

## **60 MINUTES INTERVIEW**

**INTERVIEWEE :** DR GEOFFREY WEXLER - ASO

**TELEVISION PROGRAMME:** "60 MINUTES" NATIONAL NINE NETWORK

**INTERVIEWER:** PETER OVERTON

**PRODUCER** KATHRYN BONELLA

**DATE OF INTERVIEW:** 2.00 PM, 8 July 2003, FRANKSTON, VICTORIA

Prelude:

1. Kathryn Bonella, the producer, informed Dr Wexler on her arrival for the interview that the subject was a little different from what Dr Wexler was thinking. The subject was still to be about extractions and early treatment but *not* about the material that so much time had been spent on, over the phone with Ms Bonella, namely Dr Rondeau and his views about Australian Orthodontists.

2. Before the recording began, but while Dr Wexler was facing Mr Overton and while the cameraman was getting ready, Dr Wexler asked to be told the questions. Mr Overton provided two and revealed he had a few surprises to spring including photos that Ms Bonella firmly directed him NOT to reveal until the interview was rolling.

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OVERTON: GEOFF WHAT DO YOU THINK THE PERCEPTION IS AMONGST THE MUMS AND DADS OF THE OF THE SCHOOL KIDS IN THE PLAY GROUND IS OF ORTHODONTICS?

DR WEXLER: PEOPLE ARE INTERESTED IN HEALTH AND BEAUTY THESE DAYS, MORE AND MORE THAN EVER, THEY ARE BOMBARDED WITH IMAGES OF IT. THEY SEE BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE IN ALL THE MEDIA AND THAT'S WHAT THEY COME FOR.

OVERTON: ARE THEY ALSO THINKING “OH I NEED TO HAVE MY TEETH STRAIGHTENED”?

DR WEXLER: DENTAL ATTRACTIVENESS IS PART OF BEAUTY AND IT'S ALSO AN IMAGE OF HEALTH, AND PEOPLE ARE VERY HEALTH CONSCIOUS THESE DAYS AND THAT'S WHAT THEY ARE COMING TO THE ORTHONTIST FOR.

OVERTON: WHAT'S YOUR OPINION IF YOU LIKE ON DENTISTS WHO ARE PRACTISING ORTHODONTICS?

DR WEXLER DENTISTS HAVE ALWAYS PRACTISED ORTHODONTICS.  
IN THIS COUNTRY THEY DO ABOUT 10%, BUT THEY TEND TO RESTRICT THEIR TREATMENTS TO MINOR TREATMENTS AND THE ORTHODONTIC SPECIALISTS DO THE MAJOR WORK AND THE MAJOR AND THE MAJORITY OF THE WORK.

OVERTON: BUT IT SEEMS THAT A LOT MORE DENTISTS - YOU SAY 10% - ARE DOING ORTHODONTIC WORK?

DR WEXLER: WE'VE GOT RECENT SURVEYS FROM 2001 OF 270 DENTISTS SORRY ORTHODONTISTS AND 10% OF THE WORK IS DONE BY GENERAL PRACTITIONERS

AND 90% IS DONE BY ORTHODONTISTS.

VERTON: ARE YOU COMFORTABLE WITH THEIR DOING  
THAT WORK?

DR WEXLER: YES, YES WHY NOT?

VERTON: BECAUSE THE WAY I UNDERSTAND IT THEY ARE  
SAYING THEY ARE SICK OF PULLING TEETH OUT  
SO THEY'RE STARTING TO GO FOR THE  
ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT THEMSELVES?

DR WEXLER: THE RIGHT PLACE TO GO FOR A DIAGNOSIS AND  
TREATMENT PLAN IN ORTHODONTICS IS THE  
REGISTERED SPECIALIST ORTHODONTIST. THEY'VE  
GOT TWO TO THREE YEARS OF TRAINING, 3000  
HOURS TO FOUR AND HALF THOUSAND HOURS  
OF SPECIALISED TRAINING AND THEY DO NOTHING  
ELSE AND SO TO GET AN OPINION AS TO WHERE  
PEOPLE SHOULD GO FOR DIAGNOSIS AND  
TREATMENT PLAN IS THE SPECIALIST  
ORTHODONTIST.

VERTON: HOW OFTEN DO YOU THINK ORTHODONTICS HOW  
OFTEN DO THINK ORTHODONTISTS ARE EXTRACTING

TEETH IN AUSTRALIA?

DR WEXLER: WE'VE GOT SURVEYS THAT SHOW THAT 60% OF TREATMENTS DONE BY ORTHODONTISTS IN THIS COUNTRY ARE DONE WITHOUT EXTRACTION OF TEETH - 60% THE ORTHODONTIC SPECIALISTS ARE VERY SKILLED AT NOT EXTRACTING TEETH AND THEY KNOW ALL THE TRICKS IN THE BOOK TO AVOID EXTRACTION.

OVERTON : BUT 40% OF PATIENTS ARE NOT HAVING TEETH EXTRACTED?

DR WEXLER: 60% OF PATIENTS ARE NOT HAVING TEETH EXTRACTED BUT WHEN THEY SEE THE REGISTERED SPECIALIST ORTHODONTIST IN AUSTRALIA, THE REGISTERED SPECIALISTS IN ORTHODONTICS ARE VERY VERY GOOD AT NOT EXTRACTING TEETH AND THERE ARE MANY MANY WAYS TO AVOID EXTRACTION IF YOU SEE A REGISTERED SPECIALIST. NEVERTHELESS EXTRACTIONS DO HAVE A PLACE.

OVERTON: IF YOU BROUGHT IN A 100 OF YOUR PATIENTS, YOUR MOST RECENT PATIENTS, HOW MANY OF THOSE PATIENTS WOULD HAVE HAD EXTRACTIONS?

DR WEXLER: 60% WOULD'NT HAVE.

OVERTON: SO 40% WOULD HAVE?

DR WEXLER: 40% WOULD HAVE HAD EXTRACTIONS AND IF YOU HAVE A LOOK AT SOME OF THE CONDITIONS THAT THEY PRESENT WITH YOU'D UNDERSTAND THAT THERE IS NO WAY YOU COULD FIT IN ALL THE TEETH WITHOUT EXTRACTIING TEETH IN SOME CONDITIONS. IT'S WRONG TO THINK THAT YOU CAN TREAT EVERYBODY WITHOUT EXTRACTING TEETH.

OVERTON: 40% HAVE EXTRACTIONS IN

DR WEXLER: IN AUSTRALIA

OVERTON: CONVENTIONAL ORTHODONTICS

DR WEXLER WITH THE TRAINED PROPERLY TRAINED REGISTERED SPECIALISTS IN AUSTRALIA, THAT'S RIGHT.

OVERTON: I INTERVIEWED AN ORTHODONTIST DEREK MAHONEY AND HE CLAIMS FROM HIS CLINICAL EXPERIENCE, 80%

ARE BEING EXTRACTED TEETH

DR WEXLER: THERE ARE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PRACTITIONERS I QUOTED YOU AN AVERAGE VALUE. AN AVERAGE IS ALWAYS IN THE MIDDLE SOMEWHERE AND SOME PRACTICES WOULD EXTRACT FEWER AND SOME WOULD EXTRACT MORE.

OVERTON: BUT 40% IS A LOT DIFFERENT TO 80%?

DR WEXLER: BUT THERE ARE DIFFERENCES IN PRACTICES AND DEREK MAY HAVE A DIFFERENT PROFILE IN HIS PRACTICE - IT MAY NOT BE THAT HE'S TOTALLY DIFFERENT IN HIS APPLICATION OF HIS KNOWLEDGE, IT MAYBE THERE ARE DIFFERENT PEOPLE COMING IN WITH DIFFERENT TYPES OF PROBLEMS. IT IS NO EASY EXPLAIN, BUT THE AVERAGE IN AUSTRALIA IS WHAT I SAID; 60% DON'T HAVE EXTRACTIONS SO IF DEREK IS SAYING 80% THAT IS'NT A BIG DIFFERENCE THAT'S IS ONLY A SMALL DIFFERENCE IN THE PROFILE OF THE PRACTICE.

