as I suspect was the case with Modern Law), they will offer consent as an option to avoid having to address the elephant in the room (the extreme fraud and perjury).

The real issue here is that your client is not seeing the obvious exit ramp, as there is a very easy way for her to end this situation. You previously said she would not sign the affidavit because it would be perjury. The perjury already happened when she filed the most bizarre paternity case and submitted a parenting plan for imagined zygotes with no verifiable proof of pregnancy (still none) and then continued to make statements under oath (including in her verified response).

The best advice any lawyer, friend, or her parent could tell Laura is that she needs to come clean. I appreciate she is scared of perjury charges under A.R.S. 13-2702. I also know she will have to invoke her 5th Amendment Rights for many questions during the video deposition on the 17th (and this Court will make negative inferences from that) and that she will have to arrive with the information requested (nonexistent medical records) in Exhibit A (the RFP) of our Notice of Deposition.

Laura's exit here is to admit that she has made some horrible choices and allegations that were not predicated on fact or science. Perhaps it is her head injury (assuming that is actually factual) or mental health issues and that she is humbly sorry for what she put Clayton through, as she was not (and could not have been) pregnant by Clayton.

She then needs to get into treatment to address whatever has caused her to live a life enmeshed in delusion. She needs to come clean and say ***I did exactly what I have been caught doing and am committed to getting healthy.*** (The alternative is that her behavior has been entirely predicated on toxicity and maliciousness and she is the hook for attorney's fees?).

The result will be:

1. Clayton is a mental health advocate. He will probably be the first to accept the apology and be supportive of her embracing help.
2. The narrative about these two public figures (and yes, Laura is a public figure and she started this entire mess by not only going to the press, but bizarrely admitting her agenda including threats in emails) ends.
3. Laura can control how this saga resolves. She started this with the media, Reddit, and The Sun...then double, triple and the quadrupled down with the lies that are and will continue to be exposed before the Court. (Per the news, she was emailing Reality Steve just yesterday!)
4. She can make this into a story of redemption (hers) when she admits she cannot control herself regarding this pathology and that she apologizes for the harm she has caused.
5. And...I bet the world loves that. Her next Ted Talk and Medium article would be *epic* as she humbly shows that change is possible. And, you know who would likely be the first to say congratulations? Clayton Echard.

The alternative is that we continue to go down this route. The list of Gillespies, Marraccini's, Garrett's, Lewis', Bloom's, the Professor and Mary Ann...and all those who have received Bar, Board, Secretary of State complaints only grows as the media attention she sought is now relentlessly digging for more content. They are going to find it. Now is the time for her to admit she lied, get the help that she needs, and commit to change.

I am attaching more evidence of your client's bizarre and harassing behavior (yes, there is much more data).

You may also want to peruse her Reddit comment history – which is all archived and is further evidence of her malignant behavior (see https://ihsoyct.github.io/index.html?mode=comments&subreddit=&sort_type=created_utc&sort=desc&limit=100&after=&before=&author=Strict_Schedule2441&score=&num_comments=&q=; https://ihsoyct.github.io/index.html?mode=submissions&subreddit=&author=Strict_Schedule2441).

Gregg

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www.woodnicklaw.com

Email [REDACTED]

From: Alexis Lindvall [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 04, 2024 7:47 PM
To: Gregg Woodnick [REDACTED]; Isabel Ranney [REDACTED]; Sarah Saxo [REDACTED]; Tiffany Benz [REDACTED]; Maribeth Burroughs [REDACTED]
Subject: Owens v. Echard - Pending Motions and Withdrawal

Gregg and Isabel,

As you know, I filed my Motion to Withdraw on Tuesday. We still don't have the order granting my withdrawal despite following up with the division via email this morning. They are also not answering the phone. The Reply in Support of the Motion to Dismiss is due Wednesday and the Reply in Support of the Motion to Quash is due Thursday. This puts me and my client in an interesting predicament. Would you be willing to agree to toll the reply deadlines until 5 judicial days after my withdrawal is granted?

Thank you,

Lexi Lindvall, Esq.
Attorney | **Modern Law**

[REDACTED]
Mesa | Peoria | Scottsdale
www.mymodernlaw.com

Modern law is a paperless office and hard copies of documents will not be mailed unless requested.

This email contains confidential, legal information. If you realize this email was not intended for you, please ignore the content, immediately notify me that you received it, then delete it. Otherwise bad legal stuff could happen.

Please be advised, this communication does not constitute an agreement pursuant to Rule 69, Arizona Rules of Family Law Procedure. Any statement concerning settlement is made pursuant to Rule 408, Arizona Rules of Evidence, and shall be considered protected from use in any future litigation.

CHRYSLER GROUP LLC
1000 BROADWAY
SPRING HOUSE, PA 17173

EXHIBIT "2"



Laura Owens

The final opportunity to end your abortion

To: Clayton Eckhard

Mon, July 1, 2013 at 4:02 PM

Clayton,

I've prayed that this email will have an impact on you, unlike my others. It's truly the last one you will get from me where abortion is a possibility.

I have taken time to reflect on what I have been going through with our pregnancy and how you have acted towards me. You've shown no compassion or empathy, while I have been endlessly patient with you and provided you with an absurd amount of evidence that I'm pregnant. I've been completely honest with you, as displayed by my willingness to send you anything you've needed at any time, and proven to you that based on when my pregnancy test became positive that there isn't a doubt that you are the father. I understand that you and of course the court want a paternity test and I've proactively been trying to schedule that with three different labs. I've contacted Choice DNA, ArcPoint Labs, and Any Lab Test now to see when is the soonest we can do it. If I wasn't pregnant with your kid, wouldn't I be avoiding that at all costs? You also of course know that I was accepted as a patient at Scottsdale Perinatal Associates. If I wasn't pregnant, why would a high-risk specialty practice that only accepts clients based on records that verify their pregnancy and their condition take me as a client? You've also been provided with recordings of two phone calls with the staff at Scottsdale Perinatal Associates that confirm their receipt of the ultrasound from Planned Parenthood and verify the pregnancy, along with acknowledge the fact that we will speak about the possibility of twins with the doctor on July 24th. In addition, you asked for photos "within the hour" of abortion pills to verify that I had gone. How would I have been able to send photos of and with the pills with my name on them if I hadn't actually gotten them? In addition, why did I offer to take a pregnancy test immediately when I got to your apartment...and why would it have been positive if I wasn't pregnant?

No person in their right mind would think that there was a chance that my pregnancy wasn't real, so your lack of belief in it makes no sense. We are coming up on two weeks of me -- the mother of your child -- being blocked on text messaging and every platform, after you said that it was immature of you to have done that before and that you would not do it again. You promised to support me. It's been humiliating to have to rely on emails to communicate with you that have mostly been unresponded to, and when they have, you haven't been kindhearted. I have poured my heart out to you as I've explained why this decision is so difficult for me because my father is dying right now. I've explained that the circumstances feel all-too-personal because my grandmother was almost aborted. At this point, I look stupid for continuing to respond to your endless requests for evidence when you have been provided with so much more than you needed. It was humiliating to pee on a stick in front of you, yet I did it, and when the test came back positive, you still didn't believe it? Do you really think anyone would agree with the amount of you have questioned me despite all the documentation you have been given?

I never would have threatened to go to the media if you hadn't told me at the start of this that you would do just that if the pregnancy wasn't real because "people like you need to be held accountable". Your behavior after discovering that I wasn't lying has been selfish. You haven't stepped up as a thirty year old man would be there for the mother of the child when you are half responsible for the situation, which is cowardly. I have told you why mental health matters so much to me because of what I have gone through, and opened up about a dark family secret -- that my grandma committed suicide -- and how it impacted my dad. You didn't even have the decency to respond to me. Given your behavior, I have absolutely no issue going to the media anonymously after the paternity test and "leaking" what I have attached in the Dropbox file. I don't even need to explain the story because your words and treatment of me say it all. If this is how you choose to treat me, I have absolutely no allegiance or loyalty to you, and would be fully convinced that your mission was an attempt to stay in the public eye, which kills me to say because I really think that deep down, you do care. I have been praying and praying for you to show me who you really are. God keeps telling me that you are a good person and someone whose life I can enhance, so I don't know why things have been as they are. I honestly wish He would be telling me differently because it's hard to keep believing in someone who is so demeaning in these circumstances. If the man you have been is who you are, you deserve to be held accountable, but my God I don't want to do that.

