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Doctor To Pay \$1.65 Million For "Wrongful Birth"

by Dave Reynolds, Inclusion Daily Express

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Teaneck, NJ, May 29, 2002 -- Jade Fields is 7 years old. Her mother, Cynthia, says Jade "has a heart of gold." Jade has a number of disabilities, including mental retardation and blindness. Because of frequent lung infections she goes to the hospital five or six times a year, each time for a week or more.

When Cynthia was pregnant with Jade, she did not know that the girl might have been born with a disability. She says that had her doctor let her know this was likely, she would have had an abortion.

"The doctor took away my rights," said Cynthia, referring to her legal right to an abortion. "If I had known she had a birth defect like this, in the blink of an eye I would never have had her."

Last week, obstetrician **Dr. Richard Lieblich** admitted no wrongdoing in the case, but agreed to pay Fields \$1.65 million, reported the Bergen Record.

For other stories related to "wrongful birth" lawsuits, check out this Inclusion Daily Express Web page: <http://www.inclusiondaily.com/news/advocacy/wrongfulbirths.htm>