OVERTON: 80%

DR WEXLER        SORRY

OVERTON:        HE SAYS 80% OF PATIENTS WHO GO TO SEE AN  
ORTHODONTIST ARE HAVING THEIR TEETH PULLED  
OUT.

DR WEXLER:       WELL THE DATA THAT I QUOTED YOU COMES FROM  
THE AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH CENTRE FOR ORAL  
HEALTH AND IT'S A VERY PRESTIGIOUS AND VERY  
SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION.  THEY ACTUALLY  
INTERVIEWED 270 ORTHODONTISTS IN AUSTRALIA  
AND  
NEW ZEALAND AND THE RESULT IS THAT 60% OF THE  
REGISTERED SPECIALISTS IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW  
ZEALAND DO NOT EXTRACT TEETH, IN CASES  
UNDERWAY IN 2001.

OVERTON:        WHAT ABOUT DENTISTS? EXTRACTING TEETH

DR WEXLER:       WE

OVERTON:        WHY DID/NT WE SURVEY THEM?

DR WEXLER:       THE SURVEY WAS A SURVEY OF ORTHODONTIC  
PRACTICE AND ORTHODONTIC PRACTICE IS DONE BY  
REGISTERED SPECIALISTS IN A VAST MAJORITY OF

CASES IN THIS COUNTRY. DENTISTS THERE IS NOT MUCH DATA ON WHAT DENTISTS DO IN ORTHODONTICS BUT THE INDICATIONS ARE THEY DO ABOUT 10% OF ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT AND WHAT THEY DO IS OF A MINOR NATURE, NOT BRACES.

VERTON: DEREK MAHONEY SAYS 163 PEOPLE CAME TO HIM LAST YEAR FOR A SECOND OPINION THOSE 163 PEOPLE THEIR FIRST OPINION SAID WE'VE GOT TO PULL YOUR TEETH OUT. HE DID'NT HAVE TO PULL ONE TEETH OUT AND HE'S TREATED THEM VERY SUCCESSFULLY.

DR WEXLER: IT'S VERY HARD TO COMMENT ABOUT WHAT YOU'VE JUST SAID BUT WHAT I CAN SAY IS THAT THE NORM IN THIS COUNTRY FOR THE REGISTERED SPECIALIST IS THAT 60% DON'T EXTRACT TEETH, 60% OF PATIENTS DON'T HAVE EXTRACTIONS, 40% DO. IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO COMMENT ON ANY PARTICULAR PERSON'S OPINION, EM, OR WHAT HAPPENS IN ALL THE PRACTICES IN AUSTRALIA, BUT I'VE QUOTED YOU ARE AVERAGE FIGURES AND THEY ARE IN THE MIDDLE



SOMEWHERE. THERE ARE OBVIOUSLY SOME PEOPLE WHO EXTRACT MORE, SOME PEOPLE WHO EXTRACT LESS AND IT MAY NOT BE THEIR STYLE OF PRACTICE IT MAY BE THE TYPE OF PEOPLE WHO COME TO THEM IF HE HAD 160 SECOND OPINIONS THEY'RE HIGHLY SELECTIVE

OVERTON: IT'S STILL A LOT OF PEOPLE THAT'S BEING SENT TO HIM?

DR WEXLER: SPECIALISTS IN MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY COLLECT A SELECTIVE GROUP OF PATIENTS – BUT THEY DON'T REPRESENT THE GENERAL POPULATION - IT'S A SELECTIVE GROUP THAT COMES TO ANYBODY THEY'RE SELECTED FOR PARTICULAR ATTRIBUTES OF THAT PRACTITIONER. IT MIGHT THEY'RE KNOWN FOR SOME PARTICULAR KIND OF TREATMENT, IT MIGHT BE THEIR PERSONALITY. THERE ARE LOTS OF REASONS WHY THERE ARE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN DIFFERENT ORTHODONTIC PRACTITIONERS AND BETWEEN DIFFERENT SPECIALIST'S PRACTICES.

OVERTON: SO IS DEREK MAHONEY WRONG IN HIS FIGURES OF  
80% OF ORTHODONTISTS ARE  
EXTRACTING TEETH?

DR WEXLER: DEREK, NO, HE IS JUST QUOTING HIS OWN  
EXPERIENCE.  
AND THERE ARE LOTS OF DIFFERENT VARIATIONS  
IN ORTHODONTIC PRACTICES; THAT'S NORMAL, BUT  
WHAT PEOPLE OUGHT TO DO IF THEY WANT TO HAVE  
A PROPER OPINION IS TO GO TO A PROPERLY  
TRAINED, PROPERLY QUALIFIED, REGISTERED  
SPECIALIST.

OVERTON: CAN I SHOW THIS PATIENT HERE-  
*[FLASHES PHOTO SHEET UNDER DR WEXLERS NOSE  
AND POINTS TO ONE SPOT ON THE WHOLE SHEET]*  
LOOKING AT HIS TEETH THERE, WHAT DO YOU THINK?  
SHOULD HE HAVE EXTRACTIONS?

DR WEXLER WELL, I WOULD'NT

OVERTON: YOU WOULD'NT ?

DR WEXLER: NO

OVERTON: 6 EMINENT ORTHODONTISTS RECOMMENDED TO THIS PATIENT'S MOTHER THAT HE NEEDED TO HAVE THE CLASSIC FOUR ON THE FLOOR

DR WEXLER: WHAT YOU'VE PRESENTED ME HERE IS PART OF THE INFORMATION. BASED ON WHAT'VE YOU'VE SHOWN ME. I WOULD'NT BUT THERE MIGHT BE OTHER FACTORS THAT YOU HAVEN'T SHOWN ME IN THIS PATIENT'S DIAGNOSIS, WHICH I HAVEN'T HAD LONG TO LOOKAT AND I HAVE'NT SPOKEN TO THE PATIENT ANDTHESE THINGS WILL VARY THE DIAGNOSIS IN SOME CASES.

OVERTON: BUT SIX ORTHODONTISTS SAID, OH WE NEED TO PULL YOUR TEETH OUT AND THE MOTHER DID'NT BELIEVE THEM. SHE COULD'NT UNDERSTAND WHY AND LIKE YOU SAY HE DOES'NT NEED HIS TEETH OUT?

DR WEXLER: WELL WHAT I SAID IS I DIDN'T SAY WHAT I SAID IS THIS BASED ON THAT PICTURE THAT YOU PUT IN FRONT OF ME I GAVE YOU AN EYBALL ASSESSMENT OF NO

OVERTON : UMHM

DR WEXLER: BUT AN ORTHODONTIST WILL TAKE A LOT MORE TIME IN MAKING AN ASSESSMENT THAN SHOIVING A A PICTURE UNDER YOUR NOSE AND, UMHM, WE GENERALLY WILL TALK TO THE PATIENT FOR AN HOUR AND ASSESS ALL THE RECORDS AND ANALYSE ALLTHE RECORDS MATHEMATICALLY AS WELL AS DISCUSSION, AND IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO GIVE A REALLY VALID OPINION IN A SPLIT SECOND BUT UMHM, LOOKING AT THAT ONE PICURE, I WOULD SAY NO.

OVERTON: BUT 6 OTHERS FROM YOU ORGANISATION SAID YES?

DR WEXLER: UMHM, YOU'D HAVE TO SHOW ME ALL THE RECORDS TO GIVE YOU A PROPER **OPINION**

OVERTON: HE'S HAD VERY SUCCESSFUL TREATMENT WITH SOME ONE LIKE DEREK MAHONEY USING FUNCTIONALAPPLIANCES. DOES THAT SURPRISE YOU?

DR WEXLER: NO

OVERTON: DOES'NT SURPRISE YOU?

DR WEXLER: LOOK IT'S VERY DIFFICULT TO COMMENT ON A CASE WHICH IS BEING PRESENTED TO ME IN THIS WAY

OVERTON: UMHM

DR WEXLER: AN ORTHODONTIST WILL WANT TO SEE ALL THE RECORDS, TALK TO THE PATIENT, TALK TO THE PARENT, HAVE TIME TO MAKE A SKILFUL AND CAREFUL ASSESSMENT AND THEN PRESENT TO THE PATIENT AND MAKE SURE THAT THE PRESENTATION IS IN LINE WITH THE PATIENT'S OWN DESIRES AND PERCEPTIONS.