You can't say you haven't been given a voice when I have told you that I will have an abortion if we try things out for a few weeks and have a good reason for aborting a child. So far, it seems like you want to terminate the pregnancy because you don't want to grow up and because it would impact your dating life. Those are not good enough reasons to end a life. These words feel menacing because you know I like you and want to try things out with you. I don't deserve to feel hurt at this point in my life and my pregnancy when I haven't done anything to deserve it.

I have no desire for money because I have more than enough. I have no desire for fame because I experienced what that was for the entire time I was in San Francisco. I completely understand why you would be suspicious of women being after you for being *The Bachelor*, but that is so not me, and in fact, I think that's the least interesting thing about you. I have never felt more empowered in my life than when we were doing real estate together and crave feeling that confidence again. That was because of you. There is so, so, so much about you that I find admirable, inspiring, and sexy, and attractive. You're smarter than you think, charismatic, and capable of doing so much good in the world. I know that if you and I tried things out, we would end up elevating each other to new heights in our careers. Like I've said over and over again, you don't like me because I'm pregnant with your kid, not because of who I am. You haven't gotten to know me and it's been your loss. I've shown you qualities that no other woman would during the process, and that includes being brave enough to stand up to you and hold you accountable for your actions.

I know I've said that it was your last chance to make a decision a lot, but this time, I really mean it. I am completely at peace with the likely outcome that I will have your child. I do see a lot of hard times ahead if that's what we choose without considering an abortion, but if that's what meant to be, it will be.

You wouldn't be "obliging" to make the decision to date exclusively before deciding whether or not we have an abortion. I know how valuable I am as a partner and it really would be your loss not to see that for yourself. I know I could get any man on the dating apps or the bars, so I'm by no means desperate. I also know that you are sexually attracted to me, despite the fact that we only hooked up one time while you were very, very high. You obviously enjoyed it even though you can't really have seen if we were a match based on your mental status at the time. Being with me would be a major win for you, so you wouldn't be doing me a favor by being with me. I would feel the same way if someone else was the father of my child; I would want to try to be together like most religious people do (and in fact, as you know, marriage was the likely outcome of an unexpected pregnancy...so I'm not asking for a lot) and make the decision together. Maybe we would decide to keep him or her, which would be a beautiful thing. If we decide not to, maybe we would work towards having that in the future. I know that we were brought together for a reason and it's too bad that you've seen that reason as God just using me to guide you to another level.

CE0027


I come home tomorrow afternoon, so if you want us to consider an abortion, this really is our last chance because of timing and the fact that neither of us would want to end the pregnancy one there is a heartbeat. I would like to get together tomorrow night to talk and explore intimacy. It's time for you to make an effort if that is something we are considering. Obviously, I would love to have sex in the future and feel like I am the safest person you could have sex with since I'm pregnant, but if you really think that like you said yesterday, my goal was to date and get pregnant during this time, we can absolutely hold off on it. However, it occurred to me that you might believe me more about paternity if you were inside of me and felt how tight I would be after not having sex in more than a year. Maybe then you'd believe I hadn't been sleeping around, and again, you wouldn't be doing me any big favor...having sex with me is a privilege and not something I have done for a long time.

If you either don't get back to me tonight or if you give me the final word that you don't want to date and choose the outcome of the pregnancy, we are 100% having the child and there is no going back. I mean it, and I am at peace either way. My mental health and wellbeing is affecting our child's and I would blame you if we have a special needs kid and discover that my stress hormones and blood pressure caused that. I just need you to make a decision. Clearly, given the evidence I have given throughout the process that I have put together in the attached Dropbox file, I am pregnant. I have proactively worked to arrange prenatal paternity tests myself, which should prove to you that I know you're the father. There really are only these two outcomes so if you want to keep believing there's not a pregnancy or that you're not the father, you will be sorely mistaken and it will be too late for us to consider an abortion. I would have no issue going to the media after the prenatal paternity test to explore your horrible treatment of me during this time and lack of compassion despite your mission.

If you would stay with me for a few weeks to get me to have an abortion and then block me and go MIA as you have in the past, please don't make that decision. I am talking about really giving things a shot in a different way than either of us have in the past since this is a unique circumstance. If you wouldn't be excited, don't make that choice. If you're truly not into me, I would rather stick with my morals and have the child. I am only considering an abortion because I know that's what you want, so if that alone doesn't make me stand out from other women, good luck finding one who would care that much to sacrifice their own values and morals because they believe in your mission. I would trust and respect you enough for you to make the decision on your own as to whether or not we have the abortion. Do you realize how big of a deal that is for me to offer?! I would LOVE to be a mom and want that in the future more than anything in the world. But God (and you, depending on what you decide) are responsible for deciding when that is. If it's now, I would be thrilled. But, I really do believe in you and the message you want to spread, so please show me that my faith in you isn't misplaced. I would also be so appreciative of the consideration you would be showing for my feelings and why it would be important for me that I would promise to keep everything that happened between us. You need to understand that allowing you to make the decision would be the biggest leap of faith and sacrifice of my life, so if you don't appreciate that, go find someone else and we will move forward with having the child.

If you don't respond, I know you will end up regretting because I am offering to give you not just "a" say, but "THE" say in the outcome of our pregnancy. In my heart, I think we will both regret not exploring the abortion option because there will be no going back after this. Please let me know your decision and regardless, please be kind. Hope we are on the same page and in that case, hope to see you tomorrow. If not, I genuinely mean it when I say "congrats" on being a dad.

Laura

 Pregnancy evidence for Clayton Roberts.zip

LO

Laura Owens

received at 2:23 PM

Only open this if you want option A and will unblock me seriously.

To: Clayton Finney

...and if you want option A, I will not post this. I am just looking for support during this incredibly overwhelming time.

Final email regarding this, but I wanted to give you the courtesy of showing you the post. I'm attaching the photo I'm going to use. I'm over being treated like shit and at least if this is public, you'll have to give a statement to the media. Not sure when I will put it up.

The caption is:

Surprise! I can't wait for the arrival of these two next Valentine's Day!

On a more serious note, their father, @claytonechard, has said he "wants nothing to do with this process". He has blocked me from messaging him, refuses to see me and his growing babies, and says he will continue to ignore me. He doesn't want to have anything to do with them when they're born and thinks they will negatively impact his dating life. Tag him and let him know what you think.

Please note the following legal waiver:

If, after proof of opening is obtained, I choose not to respond to this email, I am confirming that its content is true. This includes my acknowledgment of paternity. In addition, by not responding, I am giving my approval to Laura Owens to post the above content on social media.

Clayton, this is a situation you can't run and hide from -- you will need to take accountability for your actions which created twins. If I can't get you to do it, then maybe the public can convince you to.

All the best,



Laura Owens

Head of "Real Mom" Quarter 1 TEDx talk
Now available! Read my story in the 20th Anniversary [EBook of TEDxWomen](#) for the first time!



Pregnancy announcement



Search Medium

I am the anonymous woman in the Clayton Echard scandal. Here's my story.



Anonymous · Follow

3 hours ago



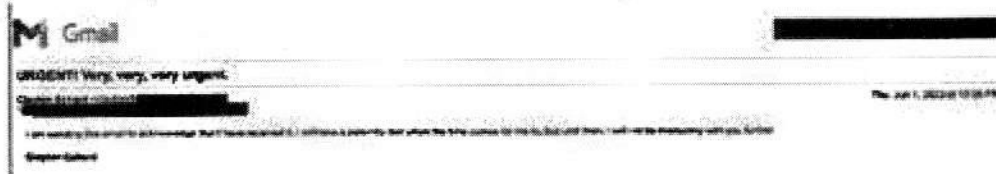
I am the anonymous woman who has been labeled Clayton Echard's "ex-fling". I am accomplished in my own right and have no desire to gain notoriety from this, which is why I chose not to be named. I was very clear that I had no desire for money from him. All I wanted from him was communication to figure out a parenting plan for our unborn twins. He has refused to talk to me for a long time, with the exception of the occasional hurtful email. I told him many times that if he did not figure this out with me privately, I would go to the media because I thought that would get him to step up to the plate.

