

Subject: Re: Catching up
Date: Thursday, 23 October 2014 at 08:09:26 British Summer Time
From: Dr. Mike Mew
To: [REDACTED]
Category: Staff

[REDACTED]

As you might remember my goal is to have a full, free and fair debate on the cause of crooked teeth, it seems crazy to me that the orthodontic profession is treating 30-50% of the population, at great public cost and often with serious facial surgery, without knowing the cause of the problem, while also avoiding debate on the issue. Orthodontic therapy is generally based on an assumption of a genetic cause, while common sense and the weight of quality evidence in peer reviewed journals clearly concludes that this is mainly caused by the environment. While we cannot turn the clock back to live as our ancestors, simple public health messages targeted to children's groups and schools could make a significant difference to the health of the nation, especially since the link between crooked teeth, sleep apnoea, and several other health issues including ADHD is rising. This cannot be understated and there is so much more to what seems to be a just cosmetic issues of poorly aligned teeth.

It seems as if you could not make this stuff up, it is a real issue which is well supported by the hard evidence. Also I have cataloged the rejection letters that I have received from every single government and responsible body that I've contacted. It seems that everybody thinks that this is someone else's problem. The GDC (general dental council) claims that I should approach the BOS (British Orthodontic Society) who do not want to debate this issue (some of their emails makes interesting reading) and as a self elected charity, it is not really their responsibility. Although the GDC held a debate on this very subject in 1922 they claim that their remit has changed and they can not longer enter or adjudicate on clinical issues.

Currently I am waiting on the GDC to give a response to a letter of mine that is due to be published in the BDJ (British Dental Journal). The editor has, as is standard practice, approached them to give them the opportunity to respond, so that their response is published directly after my letter. Obviously the wheels of the GDC turn rather slowly, especially as they are under great pressure after an attempt to raise the annual retention fee (the amount each dentist pays each year to be registered) by 64%, which is being fought tooth and nail. Having approached them myself about 6 times to three different chairpersons I strongly suspect that they will repeat the same response, that it is not within their remit to become involved in clinical issues.

My next step will be to send an open letter signed by quite a few prominent people in the field to the GDC stating that I will start a petition to GOV, asking that GOV to give the GDC the remit to hold a full, free and fair debate on this issue, or even some form of enquiry. This will obviously mean that I will have to go to the public with this issue, however I have exhausted all other possible avenues and will be whistle blowing a serious issue.

However I have just read that all petitions will be void soon as a new government is expected and they will not reopen until May 2015, which will delay the start of the petition. Although things do move slowly and I doubt that this will delay me too much, since we are bound to be waiting on other issues, and I cannot ethically mention anything to the public until the second letter is delivered to the GDC and they have had a grace period to respond, and possibly reminded once with a deadline.

You mentioned that you might be able to help in January. This would probably be excellent timing, we will see how far we can get with Mumsnet just with the value of our argument and aim to be one of their campaigns of the week, which should help if the timing is right. I still feel that I have been hassling you to do something and can only defend this with the seriousness of this issue. It has taken me 6 years of constant letter writing to get to this point. Your support would be huge although nothing is going to stop me, I want the truth to come out.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read through all of this, I hope that it is not too wordy and makes sense. If you have time please send some form of response to indicate if you are going to be able to lend a hand at some point next year.

Best wishes, and regard to the family,

Mike

From: Michael Mew <mikemew@orthotropics.co.uk>
Date: Monday, 22 September 2014 18:53
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Catching up

[REDACTED]

If you don't want to then don't worry, however I am sure that it would help greatly. I've been careful not to commit you to anything in the proposed text and as I've always said, all that I am asking for is debate. I really don't want to abuse a friendship by asking you to help in ways that you do not want to, I actually held back for ages when I was your next door neighbour. And I know that everyone thinks that what they are doing is so important but this really is.

Obviously I am exploring other angles but they have not been exactly open so far and I'd rather only try when I know that I stand a chance. If you don't want to then say, I'll not hold it against you.