OVERTON: ARE THERE TWO SCHOOLS OF THOUGHT IN ORTHODONTICS? YOU'VE GOT THE JOHN MEWS, THE DEREK MAHONEY'S, AND THEN, LET'S SAY THE TRADITIONAL CONVENTIONAL ORTHODONTISTS SUCH AS YOURSELF AND YOUR COLLEAGUES?

DR WEXLER: I'D SAY THERE IS A HUGE CONSENSUS IN ORTHODONTICS. IT'S AN INTERNATIONAL PROFESSION THERE IS A HIGH CROSS-FERTILISATION OF IDEAS. PEOPLE DON'T KEEP THINGS TO THEMSELVES. THEY

SHARE THEM IN ORTHODONTICS. IT'S ALWAYS BEEN LIKE THAT FOR OVER A 100 YEARS AND THERE IS A LOT OF CONCENSUS. THE QUESTIONS OF EXTRACTIONS AND NON-EXTRACTIONS ARE VERY OLD QUESTIONS IN ORTHODONTICS AND THEY HAVE BEEN DEBATED ALL ALONG. THERE ARE OBVIOUSLY BIASES AMONGST PEOPLE, PEOPLE WHO MIGHT NOT HAVE THEIR TEETH REMOVED IF POSSIBLE AND ORTHODONTISTS ARE THE BEST PEOPLE TO ASK ABOUT THIS, BECAUSE THEY HAVE ALL THE SKILL, TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE TO AVOID EXTRACTIONS WHEN EVER POSSIBLE.

OVERTON: 40% OF PEOPLE IN THIS COUNTRY ARE HAVING EXTRACTIONS, ACCORDING TO YOUR RESEARCH.

DR WEXLER: IT'S NOT MY RESEARCH, BUT YES ACCORDING TO THE BEST RESEARCH, WHICH IS VERY AUTHORITATIVE IN THIS COUNTRY

OVERTON: IS THAT RESEARCH THAT AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF

ORTHODONTISTS ARE PREPARED TO PUT THEIR  
NAME TO.?

DR WEXLER: IT'S NOT THEIR RESEARCH. IT WILL BE PUBLISHED IN  
DUE COURSE. AND I BELIEVE IT BELONGS TO THE  
UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE.

OVERTON: BUT YOUR'E COMFORTABLE WITH THOSE FIGURES?

DR WEXLER: IT'S NOT MY PLACE REALLY. THE RESEARCH IS DONE  
BY VERY EMMINENT PROFESSORS AND  
PRACTITIONERS  
OF ORTHODONTICS IN THIS COUNTRY AND THERE'D  
BE  
NO REASON TO QUESTION ITS VALIDITY.

OVERTON: ARE FACES BEING DAMAGED BY EXTRACTION?

DR WEXLER: I HAVE'NT SEEN ANY EVIDENCE AT ALL TO SAY THAT  
FACES HAVE BEEN DAMAGED IN GENERAL

OVERTON: XX

DR WEXLER: ORTHODONTISTS ARE SPECIALIST ORTHODONTISTS  
ARE HIGHLY QUALIFIED, HIGHLY TRAINED AND HIGHLY  
EXPERIENCED IN DOING THE BEST THINGS FOR

PATIENTS' FACES AND THE AUSTRALIAN ORTHODONTISTS ARE THE BEST IN THE WORLD. YOU WON'T FIND A COUNTRY WHERE THE ORTHODONTISTS SPECIALISTS ARE BETTER THAN WHERE THEY THAN THEY ARE IN THIS COUNTRY

OVERTON: BUT THEN INTERNATIONALLY, AUSTRALIAN ORTHONDONTICS, THE SMILES ARE RENOWNED AS THE SYDNEY SMILE BECAUSE OF THE RECESSED CHIN AND THE

DR WEXLER: I DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU GOT THAT FROM BUT AUSTRALIAN ORTHONDONTISTS ARE AS GOOD AS EVERYWHERE. THEY ARE THE BEST THAT YOU CAN GET. THEY ARE TRAINED BY THE BEST EDUCATORS. THEY ARE THE BEST DENTAL GRADUATES, GENERALLY, THE EDUCATORS ARE CONSTANTLY VISITING OTHER PLACES. OTHER ORTHODONTISTS ARE CONSTANTLY VISITING AUSTRALIA YOU HAVE ALL THE TOP UNIVERSITIES TEACHERS COMMUNICATING, MEETING REGULARLY, MORE THAN ONCE A YEAR. AUSTRALIAN ORTHODONTISTS RUN INTERNATIONAL CONGRESSES, ATTEND



INTERNATIONAL CONGRESSES AND THEY ARE AS  
GOOD  
AS THEY GET. THERE ARE NO BETTER.

OVERTON: PEOPLE LIKE DEREK MAHONEY AND JOHN MEW  
WOULD SAY THAT IT'S AN OLD BOYS CLUB; THEY'RE  
BRAINWASHED AND SIMPLY NOT WILLING TO ACCEPT  
THAT THERE ARE OTHER METHODS IN TREATING  
PEOPLE IN THE MAINSTREAM.

DR WEXLER: WHAT OUR DATA SHOWS AND WHAT OUR  
EXPERIENCE  
TELLS US IS THAT THE AUSTRALIAN ORTHODONTISTS  
USE ALL THE METHODS AVAILABLE INCLUDING THOSE  
OF DEREK MAHONEY, INCLUDING THOSE OF JOHN  
MEW, INCLUDING THOSE OF ALL THE KNOWN  
TECHNIQUES EMPLOYED BY THE VAST MAJORITY OF  
AUSTRALIAN ORTHODONTISTS BUT THERE WILL ALSO  
BE  
OUTLIERS IN THE GROUPS AND I WOULD PUT IT TO  
YOU IN FACT THAT THE PEOPLE THAT YOU ARE  
TALKING  
ABOUT ARE THE OUTLIERS.

OVERTON: THEY CONSIDER THEMSELVES MAVERICKS AND

OUTCASTS AND REBELS AND RADICALS.

DR WEXLER: LOOK THE FACT IS THAT THERE IS A LOT OF  
CONCENSUS AMONGST AUSTRALIAN  
ORTHODONTISTS  
YOU WILL ALWAYS FIND DIFFERENCES OF OPINIONS  
ABOUT EVERYTHING IN THE WORLD AND DENTISTRY  
IS THE SAME KIND OF THING, BUT BASICALLY THE  
ORTHODONTISTS ARE HIGHLY TRAINED, HIGHLY  
EXPERIENCED. THE EDUCATION THEY RECEIVE IS  
HERE IS SECOND TO NONE, IS UP TO DATE IT  
COMMUNICATES WITH THE REST OF THE WORLD  
AND THE PRACTITIONERS OF THIS COUNTRY ARE  
CONNECTED TO ALL OF THAT.

OVERTON GOOD PEOPLE

DR WEXLER: AND YOU CAN ALWAYS GO LOOKING FOR  
DIFFERENCES BUT THAT DOES'NT TELL YOU IF  
ANY OF THEM ARE BAD OR ALL OF THEM ARE BAD  
THEY'RE ACTUALLY AS GOOD AS THEY GET YOU  
CAN'T  
GET BETTER ORTHODONTISTS THAN YOU HAVE IN  
AUSTRALIA

OVERTON: PEOPLE LIKE DEREK MAHONEY?

DR WEXLER YES

OVERTON: YOU'D AGREE THAT HE IS A VERY GOOD  
ORTHODONTIST?