I am coming forward simply because there has been confusion over whether or not Clayton sent the cruel text messages and emails that he did. I've chosen to publish them here and will put my entire reputation on the line by saying that he sent every one of those messages. If anyone wants to claim these were doctored, I have the phone and email records to prove it. He knows better than to sue me for libel because the truth is a complete defense to defamation, and I am telling the truth.

I first met Clayton on the night of May 20th, which is when we unexpectedly hooked up. I was not on birth control because a) I hadn't been sexually active since March of 2022, and b) my anti-seizure medication interfered with it. In the days after, I told Clayton that I had been considering taking Plan B because I wasn't on birth control. In the end, I didn't.

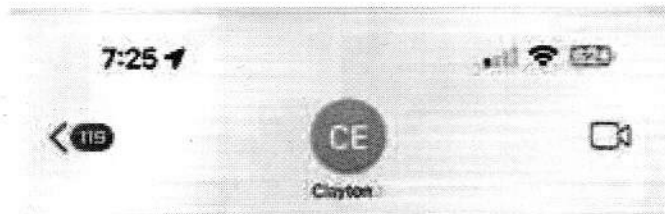
On May 31st, I had a pregnancy test done prior to a medical test. It was negative. I was still concerned I was pregnant since again, I wasn't on birth control, and bought a pregnancy test the next day. On June 1st, I tested positive. I knew Clayton wouldn't believe me, so I decided to go to urgent care to get a test done. I figured he would believe it if there was official medical documentation. Contrary to what many have said, it was not on that day that I learned I was having twins; all that happened was that I discovered I was pregnant.

I sent Clayton an email with a timeline and all of the evidence. I got this in response, which is proof that Clayton very much knew and believed that I was pregnant after we hooked up:



We did not communicate much after that for several days, but I did get this message from him:

Clayton Echard's ex-girlfriend says she is pregnant with his twins



He also spewed the following insults at me, and for those who doubt that he did, I have records to prove it.

*I don't believe you for a second and it's honestly sad this is what you've resorted to
 you're embarrassing yourself at this point.*

You need to seek professional help and I hope you will do so to take a deep dive into addressing all this trauma.

I hope you understand how sick this is of you to try and pull on me. You want me to stress about wondering if I impregnated you for weeks.

Laura, ask yourself why you're doing this. Please, reflect now. Why are you subjecting another human being to this?

You're trying to destroy my mental state.

But that pain you feel....don't place it upon someone else.

But to try and bring someone else into it all is just cruel.

I legitimately hate you right now.

You've made my life so stressful since I've known you and if you decide to not take plan B and in the wild event that you are pregnant, I would hate you even more.

my hatred will only grow if you decide to put me through all of this.

My animosity would last for a lifetime and that's not something either of us want to subject ourselves to.

Even if a kid was present...I would not say a word to you. I would not acknowledge you.

One thing about me is when I make up my mind for good, especially when it's rooted in anger, I don't sway. Ever

I am the victim!!! You are acting so irrational that it's scary!!! You can stop every last one of these consequences and you're choosing not to because you have lost touch with reality!

I mean, it's fucking hysterical how sad this is. And I'm pissed for allowing myself to even be bothered by it.

You have lost your mind and I hope YOU think about how terrible this is that you would subject me to this.

My hate is toward you and you only.

I have decided I will no longer be in contact with you, unless your mom takes a phone call with me. If she will not, that's ok, but then all communication will be cut off.

God is telling me this man will provide me with the clarity I need, as I have many questions and those questions have turned into beliefs...ones that have led to animosity and a complete lack of trust toward you. (God told you my abusive ex who caused me to get epilepsy would be a better resource than me? And you could trust him more than me?)

I believe this is some sick game you play for attention.

You better be serious about being pregnant because if you're not, I'm bringing this all to light. People like you need to be held accountable. You can back off now if this is all a game and I'll let it go, but if you continue any longer and it's all a lie, I won't hesitate to reveal the truth.

My personal hell would be having to have you be a part of my life

The desperation is something I hope you can address.

I'm living in the fear of having to be associated with you for my lifetime.

You will bring nothing, but pain and misfortune into my life.

You're manipulative, obsessive and display narcissistic behaviors.

But I don't have any empathy for those that attack the mental health of others through manipulation and then try and play the victim card.

Individuals like you that play with people's emotions are the worst kind of person. I've met many, been taken advantage of by many and am sick and tired of playing nice with them.

You don't deserve my empathy.

You're obsessed with the idea of being adjacent to me.

After his litany of insults, I was surprised to receive these messages from him on June 19th:

If you decide to have the kid, then that is your decision and I will respect it. However, one of us will have 100% custody...there will be no joint custody. I feel strongly about this and that decision is also final.

I feel we need to have a face to face discussion. It's too easy to get upset via text. But in-person, conversations are more caring and cordial. I believe this is exactly what we need, as texting hasn't been working well.

So, let's plan on 7:30?

I feel God is telling me we should meet up tonight, so yes, I'd like to do that. We should have been talking in-person for most of this anyways. Texting isn't meant for meaningful/impactful/life-changing conversations and I've know and learned that plenty of times.

I'll text you when I'm heading back home tonight, but around 7:30pm should work.

On that night, Clayton purchased a pregnancy test and had me take it in front of him. It was positive. We sat down for a couple of hours and talked. He explained to me that he had a dream about his future wife and son. The woman was blonde, and not me. He said he was attracted to ethnic women, not petite brunettes like me. He said that he always swiped left on women with children, and his biggest argument to end the pregnancy was that women would swipe left on him. He worried that it would impact his dating life. Despite this, we had a decent conversation and decided we would consider giving dating a try for the sake of the baby (we didn't know we were having twins then). He promised to be supportive and said that he would check on me every day. That lasted one day.

On June 20th, I received these messages:

Clayton Echard's Story - I am the anonymous woman in the Clayton Echard scandal. Here's my story. - Anonymous - Medium

On June 21st, I received an email from Clayton with a theory that my anti-epileptic medications caused me to test positive. I disproved this theory, which you can view below. You can also see that the positive pregnancy test I took at his house is on the counter:

12/21/23, 2:05 PM

Something to Consider



Something to Consider

2 messages

Clayton Echard

To: [Redacted]

Hey Leah,

I wanted to send over this message because I think it's very important that we are both aware of this possibility that hasn't been discussed yet, but is worth considering.

Even after seeing a positive pregnancy test, I still had doubts in my head. Something was telling me to look deeper into things. So, I did and came up with a theory that could potentially be the

[Redacted]

What I found upon researching online though, that is worth noting, is the effect of antiepileptic medication on hCG levels. There is a direct correlation between false positive pregnancy test

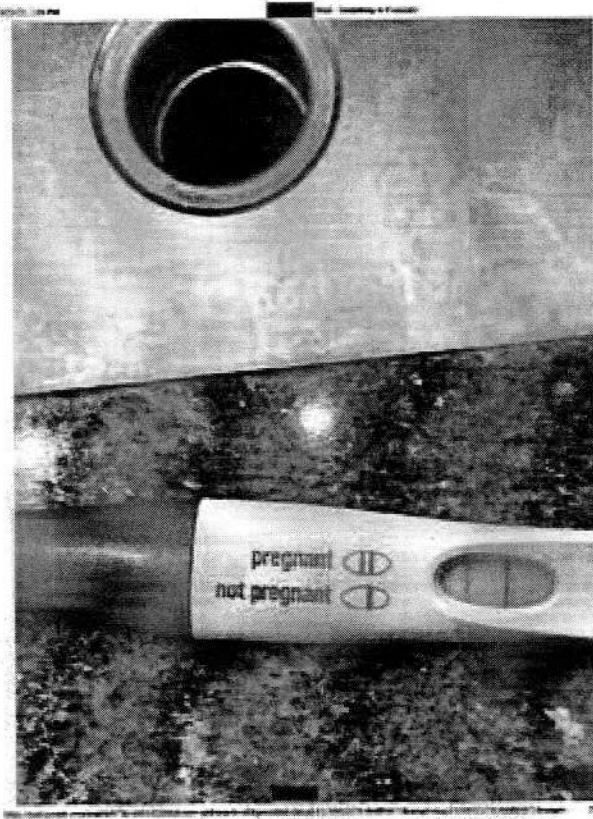
<https://www.researchgate.net/publication/331408412/figure/fig/1/figure/fig1/331408412/331408412.jpg>