Mike

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 22 September 2014 14:25
To: Michael Mew <mikemew@orthotropics.co.uk>
Subject: Re: Catching up

Dear Mike,

I don't think that I have any leverage with Mumsnet. I am happy to have another go at the NHS when we get back in mid October, if that helps.

[REDACTED]

On 22 Sep 2014, at 09:53, "Dr. Mike Mew" <mikemew@orthotropics.co.uk> wrote:

[REDACTED]

Have you been able to give any thoughts to my last mail, below?
It would be very nice to accept your offer for some help in January, in the meantime there is this one really small favour that I was hoping that you could do for me, as I mention in the mail below. Everything is there, I've written a sample text and given the addresses. All I need is an introduction, something to help me get my foot through the door, the rest I can do myself. The important thing is that this is quite urgent, which is why I am enquiring if you have had a chance to read the last mail and do anything?

Hope all well,

Mike,

From: Dr. Mike Mew
Sent: 12 September 2014 14:59
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Catching up

Understanding you are very busy I've jotted down a mail that if you had time you could copy and paste into a letter or email to. I have tried to approach them and they are tough to get through to (I guess that they are inundated with people wanting their help), a little help here would go a long way;

Or

Here is the type of thing that you might want to say, without trying to put words in your mouth, just trying to make life easier for you. You should be aware of the campaign by Mumsnet to reform prime minister's questions time to make parliament more engaging and relevant for the public (something close to your heart);

Dear Mumsnet

Re; An introduction for Dr Mike Mew

Your web site has grown from a simple idea to become a valuable resource for mothers of children and a power to be reckoned with. I must congratulate you on the benefits that this has given to the lives of children both as a father and someone committed to improving the education and future of children.

I am writing to you to introduce Dr Mew, who is very keen to engage your attention and possibly support, and vouch that you should hear out his argument. I cannot and should not be a judge as to whether his own beliefs are correct or not. I can however vouch that his calls for sensible debate on the issue have been blocked and that if he is right then this is an issue of importance, which affects the lives of the children that you are committed to valuing.

At times medical specialities have needed some encouragement to realise uncomfortable truths and I am generally in support of open debate on all issues. You are understandably approached by numerous individuals wanting your time and influence however it is my suggestion that you give an hour of your time to listen to what Dr Mew has to say. Choosing the right causes to back is what makes an organisation as you are acutely aware.

My very best wishes,

PS; his email address is mikemew@orthotropics.co.uk and he will be in contact shortly.

This would help me out enormously and further the due scientific process that I am engaged in that has been blocked.

Hope all is well and sorry to be hassling you all the time, my only excuse is that this is important and in the public interest, and thank you very very much in advance.

Mike

From: Dr. Mike Mew
Sent: 10 September 2014 08:13
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Catching up

[REDACTED]

Social enterprise? Fascinating area, sorry to hear that it is taking up so much of your time.

January would be excellent but may I possibly ask one favour first, that it time dependant. I want to contact Mumsnet, you mentioned that the one thing that you could do for me was to make introductions and this is where it would be the most helpful. I would be happy to write the text, you could then check it without take any of your time up.

Also it would be nice to pop over some time for tea see how Antonia and Freya are doing, and catch up with the Mews but I held back as I'd not heard from you. It's been my experience that this is a controversial area and the medical profession is very conservative so there is a tendency to close ranks against any one asking the "wrong" questions and I was worried someone might have influenced you in this direction. This is why I am only calling for debate and never pushing my ideas or concepts.

Hope to hear back from you soon?

Best wishes,

Mike

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 09 September 2014 07:50
To: Dr. Mike Mew
Subject: Re: Catching up

Dear Mike,

Not asleep, just submerged in work. I am in the middle of launching a social enterprise, and have bugger all time for anything else.

Will January do?