DR WEXLER: WELL I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT DEREK MAHONEY  
AND HIS PRACTICE BUT WHAT I WOULD SAY TO YOU  
IS THIS;  
THAT DEREK IS A REGISTERED SPECIALIST ORTHO-  
DONTIST IN THIS COUNTRY. HE'S DONE A TRAINING  
AND HE MAY HAVE A TYPE OF PRACTICE THAT  
DIFFERS  
FROM OTHER PEOPLES

OVERTON: HE CONSIDERS HIMSELF A MAVERICK

DR WEXLER I HAVE

DR WEXLER: I HAVE

OVERTON: AND AN OUTSIDER BY HIS COLLEAGUES

DR WEXLER: I HAVE A PRACTICE THAT I'M SURE IS DIFFERENT

TO THE ORTHODONTIST ACROSS THE ROAD.

OVERTON: BUT YOU'RE MORE MAINSTREAM ARE'NT YOU?

DR WEXLER: WE'RE BOTH, WE'RE ALL MAINSTREAM YOU CAN'T  
SELECT OUT ANY PARTICULAR PRACTITIONER  
AND SAY THAT HIS PRACTICE IS INVALID BECAUSE HE  
PRACTISES IN A SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT WAY

OVERTON: SO THEN AGAIN I ASK WHY HE IS CONSIDERED AN  
OUTCAST?

DR WEXLER: I CANT COMMENT ABOUT THAT, I DON'T KNOW THAT  
HE IS; I, I,

OVERTON: THAT'S WHAT HE SAYS WHAT HE FEELS WHEN

DR WEXLER: WELL I CAN'T COMMENT. I DON'T KNOW HOW  
HE FEELS, I HAVE'NT TALKED TO HIM ABOUT IT  
HONESTLY IT'S WRONG TO ASK ME HOW DR  
MAHONEY FEELS.

OVERTON: HE SAYS THAT HIS PEERS WILL NOT EMBRACE  
THEY'RE BRAINWASHED IT'S ALMOST A CONSPIRACY  
OF SILENCE.

DR WEXLER: LOOK WHAT IT IS, IT'S A CONSPIRACY OF EDUCATION

EDUCA ...ORTHODONTISTS ARE AMONGST THE BEST DENTAL GRADUATES THEY ARE VERY INTELLIGENT INDEPENDENT MINDS, THEY GO FOR HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION, THEY MAKE A SACRIFICE FOR IT AND THEY SPEND YEARS DEVOTED TO THEIR TASK OF BECOMING AN ORTHODONTIST SPECIALIST. AFTER THAT YOU CAN'T POSSIBLLY SAY THAT THEY ARE A GAGGLE OF GEESE FOLLOWING A LEADER. THEY'RE NOT. THEY'RE INDEPENDENT MINDS, THEY THINK INDEPENDENTLY, THEY PRACTISE INDEPENDENTLY, THEY FOLLOW THEIR OWN BELIEFS AND THEIR OWN EDUCATION AND TRAINING AND THEREFORE YOU CAN'T SAY THAT WE ARE FOLLOWING THE LEADER IT'S NOT "SIMON SAYS!"

OVERTON: DEREK MAHONEY FEELS HE CANT EVEN GET NEAR THE GAGGLE OF GEESE

DR WEXLER: AS FAR AS I KNOW, AND I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT HIM, DEREK IS A QUALIFIED REGISTERED SPECIALIST I DON'T KNOW WHY WE ARE TALKING ABOUT HIM SO MUCH BUT

OVERTON: WELL IT SEEMS TO ME HE PRESENTS AND JOHN

MEW

PRESENTS A VERY LOGICAL ARGUMENT AND I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT OF ORTHODONTICS AS BRACES STRAIGHTENING TEETH AND I'M SEEING THEY'VE SHOWN ME THEIR WORK AND I THINK MY GOD, THE USE OF FUNCTIONAL APPLIANCES IN DEREK'S CASE MINIMAL EXTRACTION MAY BE 5% EXTRACTION; JOHN MEW DOES'NT EXTRACT AND I AM SAYING WHY DOES SMILES GREATER FACIAL FEATURES GREATER FACIAL BEAUTY THAN TYPICAL EXTRACTION BRACES RETRACTION?

DR WEXLER: WELL IT'S VERY HARD TO COMMENT ON WHAT YOU'RE SAYING I HAVE'NT SEEN THE CASES I HAVE'NT HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO ASSESS THE RECORDS, MAKE A DIAGNOSIS. THE SPECIALISTS OF THIS COUNTRY WILL SERVE YOU WELL IF YOU SHOW THEM AND GIVE THEM THE TIME AND THE RECORDS AND THE INFORMATION THEY NEED TO MAKE A PROPER DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT PLAN THEY ARE THE MOST TRAINED, MOST QUALIFIED PEOPLE TO MAKE THESE ASSESSMENTS. THAT'S BECAUSE THEY HAVE HAD

THE TRAINING AND THE PROPER EXPERIENCE.

I THINK YOU SHOULD GO TO A PROPER REGISTERED SPECIALIST. YOU COULD ALWAYS, IF YOU DON'T AGREE WITH WHAT YOU'VE BEEN TOLD, YOU CAN FIND A SECOND OPINION.

OVERTON: THE 163 PEOPLE DID WITH DEREK MAHONEY AND THEY ALL WERE TOLD THEY TO HAVE THEIR TEETH PULLED OUT.

DR WEXLER: IT'S VERY DIFFICULT TO MAKE A COMMENT ABOUT THAT, IT REALLY IS.

OVERTON: CAN I SHOW YOU THESE TWINS. THIS IS USING THE JOHN MEW METHOD. THIS IS BEN WHO HAD THE TRADITIONAL METHOD, AND QUINTON WHO HAD JOHN MEW'S TREATMENT. WHAT DIFFERENCES DO YOU SEE IN THE RESULTS? THESE ARE IDENTICAL TWINS.

DR WEXLER: WELL THEY BOTH HAVE STRAIGHT TEETH

OVERTON: DIFFERENT PROFILES

DR WEXLER: AND ONE OF THEM HAS TEETH REMOVED

OVERTON: UM HM, BUT LOOK AT THE DIFFERENCES IN THEIR

SMILES FACES. MUCH FLATTER FACE. THIS IS WHY THE  
JAWS COME FORWARD

DR WEXLER: LOOK IT'S VERY DIFFICULT TO MAKE AN ASSESSMENT  
FROM FLASHING A PHOTOGRAPH. AS I SAID, AN  
ORTHODONTIC ASSESSMENT TAKES A FAIR BIT OF  
TIME.

OVERTON: UMHM

DR WEXLER: A LOT MORE INFORMATION THAN A COUPLE OF  
PHOTOGRAPHS.

OVERTON: UMHM

DR WEXLER: ONE OF THE THINGS I'D SAY ABOUT THOSE FACES  
IS THEY HAVE DIFFERENT HAIRSTYLES AND THE  
HEAD POSTURE IS DIFFERENT AND THAT AFFECTS  
THE  
PROFILE GREATLY.

OVERTON: I'VE SEEN THEM IN REAL LIFE AND THE DIFFERENCE  
IS PHENOMENAL.

DR WEXLER: WELL, I WAS ABOUT TO SAY YOU CAN CALL IT CHIN UP  
ORTHODONTICS. NOW, WHEN SOMEBODY FEELS A



LOT BETTER ABOUT THEMSELVES THEY PUT THEIR CHIN UP A BIT AND THAT CAN AFFECT THEIR PROFILE MORE THAN ANYTHING TO DO WITH WHAT THE ORTHODONTIST HAS DONE.

OVERTON:       LOOKING FACE ON I SEE THE SMALL MOUTH, THE FLAT FACE ON THE BOY WHO HAD THE TRADITIONAL TREATMENT WHEN I LOOK AT QUINTON WHO HAD THE RADICAL TREATMENT IF YOU LIKE, THE FUNCTIONAL APPLIANCES, I SEE A TOTALLY DIFFERENT FACE.?