You have mentioned multiple times that you have epilepsy and take medication for it, so there is a chance the medication itself is responsible for the positive pregnancy test

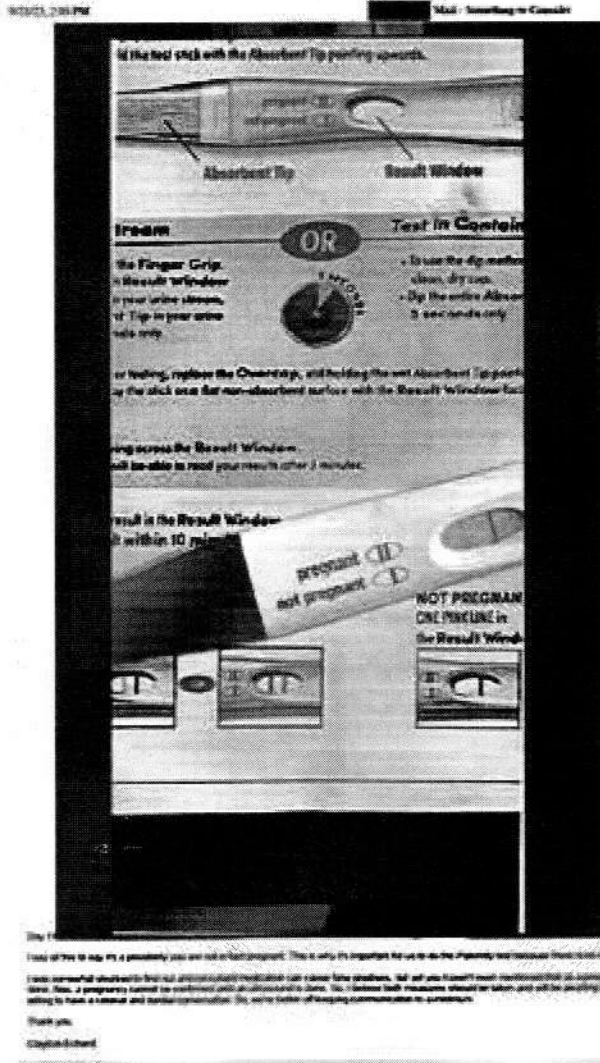
Also, something else I found interesting was that the test you took on Day 17 and the test you took on Day 24 will be tested identical, so if we have the same results, the results should be consistent across, due to the impact of the child inside the womb. I have attached both photos for reference.

See it?

Clayton Echard's profile picture



Clayton Echard is a 27-year-old actor who is currently in a relationship with a woman named Clayton Echard. Clayton Echard is a 27-year-old actor who is currently in a relationship with a woman named Clayton Echard.



Clayton Echard is a professional model and actor. He is known for his work in the fashion industry and his role in the movie 'The Expendables 2'. He is also a member of the 'The Expendables' cast.

On June 24th, Clayton emailed me saying that he would pay for the paternity test, despite telling the press that he has said that I would be responsible for the full amount. I told him that I already knew that he was the father, and if he needed reassurance he needed to pay: While Clayton claimed that he told me that I needed to pay for the paternity test, you can see that was not the case:

12/12/23, 9:11 AM



EXHIBIT 7
Petitioner's messages to Respondent regarding taking prenatal paternity test

Paternity test, etc.

Clayton Echard <claytonechard@...> Sat, Jun 24, 2023 at 4:32 PM
To: [REDACTED]

I will pay for 100% of it. You have my word. Let this message serve as the proof. Just schedule it and let me know where you scheduled and I'll pay.

Thanks,

Clayton Echard

On June 28th, I received this:



Clayton Echard <claytonechard@gmail.com> Wed, Jun 28, 2023 at 8:38 PM
To: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] I will find someone else to love and share my life with. I may honestly move to the east coast at this point as well. We'll see, I can do whatever I want with my life, but what I won't do is allow you to hold me back. And don't try to explain to me that I can't move out of the state and away from you. I absolutely can. All I have to do is either take 100% custody of the child or allow you to have 100% custody. Joint isn't an option and is never mandated. That's common sense. Besides, I will fight until I have no fight left in me to not have you be a part of my life. The courts can't force someone to stay with someone else. That's unheard of and has never been done. Just remember, there is no scenario in which we raise the child together, if you even have a child, which I'm still not convinced. But if you do and it is somehow miraculously mine, like I said, I'll take care of the child if that's what it comes to, but I WILL NOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCE co-parent with you. Just want to make that clear. I would rather co-parent with literally anybody else besides you, as you have shown me you don't respect my opinion. [REDACTED]

Clayton Echard

Clayton Echard <claytonechard@gmail.com> Wed, Jun 28, 2023 at 8:38 PM
To: [REDACTED]

I reached out to Clayton's parents several times, but received no response. On July 2nd, I even invited them to an ultrasound, since he had not gotten back to me about attending my doctor's appointment:



Proof provided to Clayton & your family's invitation to ultrasound

Sun, Jul 2, 2023 at 9:57 AM

for

Hi Mr. and Mrs. Echard,

On Thursday, Clayton said that if I provided him with additional information, such as the date and time of my next ultrasound, he would be able to be cordial. I gave it to him and invited him, but have not heard back. I was lucky enough to get accepted to see a high-risk specialist, [redacted] on July 24th at 9am for an ultrasound and an hour long consultation. I told Clayton that he was welcome to go and that I wanted him to, and even offered to change the date and time if it didn't work for him. I explained to him that it's a referral based practice that does not accept patients without medical records, including verification of the pregnancy and test results/notes from a specialist to prove that there is a condition that requires a high-risk obstetrician (my neurologist about my generalized epilepsy in my case). I understood his need for extra proof, so I sent him screenshots from my patient portal to show him proof of the appointment and the records they received.

Even though I have gone above and beyond to prove to Clayton that the pregnancy is real, nothing is enough for him to be civil to me, even though he claimed weeks ago that the test I took in front of him that was positive was sufficient. I've taken the initiative to contact three different labs to organize a prenatal pregnancy test at the one that can do it the soonest and that will be acceptable by the court so that I can establish paternity as soon as possible and so that we can make a parenting plan as we are required to do. I am very financially stable and want absolutely no money from him except what is required by law. All I want is the support he promised to provide me with. I'm under an immense amount of stress and have developed high blood pressure and have explained that this could cause the baby to be born with developmental issues, which I know we don't want.

With all of that being said, the purpose of this email is twofold:

- 1. I wanted to show you how much information Clayton has been provided with by me to verify the pregnancy. This is what he asked for, all of which was given. There was so much that it wouldn't all fit in a single email, so I had to make a Dropbox file of it. You can access all of the proof by clicking here here.

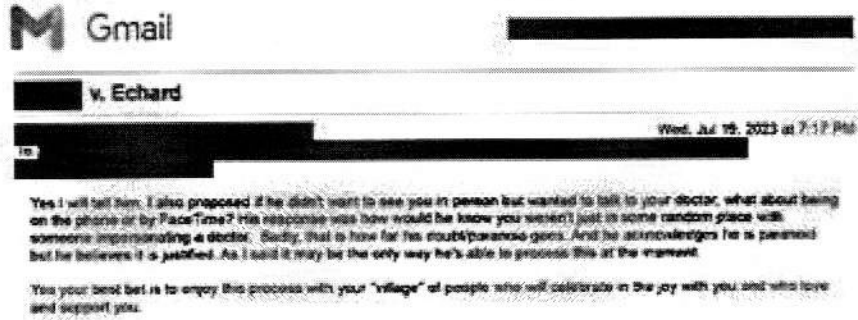
Based on how he has treated me, I don't want him present at the ultrasound and appointment on July 24th. Hearing the heartbeat for the first time is sacred to me but I know it means nothing to him since he has not had the courtesy to respond to my invitation to be there or even change the date and time. Either or both of you, or your other sons, are welcome to be at the appointment if you would like to be. I know it's an important event and I want people there who feel the same. I just didn't want you guys to not feel included just because Clayton is no longer welcome unless he drastically changes his behavior and shows some respect. If he does, of course he can come.

