



HUDSON PERINATAL
CONSORTIUM, INC

James L. Ingraham
Electronic Imaging Plus
P.O. Box 1193
Voorhees, NJ 08043

Dear Mr. Ingraham:

I am writing to wish you all the best in publishing your Book.

As a ten-year breast cancer survivor I feel truly blessed to be here today to provide my humble suggestions and thank you for asking me to put them in writing.

I was 39 years old and a first time mom who was breastfeeding my daughter when I found a lump on my right breast. I thought it was a clogged milk duct and never thought about it again. After all, I was too young to get cancer (of course a myth). After finishing nursing my daughter for 18 months, I was encouraged to get a baseline mammogram four months after my 40th birthday, Much to my surprise, I was diagnosed with stage 11 breast cancer.

Just hearing the "C" word convinced me I was going to die. My immediate and only concern at that point was the well being of my 2 year old, a bright, beautiful and special girl named Alexis Noel. The first four days were really marked with preparing husband and family to take care of my daughter once I was gone. After about a week, of what I considered mourning, I began a fight with GOD'S help that I have won for at least the last 10 years.

I would like to ask that you focus on two things in your Book First, is the impact cancer diagnosis has on young mothers (most of us worry more about our children than our physical appearance). Secondly, the real reason why GOD created breasts - breastfeeding. It would be great to feature a woman of color who was breastfeeding. This may help us increase the breastfeeding rates in the African American community and convey a message that is really important. ~Your breasts don't define you!!!~ If a man leaves you because you have lost a breast and not chosen to have reconstruction.. I say ~Good riddens... he wasn't good enough for you anyway."

Best wishes,
Mariann Moore