DR WEXLER:     THERE IS 80 YEARS OF RESEARCH ON EXTRACTION VS NON-EXTRACTION AND THE RESEARCH ASKS THE VERY QUESTION THAT YOU'VE PUT TO ME AND THE RESEARCH SHOWS, AND THIS IS FROM HUNDREDS OR MAYBE THOUSANDS OF STUDIES, AND ALL THE ORTHODONTISTS IN AUSTRALIA KNOW ABOUT THIS RESEARCH, THAT EXTRACTIONS CAN DELIVER AS GOOD A QUALITY RESULT AS NON-EXTRACTION TREATMENT

AND THERE IS NO DIFFERENCE IN THE RATED  
OUTCOMES FROM EXTRACTION AND NON-  
EXTRACTION  
THAT'S WHAT THE RESEARCH SAYS.

OVERTON: BUT WHEN YOU LOOK AT PHOTOS AND YOU LOOK AT  
REAL PEOPLE.

DR WEXLER: YOU'VE SHOWN ME, SORRY

OVERTON: WHEN YOU LOOK AT PHOTOS AND YOU LOOK AT  
REAL PEOPLE, IT SEEMS TO OPPOSE THAT  
RESEARCH.

DR WEXLER: THAT'S WHY THE RESEARCH IS DONE AND THAT'S  
WHY  
THE RESEARCH IS NEEDED AND WHEN YOU LOOK AT  
THE RESEARCH ABOUT TREATMENT METHODS  
THAT'S REALLY THE ONLY PLACE TO LOOK.

OVERTON: BUT WHAT ABOUT THAT; THAT'S OBVIOUS; IT'S IN  
YOUR FACE?

DR WEXLER: THAT IS ONE PERSON PHOTOGRAPHED. IT DOES'NT  
CONSTITUTE A METHOD OR A BASIS FOR TREATING  
THE REST OF THE POPULATION.

OVERTON : BUT DOES IT CONST

DR WEXLER: MEDICINE IS ALWAYS BASED ON WHAT IS KNOWN ABOUT TREATMENT METHODS AND TREATMENT OUTCOMES AND THE RESEARCH IN ORTHODONTICS TELLS US THAT EXTRACTION IS NOT THE MAIN DETERMINENT OF A SATISFACTORY OUTCOME.

OVERTON: NOT AUDIBLE

DR WEXLER: MANY OTHER FACTORS DETERMINE OUTCOMES AND ALL THE RESEARCH THAT HAS BEEN DONE ON EXTRACTION TELLS US THAT THE OUTCOMES ARE VERY SIMILAR BETWEEN EXTRACTIONS AND NON-EXTRACTION TREATMENT.

OVERTON: I THINK YOU'LL GET AN ARGUMENT FROM JOHN NEW AND DEREK MAHONEY.

DR WEXLER: WELL,ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS READ THE BODY OF LITERATURE AND SEE WHAT IT SAYS – T'S BEEN ASKED FOR 80 YEARS IN THE WORLD.

OVERTON: AND THEY WOULD SAY "LOOK AT THESE EXAMPLES OF OUR WORK".

DR WEXLER: EXAMPLES ARE NOT A BASIS FOR TREATING THE

POPULATION. SINGLE EXAMPLES IF I TELL YOU  
THERE'S  
80 YEARS OF RESEARCH AND THOUSANDS OF  
ARTICLES  
BEEN WRITTEN AND MANY,MANY STUDIES BEEN  
DONE  
ON EXTRACTION AND NON-EXTRACTION AND THEY  
TELL YOU THAT THE  
OUTCOMES ARE VERY SIMILAR OVERALL, THEN YOU  
CAN'T ARGUE WITH THAT,WITH SHOWING ONE  
PHOTO!

OVERTON: BUT IT'S MORE THAN ONE PHOTOGRAPH.THEY'VE  
TREATED MANY MANY, MANY CASES.

DR WEXLER: WELL,WHAT YOU HAVE HERE IS A PRACTITIONER  
GOING AGAINST THE VAST BODY OF EVIDENCE  
AND THE VAST MAJORITY OF HIS COLLEAGUES  
AND THAT PERSON; THEN I CAN MAYBE UNDERSTAND  
WHY THAT PERSON MIGHT CONSIDER HIMSELF AN  
OUTCAST, BECAUSE THEY ARE GOING AGAINST THE  
VAST BODY OF EVIDENCE,THEY ARE GOING AGAINST  
THE VAST BODY OF THEIR COLLEAGUES WHO

BELIEVE THE EVIDENCE. THE EVIDENCE IS NOT MADE UP BY AN INDIVIDUAL, BUT IT'S MADE UP BY THOUSANDS OF STUDIES AND PROBABLY TENS-THERE MIGHT BE NEARLY 50 000 ORTHODONTISTS IN THE WORLD AND THEY FOLLOW THESE PRINCIPLES THAT I'VE DESCRIBED. THEY'VE DONE THE PROPER EDUCATION THEY'VE DONE THE PROPER TRAINING THEY HAVE EXCLUSIVE EXPERIENCE AND THEY ARE REGISTERED BY THEIR STATE GOVERNMENT AS SPECIALISTS SO THE PUBLIC CAN WORK OUT WHO THEY ARE

OVERTON: I WON'T DWELL ON IT, BUT THE MAHONEYS AND MEWS OF THIS WORLD WOULD SAY OUR COLLEAGUES DON'T BELIEVE US BECAUSE THEY ARE CAUGHT IN A TIMEWARP. THEY'VE BEEN BRAINWASHED AND THEY ARE NOT PREPARED TO CHANGE THEIR WAYS.

DR WEXLER: WELL THEY'RE ENTITLED; THEY HAVE THE LICENCE TO PRACTISE, BUT PETER, THEY ARE A COUPLE OF INDIVIDUALS THAT YOU'VE MENTIONED, WORKING

AGAINST THE VAST TIDE OF OPINION AND RESEARCH THAT EXISTS IN THE WHOLE WORLD. IT'S NOT AN AUSTRALIAN PHENOMENON THAT WE'D LIKE TO AVOID EXTRACTIONS; IT'S A WORLD-WIDE BELIEF AND I WISH THAT, WE WOULD LIKE TO NOT EXTRACT, BUT TEETH NEED TO BE TAKEN OUT SOMETIMES, AND YOUR ORTHODONTIST IS THE RIGHT PERSON TO ASK. YOU CAN TRUST THEM

OVERTON: DEREK

DR WEXLER LAUGH THEY'RE QUALIFIED REGISTERED SPECIALISTS

OVERTON: DR MAHONEY WOULD SAY "YES" THAT'S THE ASO ARE SPENDING THE BULK OF ITS BUDGET ADVERTISING BUDGET ON TELLING EVERYONE TO GO TO THE SPECIALIST ORTHODONTIST

DR WEXLER: I CAN TELL YOU THAT WE DON'T HAVE AN ADVERTISING BUDGET AT THE ASO AND WE'RE NOT TELLING OUR MEMBERS HOW TO PRACTISE. THAT'S NOT HOW OUR SOCIETY WORKS. AS I SAID

THE ORTHODONTISTS IN THIS COUNTRY ARE  
INDEPENDENT MINDED, INDEPENDENT FINANCIALLY,  
INDEPENDENT PRACTISING INDIVIDUALS WHO MAKE  
UP THEIR OWN MINDS ABOUT THE CORRECT  
TREATMENT FOR PATIENTS AND THE SOCIETY  
DOES'NT  
GIVE THEM ANY GUIDELINES AS TO HOW TO  
PERFORM THEIR DUTIES TOWARDS THEIR PATIENTS.  
THE SOCIETY JUST DOES'NT.

OVERTON: SO ACCUSATIONS FROM DR MAHONEY ABOUT A  
CONSPIRACY OF  
SILENCE IT'S THE OLD BOYS CLUB

DR WEXLER: THE MAIN FUNCTION OF THE SOCIETY IS ONGOING  
EDUCATION. THE ASO IS THE FIRST SPECIALIST  
SOCIETY IN AUSTRALIA TO  
INTRODUCE AN ON-GOING PROGRAMME OF CON-  
TINUING EDUCATION TO ENSURE THE  
PRACTITIONERS  
MAINTAIN THE VERY,VERY HIGH STANDARDS THEY  
ARE DEDICATED TO. HIGH STANDARDS AND ON-  
GOING

EDUCATION AND EXCELENCE AND THAT'S ONE OF  
THE THAT'S THE MAIN FUNCTION OF THE SOCIETY  
AND  
IT'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH DIRECTING PEOPLE  
TO DO  
OR SAY ANYTHING.