There's no need to respond if you don't want to, but please know that your family is most definitely welcome to be there and I would change the day and time for you guys too if the current date didn't work out.

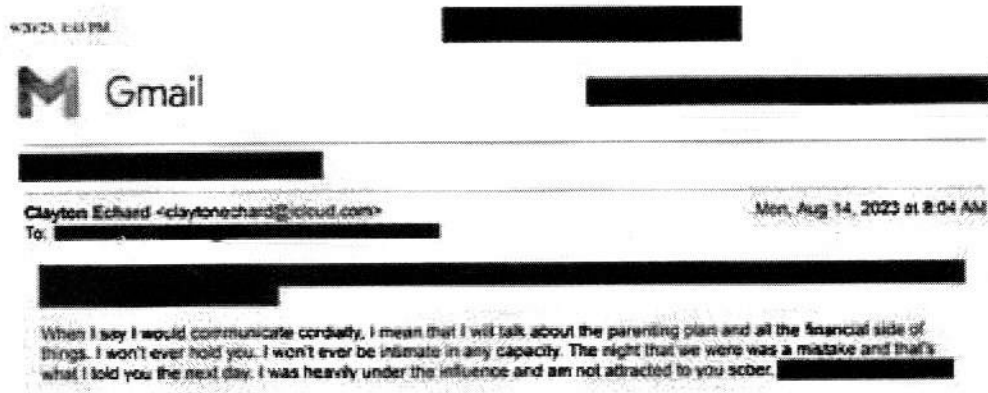
Thank you for reading this and hope you are having a great weekend!

Clayton Echard is not a doctor. He is a man who is trying to control his wife's life. He is not a doctor. He is a man who is trying to control his wife's life. He is not a doctor. He is a man who is trying to control his wife's life.

I discovered I was having twins after that. In mid-July, I decided to hire an attorney to act as a middleman, since Clayton would not communicate directly with me. He told the lawyer that he thought I was on weight loss drugs or fertility drugs that made me test positive. I offered for him to attend an ultrasound appointment, which the lawyer conveyed to him His response was this:



On August 14th, Clayton sent me this and then went dark on me for days. Telling me that he was "heavily under the influence" and "not attracted to [me] sober" hurt:



All along, I told Clayton I wanted to do a paternity test at any point at the lab of his choosing; in fact, I offered more than fifty times to take it in email and have the messages to prove it. Finally, he agreed to testing. I paid \$725 as a deposit and scheduled it for August 23rd, which he said worked well for him. However, he never called to schedule his portion, so I was forced to cancel the test.

Clayton Echard - I am the anonymous woman in the Clayton Echard scandal. Here's my story. - Anonymous - Medium



Clayton's behavior caused me to be borderline-suicidal twice, simply because I have felt panicked about raising twins on my own. All I have wanted is communication and a plan. I explained this in emails to him, which I will not post due to the very personal nature of them. I presumed that as a 'suicide prevention advocate' (and the father of our unborn children), he would be able to help me. I needed reassurance that he would help care for them and he could not provide it. Clayton knew that if I took my own life, I would be ending the lives of our unborn twins. I truly believe that is what he wanted, as it would solve all of his problems.

Clayton was also supposed to meet up with me five days prior to our Early Resolution Conference on September 28th, but he has not responded to my emails trying to organize this.

Clayton claimed I was "obsessed" with dating him, which is not true. I emailed him to clarify this after *The Bachelor* article came out, saying: "I. DO. NOT. WANT. TO. DATE. YOU." I had not seen *The Bachelor*, and if I had, I never would have chosen him as my realtor, let alone as someone I would be intimate with. I have told him many times that I would take a lie detector test to prove that I had not seen his season. After he started to display deceptive behavior in a real estate transaction, I finally searched for him on YouTube and watched three clips of him sending Susie, Gabby, and Rachel home. To date, that is all I have seen.

If I am missing anything, or if someone doubts these messages from Clayton, I am happy to provide any records needed to prove that I am indeed telling the truth. I will put my entire reputation on it.

Clayton Echard is not a doctor, lawyer, or therapist. He is a realtor. Do not trust him with your money or your life.



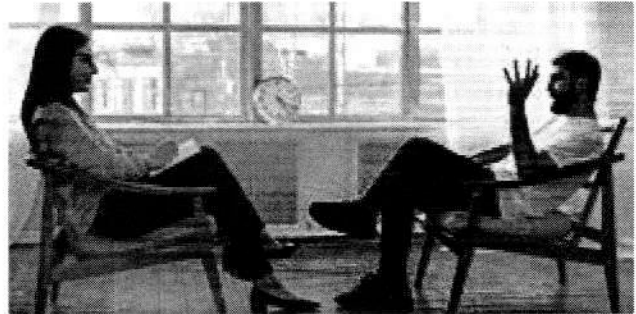
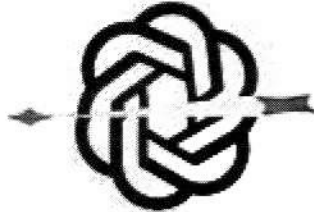
Written by Anonymous

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The anonymous woman in the Clayton Echard pregnancy scandal

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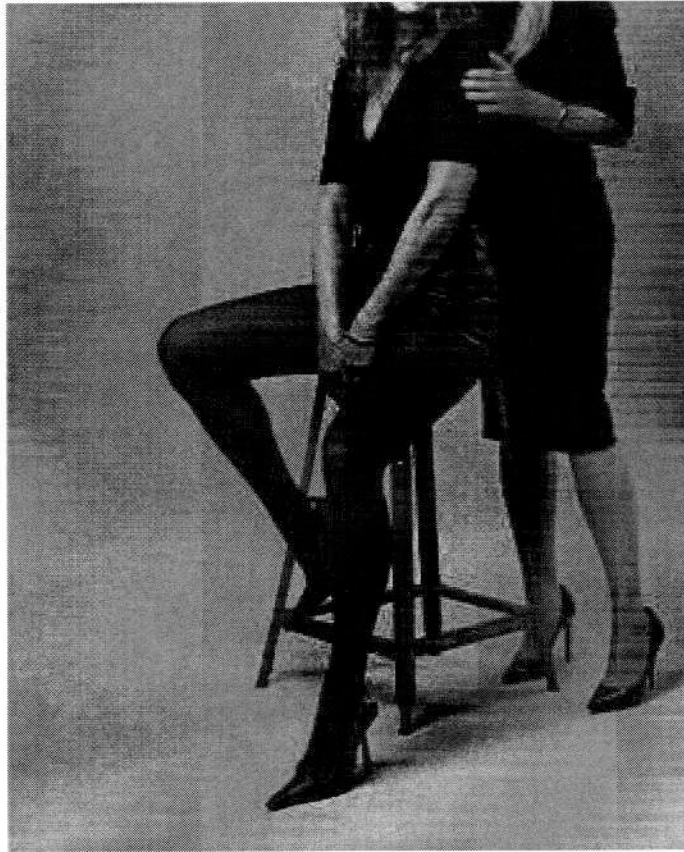
Story by Daniel Trainor • 2mo

'Bachelor' Alum Clayton Echard Allegedly Told Woman Who Claims to Be Pregnant With His Twins to Get an Abortion: Report

Echard is accused of impregnating a former fling earlier this year, though he allegedly told her via text message, 'I will not be raising it in any capacity'

Published | Updated Daniel Trainor





Jennifer Aniston (left with Reese Witherspoon) gives her first interview since the death of Matthew Perry to Variety magazine - Dan Doperalski for Variety
 © Provided by The Telegraph

It was Aniston's first interview since her American-Canadian co-star's death at the age of 54. Perry's cause of death has not been officially determined.

"He was happy. He was healthy. He had quit smoking. He was getting in shape. He was happy – that's all I know," she added.

"I want people to know he was really healthy, and getting healthy. He was on a pursuit. He worked so hard. He really was dealt a tough one.

"I miss him dearly. We all do. Boy, he made us laugh really hard."





Jennifer Aniston and Reese Witherspoon front VARIETY'S Emmy Edition and speak with Hollywood's most iconic entertainment magazine about 'The Morning Show', Aniston texting with Matthew Perry on the day of his passing, intimacy coordinators, if the show is camp, and more.
 © Provided by The Telegraph

Perry played Chandler in all 234 episodes of the sitcom, which ran for 10 series from 1994 to 2004.