[REDACTED]

On 4 Sep 2014, at 14:37, "Dr. Mike Mew" [REDACTED] wrote:

[REDACTED]

I am guessing that soon you are back to work after the summer recess and I am still trying to contact you. My hope is that these mails are not working for some reason and as such I thought that I would print them off and send them to you at home. I really do hope that all is well with you and there is nothing wrong that I have not heard of.

It is my intention to push for a debate, as I have mentioned many times before and I am not at the point where I could really do with some help to get this going. It does seem so hard to get the normal process of science going, at times it seems incredible.

Best wishes,

Mike

From: Dr. Mike Mew
Sent: 11 August 2014 15:13
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Catching up

[REDACTED]

Just back from first holiday this year. Much refreshed and wanting to get on with things and as such I am very interested to catch up with you. However I understand that this is holiday time with you and it is not the best time to catch up with you. I just hope that I have the right email address, or I am waiting a great deal of time. It might be best to send a transcript of this conversation by mail, apart from that I am at a loss to know what to do except carrying on every month and hope for the best.

Hope all is well and love to the family,

Mike

From: Dr. Mike Mew
Sent: 04 July 2014 09:42
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Catching up

[REDACTED]

I have great news, that I am now a father, but I've no news from you and feel now that I am hassling you. But in truth there are times when this is acceptable. I can calling for full, free and fair debate on an important issue. I am not pushing any philosophy, treatment or therapy, I want the truth the whole truth and nothing but the truth and know that given a level playing field I could prove with good evidence that there is a real and acute problem within my profession.

Since I left the Mews I have been working long days almost every day with little if no time off, few nights out, to build the business, for nothing happens without cash-flow. This is not a money spinner like orthodontics, changing the environment does not pay, changing habits does not pay. Lipo-surgeons drive Ferraris and dieticians ride bicycles, short term fixes do pay, but who is doing the good work? Now it is time to focus again on the bigger picture and push for a debate.

In 10min you could save me years of time and effort, all I would ask for is introductions no more. There is too much disinformation out there, there are too many vested interests, too many people saying that what we have to say should be ignored. If you have time please read the links that I present here and my proposed response, this is all published literature as I am trying to be open and transparent

with this. My next step (confidential) would be to start a petition to GOV asking for them to ask the GDC to investigate this matter further. Your help in raising awareness of this would be hugely helpful and would almost take you no time or effort.

I completely respect that you were very helpfully in asking some questions in the Lords for me and I thank you very much for this. And I am sorry to hound you for more but this is important, very important. Especially given the relationship between crooked teeth and health (in particular sleep apnoea) that is coming to light and I emphasize in this article-

<http://www.nature.com/bdj/journal/v216/n10/full/sj.bdj.2014.401.html>

Best wishes,

Mike

From: Michael Mew <mikemew@orthotropics.co.uk>

Date: Tuesday, 3 June 2014 13:33

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Re: Catching up

[REDACTED]

I'd not heard back from you and wanted to move ahead with this, love to hear back from you.

Hope all well,

Mike

From: Michael Mew <mikemew@orthotropics.co.uk>

Date: Thursday, 1 May 2014 16:57

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Catching up

[REDACTED]

Long time, I hope all is well with you and Antonia. I am certainly missing the Mews, I did pop in before Christmas, picked up some mail but you were away- as I'd hoped to wish you a happy Christmas. It seems that No 4 was undergoing a major refit and they have pulled up the very nice flooring- such a shame but if only they had done the place properly in the first place.

Big news with us, Milla is pregnant and we are due next week. Relationship has gone from strength to strength, and far faster than the business.

Generally things are going well in Purley, but slowly and I've been itching to come back to you for some time but the basics of getting a unique and innovative business up and going have been exceptionally hard work. At least 70hrs a week work and no social life almost at all. We are wanting to get back into gear with pushing for a debate on the causes of crooked teeth. It is crazy that millions of public money is being spent every year and 1/3 of the population are going through treatment without the cause being known or even any debate on the subject.

I hope you are still interested in supporting me on this, if so it would be great to meet up sometime and see what more could be done.

Best wishes and regards to everyone in the street.

Mike

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