OVERTON: DEREK MAHONEY SAYS THAT WHEN HE DIES LOTS OF  
ORTHODONTISTS WILL COME TO HIS FUNERAL TO  
MAKE SURE HE GOES SIX FOOT UNDER BECAUSE OF  
HIS  
VIEWS BECAUSE HE'S NOT MAINSTREAM.

DR WEXLER: LAUGH. LOOK I REALLY I CAN'T COMMENT. HE, IT  
MIGHT BE A LOCAL PHENOMENON.

OVERTON: OK IS TRADITIONAL CONVENTIONAL ORTHODONTICS  
DAMAGING FACES; THE EXTRACTIONS?

DR WEXLER: NO ORTHODONTICS IS DESIGNED TO ENHANCE  
FACES  
IT HAS **ALWAYS**. IT HAS HELPED AND THAT'S WHAT IT  
DOES  
THAT'S WHAT IT DOES ALL OF THE TIME.



OVERTON: INTERNATIONALLY THOUGH YOU'VE HEARD OF THE SYDNEY SMILE WITH THE RECESSED CHIN WITH THE TINY LIPS?

DR WEXLER: NO. WHAT I'VE HEARD IS THAT ORTHODONTISTS IN MY ERA, HAS IN MY ERA, ORTHODONTICS HAS ALWAYS BEEN DESIGNED TO ENHANCE FACIAL BEAUTY, ENHANCE DENTAL ATTRACTIVENESS, ENHANCE DENTAL HEALTH. ORTHODONTISTS ARE DEVOTED TO ALL OF THESE THINGS. WE WANT TO MAKE OUR PATIENTS AS HEALTHY AS WE CAN AND IF BEAUTY GOES ALONG WITH THAT WE'LL DO THAT TOO.

OVERTON: YOU KNOW I KEEP GOING BACK TO DEREK BUT IT WAS INTERESTING. HE SAID IT WAS LIKE A RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE. HE WENT TO UNIVERSITY AND WAS TAUGHT AND HE FELT VERY UPSET AND VERY ANGRY THAT HE WAS TAUGHT ONE WAY TO PULL OUT TEETH AND THEN WHEN HE FOUND OUT ABOUT THE NON-EXTRACTION METHODS HE FELT "WOW" RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE.

DR WEXLER: I'LL TELL YOU SOMETHING. I WENT EXACTLY TO THE SAME UNIVERSITY AS DEREK WENT TO, THREE YEARS BEFORE HE DID, AND MY EXPERIENCE WAS THAT I LEARNT THE PRINCIPLES OF ORTHODONTICS. I LEARNT TO DESIGN THE TREATMENT FOR THE PATIENT'S BEST INTERESTS, INCLUDING FACIAL ATTRACTIVENESS, WHICH WAS NUMBER 1. DENTAL ATTRACTIVENESS. BUT DENTAL HEALTH AND FUNCTION IS A VERY IMPORTANT FACTOR IN THE DESIGN OF ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT.

OVERTON: I'D LIKE TO GO ONTO AGE AND WHEN A CHILD SHOULD BE TREATED. CONVENTIONAL ORTHODONTICS FROM WHAT I'M LED TO BELIEVE IS COME AND SEE US WHEN WE'RE 12 OR 13 AND THAT'S WHEN WE START TREATMENT EARLIER IS NOT ON?

DR WEXLER: I THINK THAT ORTHODONTISTS WOULD LIKE TO SEE PATIENTS MUCH EARLIER THAN YOU SUGGESTED PERHAPS AT THE AGE OF 8 OR 9 TO

OVERTON: AND TREAT THEM?

DR WEXLER: TO MAKE AN ASSESSMENT AS TO TREATMENT NEED.

A SMALL PROPORTION OF THOSE PATIENTS WILL BE BEST TREATED STARTING EARLY. A SMALL PROPORTION IN AUSTRALIA. A PROPORTION IS SOMEWHERE BETWEEN 5% AND 10% WILL RECEIVE SOME KIND OF TREATMENT AT AN EARLY AGE UNDER THE AGE OF 10. BUT 90% OF THE ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT DONE IN AUSTRALIA, ACCORDING TO THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF THE SPECIALIST, IS DONE AFTER THE AGE OF 10. AND THE MAIN REASON, I THINK, THAT SIMPLY TEETH DON'T COME THROUGH UNTIL AFTER THE AGE OF 10 THEY COME THROUGH BETWEEN THE AGE OF 10 AND 14

OVERTON: BUT TREATING SOMEONE YOUNG, ARE'NT YOU CATCHING THEM IN A PHASE WHERE THEY ARE GROWING AND YOU CAN WIDEN THE PALATE AND HELP THE JAW AND PERHAPS SAVE THEM FROM FURTHER ORTHDONTIC TREATMENT LATER IN LIFE?

DR WEXLER: YOU CAN DO ALL OF THOSE THINGS BUT NOT EVERYBODY IS BEST TREATED AT THAT YOUNG AGE. YOU CAN'T FINISH TREATMENT UNTIL

THE TEETH ARE THROUGH SO IF YOU START  
SOMEBODY WHEN THEY ARE VERY YOUNG, YOU  
MIGHT END UP TREATING THEM FOR 7 YEARS  
WHEN YOU COULD HAVE DONE IT JUST AS WELL  
IN YEAR TWO.

OVERTON: AND MAHONEY AND MEW WILL COUNTER THAT  
IT IS IMPERATIVE TO TREAT THEM AT A YOUNG  
AGE BECAUSE THAT'S WHEN THEY'RE GROWING  
THAT'S WHERE THEY CAN CHANGE THE MOUTH  
STRUCTURE AND THE JAW STRUCTURE?

DR WEXLER: ONCE AGAIN YOU'VE GOT ONE OR TWO PEOPLE  
GOING AGAINST THE REST OF THE ORTHODONTISTS  
IN THE COUNTRY WHO ARE INDEPENDENTLY  
TRAINED,  
HIGHLY EDUCATED IN THE FIELD AND THINK THAT  
A FEW PEOPLE SHOULD BE TREATED EARLY  
PROBABLY  
MOST PEOPLE SHOULD BE ASSESSED EARLY TO  
CATCH  
THE FEW AND THE REST SHOULD BE FOLLOWED  
CLOSELY AND TREATED AT THE MOST APPROPRIATE

TIME WHICH TURNS OUT TO BE LATER

OVERTON: IS THERE AN AUSTRALIAN STANDARD THAT CHILDREN SHOULD SEE AN ORTHODONTIST LIKE IN AMERICA AT AGE 7?

DR WEXLER: THIS GETS DOWN TO HOW YOU GET TO SEE AN ORTHODONTIST AND THIS MIGHT BE PART OF THE PROBLEM THAT DR MEW IS TALKING ABOUT. PEOPLE CAN COME TO THE ORTHODONTIST IN TWO WAYS:- THEY CAN ASK THEIR DENTIST TO REFER THEM TO A SPECIALIST ORTHODONTIST OR THEY CAN APPROACH

THE SPECIALIST ORTHODONTIST DIRECTLY BECAUSE NO REFERRAL IS NEEDED. YOU CAN FIND ORTHODONTISTS ON THE WEB AT [ASO.ORG.AU](http://ASO.ORG.AU) AND YOU CAN FIND THEM IN THE TELEPHONE BOOK AND YOU CAN GO STRAIGHT TO THE ORTHODONTIST SPECIALIST AND ASK HIM FOR AN ASSESSMENT. YOU DON'T NEED TO WAIT UNTIL YOUR'E TOLD TO GO

OVERTON XXX

DR WEXLER: 50% 70%..... BETWEEN 50 % AND 70% OF

ORTHODONTIST'S

WORK COMES BY REFERRAL FROM DENTISTS BUT BUT 25 TO 30% COMES FROM FRIENDS AND FAMILY AND PEOPLE WHO HAVE ALREADY BEEN TREATED BY THE SPECIALIST AND NO REFERREL IS NEEDED SO ONE OF THE PROBLEMS WITH THE AGE AT THE TREATMENT STARTS IS IN FACT WHEN PEOPLE TURN UP, AND IT WOULD PROBABLY BE BETTER IF PEOPLE DID TURN UP AT THE ORTHODONTISTS QUITE EARLY TO SELECT OUT THE CASES THAT WOULD BE BEST TREATED EARLY AND FOR PROPER SUPERVISION OF GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT UNTIL THE BEST TIME

CAN BE CHOSEN.