The sitcom catapulted him, Aniston and their four co-stars to household fame and by its final series the group were paid more than £800,000 (\$1 million) per episode.

But Perry struggled with drug and alcohol addiction for much of his adult life.

In a 2021 memoir he said he had attended 6,000 Alcoholics Anonymous meetings, been to rehab 15 times and had 14 stomach surgeries.

He added that his alcoholism meant drinking 14 triple vodka shots was not enough to get him drunk.

"Not only do I have the disease, but I also have it bad," he wrote.

"I have it as bad as you can have it, in fact. It's back-to-the-wall time all the time. It's going to kill me."

Aniston said the outpouring of tributes to Perry in the wake of his death was "so beautiful".

"I hope he can know that he was loved in a way he never thought he was," she said.

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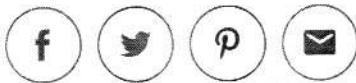
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'The Bachelor' Alum Clayton Echard Declares the 'Truth Will Always Set You Free' amid Paternity Scandal

A woman that Echard allegedly slept with once reportedly claimed in a new lawsuit that he refused to take a paternity test after she became pregnant with twins

By **Esther Kang** | Published on September 21, 2023 10:54PM EDT



Clayton Echard is a former Bachelor. He is currently a model and actor. He is known for his role as Clayton Echard on the TV show The Bachelor. He is also known for his role as Clayton Echard in the movie The Bachelor. He is also known for his role as Clayton Echard in the movie The Bachelor.

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Clayton Echard. PHOTO: ABC/PAMELA LITTKY

The Bachelor alum Clayton Echard is setting the record straight.

On Thursday, the 30-year-old reality star posted a screenshot of a receipt for a paternity test in order to clear the air after he was named in a paternity lawsuit in August by an unidentified woman.

In the lawsuit, the woman alleged that Echard got her pregnant after the two met for a one-night stand. Since filing the suit, the woman has requested Echard take a test to find out the paternity of her unborn twins before she gives birth in February. The 33-year-old woman, who has chosen to remain anonymous, has recently claimed that the former Bachelor wasn't complying with her requests for a test.

"This is the timeline. The truth will always set you free," Echard wrote over the email receipt in a post to his Instagram Story. Per his screenshot, the television personality paid \$725 to schedule an appointment with a paternity clinic.

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“Results will then take about a week to get back. I believe we’re all on the same page now.”

PEOPLE has reached out to Echard’s reps for comment.

Clayton Echard is a Bachelor alum who is currently in a paternity scandal. He is currently in a relationship with a woman who is pregnant with his child. He is currently in a relationship with a woman who is pregnant with his child.

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that he refused to take a test and that she had to pay a \$725 deposit for it, but Echard called her accusations "baseless" and "lacking in merit."

In court documents obtained by PEOPLE, the woman stated that Echard refused to believe she was pregnant when she originally informed him back in June.

"I wanted you to come over to confirm what I was doubting. And you did confirm that. So, I don't see you as a liar anymore," he allegedly texted the unidentified woman.

RELATED: [Clayton Echard and Rachel Recchia Poke Fun at 'Reality TV Trauma' as They Reunite Beside 'Bachelor' Pals](#)

After the two parties take the paternity test, they are scheduled for an early resolution conference and will appear in court immediately on Sept. 28.

Echard's alleged paternity scandal comes nearly one year after he and Susie Evans announced their decision to split. The former couple met on his season of *The Bachelor* and lived together for less than a year before going long distance and eventually parting ways.

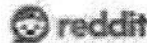
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Susie Evans and Clayton Echard. PHOTO: CRAIG SJODIN/ABC

RELATED: [Clayton Echard Says He's Focusing on Himself After Susie Evans Split: 'I'm Not Mentally Healed'](#)

"With incredibly heavy hearts, we wanted to share that we have decided to go our separate ways," Echard and Evans wrote in a [joint Instagram statement](#) at the time. "For anyone who has ever loved, knows this was a painful decision to make and not one taken lightly."

"We understand that there will likely be a lot of questions about this decision — social media is definitely a highlight reel and much of our experiences together we have kept private as I'm sure most can understand. But we will share this — although this last year together has brought us so much joy and so many laughs, there has also been a significant amount of pain," they continued. "We know no healthy relationship comes without its struggles, but we've realized that we were not prepared for the external forces that hindered our ability to not only heal as individuals but also as a couple."



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r/thebachelor • 1 mo. ago [deleted]

I am the anonymous woman in the Clayton scandal. Here's the proof. Here's my story.

As a side note, for those who are questioning whether I want attention/followers, please remember I am anonymous in this case, I deactivated my Instagram earlier this week, accidentally logged into that account again, and Instagram will not let me deactivate my account again for a week. I have tried. I don't want money from Clayton. All I have asked for is communication to figure out a parenting plan.

<https://anonymousewm.in1.medium.com/i-am-the-anonymous-woman-in-the-clayton-scandal-heres-my-story-97a486329a9d>

Please remember that Clayton has not denied that he sent any of these messages.

He has been warned that if he does not take down his second story, he will be sued. He is trying to spread false information about me. The two other cases that I have in family court are restraining orders against a man from 2021 and 2022. I have told him that putting me out to the wolves like that regarding cases where I have a restraining order against a man is not okay. It feels unfair and cruel, and for a man who is a mental health/suicide prevention advocate, it crushes me that he won't take it down.

Locked post. New comments cannot be posted.

1.2K Upvotes 1.6K Comments Share

Sort by: New

backbackbaby • 2 mo. ago • Sticked comment

Additional, conflicting information keeps coming in regarding this issue, and we are not able to verify or keep up in a meaningful or reliable way — this is way above our pay grade. We are no longer allowing discussion on the topic until a resolution is reached.

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CE0097

Life's been a bit of a challenge lately... and that's putting it mildly.

Unveiling the Unbearable: My Battle Against Cyberbullying and Online Harassment



Laura Owens · Follow
10 min read · 4 days ago



70



It's incredibly hard to put this into words and share what's been going on. I've never asked my friends or family for emotional support, but I'm feeling truly shattered, defeated, mentally drained, and worthless due to the events of these past several months. I have been the subject of a smear campaign that I wouldn't wish on my worst enemy, and the target of cyberbullying, cyberharassment, and cyberstalking at a level that I truly think no one would believe was imaginable. My heart has been torn to shreds, and it seems like nobody beyond my family truly sees or understands who I am anymore. Maybe that's my fault, since the sheer embarrassment of it all has been so overwhelming that I've found myself hiding from the world.

Since around mid-September, I've been noticeably absent from social media and pretty much detached from the life I used to lead. I can count on one hand the times I've stepped out of my home since then, but the number of times I've found myself in tears is beyond calculation. Earlier this morning, around 4:30, I found myself on the floor, overwhelmed with emotions,

CE0098

feeling more bullied and alone than I've ever felt. It struck me that maybe it's time to stop concealing what I've desperately tried to keep under wraps for months now. I've come to understand that by not being public about what I'm struggling with, I've made this battle harder for myself. It's now abundantly clear that the only way to stand up to bullies is by confronting them directly.

I know that some of you caught wind of the rumors that I got pregnant by Clayton Echard, the star of *The Bachelor's* season 26. Clayton had briefly been my real estate agent, and during a May evening, our professional dealings turned into something more personal. Following three positive pregnancy tests — one taken at home, another at an urgent care center, and the final one done in Clayton's presence — it was evident that I was indeed expecting. Soon after, I discovered I was pregnant with twins, and I knew with 100% certainty that he was the father. Clayton went radio silent when it came time to take a paternity test, despite my persistent requests — twenty-nine times, to be exact — at a lab he had selected previously. When he finally responded, he dared me to reach out to the tabloids, a move I knew would compel him to comply with the test. Before the news hit the public, I pleaded with the media to keep my identity under wraps, and they agreed. However, their description of me as the “anonymous woman” contained enough details for those familiar with me to make connections and for strangers to track me down online.

