LIP SERVICE, in Service of the STATE

THEY hired me to work 40 hours a week on breastfeeding. I did, and used the time wisely. THEY called me a Fanatic.

THEY said, "Write us a Plan."

I wrote a Plan that was realistic and workable.

THEY said "We don't like that one. Try again."

THEY said, "Tell us how to increase breastfeeding to 75%." I said, "Work on reducing artificial feeding to 25%." THEY called me a Zealot.

THEY said, "You haven't proved that Breast is really Best." I asked, "Then why are we Promoting it?" THEY called me Radical.

THEY said, "We want to know what others say about breastfeeding." I quoted the American Academy of Pediatrics.
THEY called me Dogmatic.

THEY said, "We want mothers to make a good choice." I said, "They need to know the risks of formula." THEY said I'd cause too much Guilt.

THEY said, "We want mothers to keep breastfeeding." I said, "Stop interfering with them." THEY said I Didn't Understand.

THEY asked me to analyze their clinics. I said, "Your staff needs training." THEY called me Confrontative.

THEY said they wanted me to provide Training. I asked, "WHEN do we start?" THEY called me Overzealous.

THEY sent me to set up a county-wide program. I went, and it was successful.
THEY called me Subversive.

THEY told me they wanted to edit my proposals. I used their words, intact and in context. THEY called me Extreme.

THEY said they wanted a Breastfeeding Advocate. I quoted research and mothers.
THEY called me Biased.

THEY Think that Lip Service is Enough. I Know that Breastfeeding really Matters. BABIES are the Real ZEALOTS!

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