THAT WOULD BE VERY GOOD FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH.

OVERTON: DO YOU THINK AUSTRALIANS ARE GETTING THE BEST ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT OPTIONS?

DR WEXLER: CERTAINLY. AS I SAID THE SPECIALISTS IN THIS COUNTRY ARE VERY, VERY GOOD THERE ARE NO BETTER SPECIALISTS IN THE WORLD AND ANY PATIENT THAT COMES TO A TRAINED QUALIFIED

AND REGISTERED ORTHODONTIST SPECIALIST IN AUSTRALIA WILL GET THE BEST TREATMENT OPTIONS AND THEY'LL GET THE WIDEST RANGE OF TREATMENT OPTIONS AVAILABLE. THERE WILL BE NO OTHER PRACTITIONER WHO CAN OFFER A BETTER RANGE A WIDER RANGE OF OPTIONS.

XXXXXXXXXXXXX

OVERTON: SHOULD PEOPLE LIKE DEREK MAHONEY BE EMBRACED BY YOUR SOCIETY?

DR WEXLER: AMHM, IT'S A BIT HARD FOR ME TO COMMENT. I DON'T KNOW IF HE IS A MEMBER OR NOT

OVERTON: I THINK HE'S BEEN INVITED FOR THE FIRST TIME TO SPEAK NEXT YEAR

DR WEXLER: WELL EVERYBODY WHO IS A REGISTERED SPECIALIST IN THIS COUNTRY IS INVITED TO BE A MEMBER AND MOST OF THEM ARE.

OVERTON: SHOULD HIS TECHNIQUES BE PERHAPS MORE WIDELY PUT OUT INTO THE ORTHODONTIC MARKETPLACE?

DR WEXLER: I'M SURE THAT DEREK'S IDEAS WOULD BE CAREFULLY LISTENED TO BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ORTHODONTIC PROFESSION AND ASSESSED ACCORDING TO THE CRITERIA THAT I'VE MENTIONED WHICH THEY'VE STACKED UP AGAINST THEIR OWN EDUCATION, TRAINING AND KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEFS, WHICH THEY HAVE ACQUIRED DURING THEIR SPECIALIST TRAINING AND SPECIALIST EXPERIENCE. AND THEN EACH INDIVIDUAL PRACTITIONER SPECIALIST PRACTITIONER WILL DECIDE ON WHAT'S BEEN... ON THE IDEAS PUT FORWARD BY THAT PERSON AND THAT'S THE WAY KNOWLEDGE PROGRESSES IN MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY AND ORTHODONTISTS ARE NO DIFFERENT.

OVERTON: I'M STILL CURIOUS PERHAPS THAT'S THE WORD AS TO WHY I KEPT HEARING THAT IT IS THIS OLD BOYS CLUB AND THEY WON'T EMBRACE THESE NEW TECHNIQUES BECAUSE BASICALLY IT COMES DOWN TO FINANCE THE XXXX

DR WEXLER: ORTHODONTISTS WILL EMBRACE... ARE VERY GOOD



AT  
EMBRACING THESE TECHNIQUES AND ARE VERY  
OPEN  
MINDED TO NEW TECHNIQUES AND IN THE  
LITERATURE, IN THE JOURNALS, THEY ARE FULL OF  
NEW  
IDEAS AND NEW TECHNIQUES AND PEOPLE ARE QUITE  
WILLING TO CONSIDER THEM AND TRY THEM IF THEY  
FIT IN WITH THEIR BELIEF SYSTEMS AND YOU WILL  
FIND THAT ORTHODONTISTS IN THIS COUNTRY ARE  
VERY, VERY FORWARD IN THEIR THINKING.  
TECHNOLOGY IN ORTHODONTICS HAS MADE A HUGE  
CHANGE. AS A MATTER OF FACT TECHNOLOGY HAS  
ALLOWED AUSTRALIAN ORTHODONTISTS TO REDUCE  
THE COST OF ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT BY 42% IN  
THE  
LAST 11 YEARS. THOSE FIGURES COME FROM THE  
AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS AND THE  
AUSTRALIAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION. BOTH OF WHOM  
ARE INDEPENDENT OF THE AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF  
ORTHODONTISTS. SO ORTHODONTISTS HAVE MADE  
TREATMENT MUCH MORE ACCESSIBLE FINANCIALLY

IN AUSTRALIA, BY REDUCING THE COST BY  
42% OVER 11 YEARS.

OVERTON: IS THERE A PLACE FOR THE JOHN MEWS OF THIS  
WORLD, OF THE DEREK MAHONEYS OF THIS WORLD  
TO PRACTISE ORTHODONTICS IN AUSTRALIA. THEIR  
TECHNIQUES?

DR WEXLER: DR MEW IS IN LONDON

OVERTON: BUT HIS TECHNIQUES?

DR WEXLER: WELL HIS TECHNIQUES MIGHT BE SPECIFIC TO  
WHERE HE'S COME FROM. AFTER ALL WE LIVE IN  
AUSTRALIA AND WE HAVE A DIFFERENT HEALTH  
SYSTEM HERE, PARTICULARLY IN RELATION TO  
DENTISTRY. DRS, ALL PRACTITIONERS PRACTISE  
IN THEIR LOCALITY AND THEIR  
PRACTISING STYLE WILL FIT THEIR LOCALTY.  
IN AUSTRALIA WE HAVE OUR OWN. AND IT'S A VERY  
VERY GOOD SYSTEM PROVIDING CARE. I WOULD  
LIKE TO TELL YOU THAT IN THE RESEARCH THAT  
  
IT IS KNOWN IN AUSTRALIA THAT 44% OF AUSTRALIAN  
FAMILIES HAVE HAD SOMEONE IN THEIR FAMILY

VISIT...

HAD ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT. IN NSW 90%  
OF CHILDREN HAVE HAD ORTHODONTIC  
ASSESSMENTS  
AND 27% HAVE HAD TREATMENT WITH BRACES  
AND ITS VERY SIMILAR IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

OVERTON: WHAT'S THE PERFECT FACE FOR YOU?

DR WEXLER: EVERYBODY'S FACE IS DIFFERENT AND YOU HAVE  
TO  
TREAT PEOPLE AS THEY COME AND YOU CANNOT  
TURN  
LET'S SAY MR BEAN INTO JULIA ROBERTS  
AND WE HAVE TO WORK WITHIN THE LIMITS OF  
PEOPLES' FACIAL STRUCTURES, FACIAL BONES AND  
EVEN WITH MOST RADICAL METHODS WE'VE GOT,  
AMAZING SURGERY TECHNIQUES, WE FIRSTLY  
WOULDN'T APPLY THEM TO THE AVERAGE PERSON  
AND EVEN WHEN WE APPLY THEM TO PEOPLE  
WHO'VE  
GOT GREAT NEED FOR FACIAL CHANGE OF FACIAL  
CONFORMITY THERE ARE LIMITS TO WHAT CAN BE  
DONE AND THERE ARE ALWAYS LIMITS. I MEAN

EVERYBODY KNOWS THAT WE CAN'T CHANGE OUR BODIES DRAMATICALLY. WE CAN CHANGE OUR BODIES TO SOME EXTENT AND ORTHODONTIC  
**CLOCK CHIMES .....GENERAL CONVERSATION**

OVERTON: WHAT'S THE PERFECT FACE FOR YOU?

DR WEXLER:

OVERTON: WHAT'S THE PERFECT FACE FOR YOU AFTER AFTER ORTHODONTITRY (HIS WORD)?