Like many, I was familiar with Reddit before news about my pregnancy became public, but I had no grasp of the level of dedication its members had. Shortly after the initial articles surfaced, a friend reached out, informing me that self-proclaimed “sleuths” were actively discussing and mentioning me by name in “subreddits” centered around *The Bachelor*. There was a barrage of misinformation circulating, and initially, I wrote back to

correct those who were getting the facts twisted. However, these so-called 'keyboard warriors', shielded by anonymous usernames, only seemed to intensify their interest in my life once they knew I was engaging with them.

Things took a truly devastating turn when an abusive ex decided to reach out to Clayton, telling him that I had 'done this before'. He was referring to two prior pregnancies — a part of my life I've guarded fiercely, not just from the wider audience I'm speaking to now, but from everyone. Rather than having a private discussion with me about it, Clayton broke the news to his hundreds of thousands of followers, and Redditors, like relentless detectives, latched onto this snippet of my personal history. They dove deep into my life, tearing through layers I desperately wanted to keep hidden and, truth be told, deservedly so. My life was becoming a mere public spectacle, and it caught the eye of a *Bachelor* content creator named Dave Neal, a major figure on Reddit, who has completely turned my world upside down.

Dave has blatantly victim-shamed me for my reproductive decisions, stating that my life would hold no interest for him if it weren't for two prior abortions. The source of the misinformation he's spreading traces back to two men I'd been pregnant by before. Their animosity against me, triggered by the restraining orders I have against them, is the driving force behind the distorted tales being circulated about me, and ones they have shared with Dave. They supplied him with court documents containing entirely baseless, never-seriously-considered-by-a-judge claims about me, which Dave has disseminated as if they were factual. Although their accusations were unequivocally untrue, they were mortifyingly embarrassing and not something I wanted anyone to know. My decision to stay silent inadvertently bolstered Dave's platform, giving him free rein to harass me without facing any consequences.

The allegations they had previously made against me in response to cases I filed against them were horrendous, alleging that I falsified my pregnancies, tampered with records regarding my past pregnancies, and fabricated the severity of the injuries I sustained due to abuse. In a desperate effort to get him to stop spreading false and extremely damaging information about me, I offered to sign a release to have my previous pregnancy records sent directly to him from my providers. I sent him proof that I was one of only 630 patients accepted into the Domestic Violence Brain Injury Program at Barrow Neurological Institute, the only one of its kind in the nation, as a result of "multiple strangulation injuries" resulting in me developing epilepsy. However, he ignored my offers, revealing that he cared little for the truth.

Dave's motivation in continuing to create content about me has been the massive surge in viewers and listeners on his monetized platforms by peddling sensationalized, entirely untrue tales about my life. He claims that he "doesn't take a shit without monetizing it", and so his motivation is clearly financial. Dave puts out so much content that it feels like doing damage control is a full time job: he posts three shows, usually one about me, to YouTube and two podcasts a day. Each time, it sparks a fresh wave of discussions that only add more fuel to this never-ending fire.

Dave's enormous following on Reddit has made my life incredibly difficult. They've created countless threads in Bachelor-related subreddits, and in the ultimate showing of targeted harassment, one person even went as far as creating a subreddit in my name just to bully me. I was taken aback when I read a post purported to be from a high school peer with outrageously far-fetched and blatantly false allegations, claiming that during that time, I was pregnant by multiple men, including a special needs student and fathers of my peers. One fabricated story claimed that my father offered one student

\$6000 to buy new speakers for his car if he would date me for a month. The reality was quite different — I was extremely introverted throughout high school, never attended a party, and had my first kiss during the week of graduation. These claims hold no resemblance to reality, yet they've left me feeling utterly powerless and deeply ashamed. It feels as though the reputation I painstakingly built and every achievement I've held dear have been ruthlessly torn apart and relentlessly mocked in profoundly disheartening posts.

The comments said about me have been brutal, such as, "I hope she's an organ donor so something good can come out of her pathetic existence", and that I am "a complete waste of skin and bones". I've been told to kill myself, with comments suggesting it might help my family move past the supposed disgrace they claim I've brought upon them. My dad's Wikipedia has even been edited several times by trolls to state that he only has one daughter, my sister.

Dave claims to have only referred to me by "Jane Doe", but my name has appeared in his content many times, and his fixation on me has reached the level of an obsession. Since September, he's churned out over fifty videos about me, boldly claiming that the count might escalate to "more than one hundred and forty" as he continues to probe into my life. Moreover, he's generated well over a hundred hours of podcast content solely focused on me and actively pursued opportunities to appear on any podcasts, offering to fly anywhere in the country to do so, because he is so eager to discuss my life through his lens of lies.

I would be lying if I said I wasn't afraid of Dave. During one of his live streams, he inadvertently displayed a map leading to my home. In an interview just this week, his comments became even more alarming as he

said he wished I had been a passenger on the missing Malaysian flight 370. Adding insult to injury, he shamelessly exhibited a picture of me in a bra with an exposed pregnant belly during one of his episodes. When I requested its removal, he callously dismissed my concerns, laughing as he told his audience, "Bra or no bra, who cares?". He's joked about me having a miscarriage, which is something that is not remotely funny.

As a last resort, I filed for an Injunction Against Harassment against Dave due to his obsessive interest in me and his flat out refusal to stop making videos and podcasts about me when asked. However, when I informed him that he would be served by a process server, he turned the tables.

Deceptively, he began painting himself as fearful of me. His followers swiftly joined in, spreading these unfounded notions that I might pose a threat. I've been called "unhinged" an innumerable amount of times and his followers have posted countless times that I need to be institutionalized. It's been outrageous, entirely unwarranted, and incredibly upsetting.

My physical appearance has been a relentless subject of mockery. Multiple memes have been created, emphasizing my looks and targeting me with hurtful comments about my looks. People claimed to be stunned that Clayton chose to be intimate with me for just one night after having numerous beautiful women to select from during his time as The Bachelor. Clayton himself mentioned I didn't look as pretty as I appeared in some Instagram photos he scrolled through.

I thought that maybe if I were able to change my identity on the outside, I might get back to feeling like myself on the inside. After a lot of thought, I decided to file for a legal name change, which was discovered by Dave the day after I filed the petition with the court, and my new identity as Emily

Wilson was disclosed to his audience, making it obsolete. I felt like I had run out of ideas to escape the relentless nightmare I was living in.

My integrity means everything to me. I've never lied about being pregnant nor the extent to which I've been abused, and I have medical records to back both of those things up. However, I won't be sharing updates regarding the status of my pregnancy with Clayton. *I kindly ask not to receive congratulations or engage in discussions about Clayton and my pregnancy.* This post is not intended for that purpose. What I can confirm is that I sought an order of protection against him. Despite my only sending him pregnancy updates, interestingly, a month later, he obtained an Injunction Against Harassment against me.

Dave's followers have chosen to write my full name on Reddit and in the comments sections on his YouTube videos because they say that in doing so, they will alter the SEO algorithm so that these blatant lies about me are shown at the top of Google search results. He has incited hatred, harassment, and threats against me, and I am just exhausted from it.

Over the last few months, I've often questioned: What is the allure of a 33-year-old woman, confirmed to be pregnant three times, to him and his audience? How much more content can he create, and how much more can I take? Although I would be more than entitled to file a defamation lawsuit against Dave, I have no desire to have my life drained by the legal system and simply want him to stop and remove the videos. If you want to watch how cruelly, and flat-out bizarrely, Dave has spoken to and about me, you can watch [this](#) video.

I'm sure this post will spark more hateful content from Dave, and he will incite his followers to make more cruel comments about me. Despite

outwardly claiming to my family that I've become desensitized to anything that can be said to me at this point, Dave's videos still deeply affect me, as do the words of his supporters. While I *know* I will advocate against cyberbullying in the future, right now, I just wish for this torment to stop. His relentless bullying has pushed me to the brink, causing moments where I've felt close to the edge of despair. I've even expressed to him that the blood would be on his hands if I harmed myself due to his relentless harassment, but it had no impact on him. It just provided him with something else to talk about on his shows. And why would he stop talking about me? Spreading misinformation generates profit for him, and that appears to be his sole concern. It's an ongoing struggle to try to rise above this situation.

My life has changed after witnessing how cruel people can be, and while I'm a changed person after all of this (how could I not be?), I still want to be Laura Owens, not Emily Wilson. I'm anxious about how people might perceive me once I share my story, but holding all of this inside hurts. **In the face of relentless cyberbullying, I yearn for the torment to cease, hoping that someday, my story will speak louder than the falsehoods, and the strength I find within will reclaim the identity they sought to shatter.**

Cyberharassment

Cyberbully

Struggle

Overcoming Obstacles

Empowerment



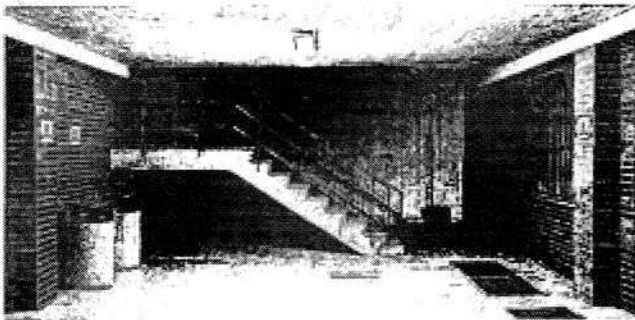
Written by Laura Owens



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Sharing my story isn't about seeking sympathy; it's about reclaiming power, standing up against online abuse, and empowering others along the way.

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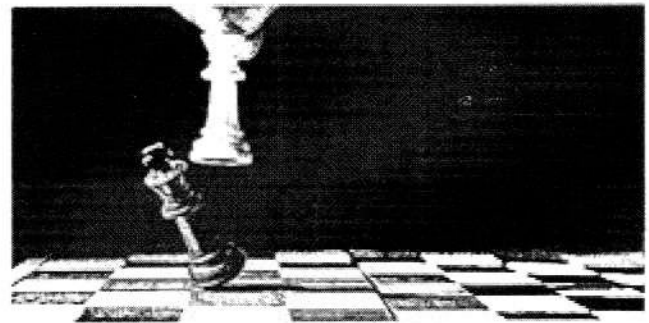
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When I was a kid, my dad kept a second family in our basement.

Growing up, I thought everyone had a second family in their basement. In retrospect, I...

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Laura Owens

Your choice

To Clayton Echard

in Text - iCloud August 1

Clayton,

This is actually the last email. Davis said that you're "not interested in resolving this amicably at all" and that nothing will change your mind. I know that there's one thing that will get you to take a paternity test and communicate: going to the media. I wanted to give you a heads up of what I am going to be submitting as a tip to Page Six and NY Post. I have my read receipts turned on, so if you read this and I don't hear back, I will go ahead and submit it. If for some reason this changes your mind, let me know. Regardless, you will have to acknowledge the situation very soon, so it's just your choice as to whether it's with the public involved or just me.

All the best,



Laura Owens

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Clayton being nice.pdf

8-20-23 email to Clayton listing his insul...


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Borderline suicidal letter to Clayton - 7...

The Last Email to Clayton - 8-2-23.pdf

Declaration of Service - 8-2-23.pdf



**ECHARD
TWINS!
COMING
FEBRUARY
2024**

CE0116



Laura Owens

Clayton Echard as a HOPE Conference speaker

To: Clayton

Trash - Cloud August 13, 2023 at 6:03 PM

H,

My name is Laura Owens and I am hesitant to send this email, but felt like I needed to so that I can have a clear conscience. I would ask that you please keep this information confidential.

I learned that Clayton Echard is a speaker at the HOPE Conference. I am pregnant with his unborn twins and have filed to establish paternity with the court. Clayton has gone dark on me, despite the fact that I provided him with an abundance of evidence of the pregnancy. I even took a test in front of him that he purchased, which came back positive. Now, he is refusing to take a paternity test. I was raped, assaulted, and left for dead in March of 2022, and up until my encounter with Clayton, I was not with anyone else. I haven't been since either. He is 100% the father. You can click the links below, including my TEDx talk, to see that I have credibility.

To say that I have been overwhelmed since I found out that I was pregnant would be an understatement. The thought of raising one unexpected child was a lot to handle, but the thought of bringing two into the world really put me over the edge with anxiety. Clayton had promised to support me after I took the positive pregnancy test in front of him, but like I mentioned, he has decided to ignore me. He has said mainly that he wants me to have full custody, but said twice that he wanted full custody and would move to another state with the kids. They are due in February 2024 and I have no idea what to expect of Clayton when they are born.

I have been very scared of the future and lonely, and confided to Clayton on July 30th that I was feeling borderline suicidal. He chose to ignore me, knowing that if I hurt myself, it would kill his unborn twins. I still have not received a response. The only reason I have felt this way is because of him and how he has treated me throughout the process. He has acted like I was ugly and not worth his time or effort to try to date despite our situation. He has dehumanized me, been extremely demeaning, and has gaslit me throughout the process. I have wanted no money from Clayton; all I want is his support because this is a very scary time for me. I wish I had the option to just block someone and forget the pregnancy existed, but I obviously don't have that choice.

I wanted to pass this information on in case you wanted to reconsider Clayton's role as a speaker at the conference. Based on how he has treated me, he is the last person who is qualified to give a speech about suicide prevention and intervention when he doesn't even care if the mother of his children took that final action. I'm sure he will try to portray me as crazy if you speak to him about this, but I assure you that Clayton is the father of the children and he knows it, which is why he is refusing the prenatal paternity test that I offered to pay for. I am attaching my letter to him regarding feeling borderline suicidal as well as the court papers that were served on him to prove that we are indeed part of a paternity case. I have plenty of other evidence that the pregnancy is real should you need to see it.

If Clayton can provide value to people despite this, then by all means I support him being a speaker and I apologize for even sending this email. I just wanted you to know that he may not be speaking for the right reasons since he clearly doesn't care about the cause as much as I hoped he did. I am putting him on this email as I have nothing to hide and he knew I would be sending this.

Thank you for your time!

All the best,



Laura Owens

Needle Test Me? | Guest Column | TEDxTalk

How available? Read my story in the 2020 Anniversary Edition of Chicken Soup for the Soul



Borderline suicidal letter to Clayton - 7...

Email to Clayton - 8-2-23.pdf

Establish Paternity Redacted.pdf

Pregnancy Proof.pdf

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0893-3200/00/\$12.00 DOI: 10.1037/0893-3200.15.3.333

EXHIBIT "3"

January 17, 2024

URGENT - VIA EMAIL AND FIRST-CLASS MAIL

Amazon.com, Inc – Headquarters

Attn: Legal Department

410 Terry Avenue

North Seattle, WA 98109

Amazon.com, Inc

P.O. Box 81266

Seattle, WA 98108

Legal@amazon.com

**Re: Owens v. Echard – Maricopa County Superior Court (FC2023-052114;
CV2023-05392) – SPOILIATION NOTICE**

Dear Amazon Legal Department:

Our firm represents Clayton Echard in a court proceeding currently pending before Judge Mata in Maricopa County, Arizona (FC2023-052114). Our firm also represented Mr. Echard in a civil proceeding under CV2023-05392. We are requesting that Amazon preserve what may be critical evidence in both causes.. Specifically, order and purchase history related to Laura Michelle Owens.

Spoliation Notice: This letter demands that Amazon preserve and not alter any evidence relating to this matter, including, but not limited to orders/purchases associated with the following identifying information:

- The purchase history of any Amazon account associated with any of the following email addresses:
 - [REDACTED]@lauramichelleowens.com
 - [REDACTED]@nobodytoldmeshow.com
 - [REDACTED]@gmail.com
 - [REDACTED]@lauraowensmusic.com
 - [REDACTED]@gmail.com
 - [REDACTED]@aol.com
 - [REDACTED]@gmail.com
 - [REDACTED]@gmail.com

- The itemized list of all products purchased from any of the above accounts made from May 1st – December 31st, 2023.
- All records of deliveries made to Laura Michelle Owens or any occupant at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] from May 1st – December 31st, 2023.
- Any other information, real evidence, or documents that may be relevant to this matter.

Please **immediately** take steps to preserve this digital data and anything else related to this matter. In addition, please do not alter or destroy any related materials.

We will be proceeding by subpoena for the same under separate cover, but wanted to notify you of this in advance to assure the information is preserved.

Very truly yours,
WOODNICK LAW, PLLC



Gregg R. Woodnick

GRW/mb
CC: Cory Keith (attorney for Ms. Owens);
Clayton Echard (via email)