DR WEXLER: EVERYBODY HAS A DIFFERENT FACE AND WE ARE LIMITED BY THE STRUCTURES THAT PEOPLE COME IN WITH. BASICALLY WE CAN'T CHANGE PEOPLE DRAMATICALLY AND EVEN WITH OUR MOST DRAMATIC METHODS, WHICH WOULD BE JAW SURGERY, WE STILL HAVE LIMITS AS TO WHAT WE CAN DO

OVERTON: FUNCTIONAL APPLIANCES. THEY PLAY A BIG ROLE?

DR WEXLER: FUNCTIONAL APPLIANCES ARE VERY USEFUL APPLIANCES BUT APPLICABLE TO A SMALL

## PROPORTION OF THE PATIENTS

OVERTON: THAT'S RIGHT

DR WEXLER: AND YOU'LL FIND THAT 90% OF AUSTRALIAN  
ORTHODONTISTS USE THEM BUT IT'S ABOUT 7% OF  
THE  
CASES THEY TREAT.

OVERTON : WHEREAS WITH SOMEONE LIKE MAHONEY IT'S  
95% OF THE CASES HE TREATS USING THOSE  
APPLIANCES AND THE RESULTS SEEM TO BE THERE  
FOR ALL TO SEE?

DR WEXLER: RESULTS IN ORTHODONTICS ARE NOT THAT EASY TO  
TO SEE. IT TAKES YEARS AFTER YOU'VE LEFT THE  
ORTHODONTISTS AND DON'T KNOW THEM ANY MORE  
TO FIND OUT WHAT REALLY HAPPENED. THE  
RESEARCH THAT'S ON TREATMENT DOES'NT REALLY  
SUPPORT THE FACT THAT YOU CAN USE....., DOES'NT  
REALLY SUPPORT THE *OPINION* THAT YOU CAN USE  
FUNCTIONAL APPLIANCES ON EVERYBODY AND BE  
SUCCESSFUL ON EVERYBODY.

OVERTON: FUNCTIONAL APPLIANCES YES YOU DO NEED TO USE

THEM IN SORT OF A LIFETIME MAINTENANCE ROLE  
IS THAT CORRECT?

DR WEXLER:

RETENTION IS A COMPLICATED TOPIC

LAUGHS

RETENTION IS A COMPLICATED TOPIC IDEALLY

WE WOULD LIKE NOT HAVE TO USE IT AT ALL

WE CAN'T PLACE A PLATE OR A PIECE OF WIRE INTO

SOMEBODY'S MOUTH FOR 70 YEARS. AT SOME POINT

IN THE FUTURE THEY WILL HAVE TO NOT HAVE THE

RETAINER. ANYTHING THAT THE DENTISTS....

ORTHODONTISTS PLACE THERE WILL FAIL IN TIME.

SO THE REAL TEST OF SUCCESS IN ORTHODONTICS

IS WHAT HAPPENS IN THE LONG TERM AND THERE IS

NOT RESEARCH TO SAY THAT FUNCTIONAL

APPLIANCES ARE THE ANSWER TO LONG TERM

STABILITY

OVERTON:

WHAT ABOUT EXTRACTION & RETRACTION? IS

THAT THE ANSWER TO STABILITY?

DR WEXLER:

NO THE CORRECT DIAGNOSIS AND THE CORRECT

TREATMENT BY THE SPECIALISTS WITH ALL THE

SKILLS AVAILABLE TO THEM IS THE BEST BET

FOR LONG TERM SUCCESS IN ORTHODONTICS.  
NOT A ONE THING CURES ALL. THAT IS NOT THE  
WAY IT WORKS. ORTHODONTISTS HAVE A VAST  
ARRAY OF TOOLS AND METHODS TO TREAT  
PROBLEMS  
AND THERE IS NO SINGLE METHOD OR TOOL THAT  
CAN  
TREAT ALL THE PROBLEMS

OVERTON: JUST QUICKLY RETOUCH ON THE EXTRACTION  
THOSE STATISTICS CAN YOU JUST GIVE THEM  
TO ME AGAIN THAT YOU QUOTED EARLIER?  
NICE AND CLEARLY?

DR WEXLER: YES

OVERTON: ABOUT EXTRACTIONS IN THIS COUNTRY? DEREK  
MAHONEY SAYS AT LEAST 80% OF ORTHODONTISTS  
ARE RECOMMENDING EXTRACTIONS?

DR WEXLER: 2001 DATA FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE  
SAYS THAT 60% OF CASES UNDERWAY IN  
AUSTRALIAN  
SPECIALIST ORTHODONTIC PRACTICES DO NOT HAVE  
EXTRACTIONS

OVERTON: DO YOU BACK THAT? DOES YOUR SOCIETY BACK THOSE STATISTICS?

DR WEXLER: THAT INFORMATION COMES FROM SCIENTIFIC WORK DONE IN THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE DEPARTMENT OF RESEARCH INTO ORAL HEALTH.

OVERTON: DO YOU STAND BY THEM? WOULD YOU ARE YOU PREPARED TO USE THEM?

DR WEXLER: I'M NOT... YES I WOULD HAVE NO REASON TO DOUBT THE VERACITY OR THE ACCURACY OF THE METHOD USED AND THE RESULTS.

OVERTON: WHY DOES'NT THE SOCIETY DO ITS OWN RESEARCH?

DR WEXLER: AS A MATTER OF FACT THE SOCIETY SUPPORTED THAT WITH FINANCIAL HELP BECAUSE THE SOCIETY IS INTERESTED IN RESEARCH. THE SOCIETY OF ORTHODONTISTS IN AUSTRALIA REGULARLY DONATES MONEY INTO RESEARCH, INTO METHODS TO IMPROVE PUBLIC HEALTH IN THE AREA OF ORTHODONTICS.

OVERTON: IF YOU BROUGHT IN YOUR LAST 100 PATIENTS HOW



MANY OF THOSE DO YOU THINK YOU WOULD HAVE  
EXTRACTED TEETH FROM?

DR WEXLER: 30% 40% SOMETHING AROUND THE AVERAGE

OVERTON; NOT 80% AS DEREK MAHONEY SUGGESTS

DR WEXLER: OH NO.

OVERTON: HOW ABOUT ACROSS THE BOARD IN JUST GENERAL  
ORTHODONTICS NOT JUST YOURSELF?

DR WEXLER: WELL I'M NOT IN A POSITION TO SURVEY ALL THE  
PRACTICES IN THE COUNTRY THAT'S WHY WE HAVE  
THE AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR ORAL HEALTH  
RESEARCH TO DO IT FOR US. THAT'S THEIR INTEREST  
I AM A PRACTITIONER OF ORTHODONTICS I CAN'T  
POSSIBLY  
KNOW WHAT ALL THE OTHER PEOPLE IN THE  
COUNTRY DO

OVERTON: BUT YOU DO SPEAK ON BEHALF OF THE SOCIETY?

DR WEXLER I DO, BUT WHAT I CAN SAY IS THAT WE HAVE A VERY  
RECENT AND VERY AUTHORITATIVE SURVEY ON  
ON NEARLY ALL OF THE ORTHODONTISTS

PRACTISING IN THE COUNTRY AND I'VE GIVEN YOU  
THE FIGURES; THEY'RE 60% OF THE CASES  
UNDERWAY  
DID NOT HAVE EXTRACTIONS IN 2001.

OVERTON IT SEEMS THAT QUITE A POLITICAL, UM, SITUATION IF  
YOU  
LIKE BETWEEN THE SCHOOLS OF THOUGHT SO WHY  
I'M NEARLY FINISHED, LAUGH

DR WEXLER SORRY

BONELLA  
INTERRUPTS IT'S JUST THAT STUPID THE THING THAT WE'VE GOT  
IS THAT THE STUDY IS THAT YOU SPEAK  
ON BEHALF OF THE ORTHODONTIC SOCIETY SO YOU  
EITHER HAVE TO BACK IT ON BEHALF OF THE  
ORTHODONTIC SOCIETY OR NOT AND YOU'RE KIND  
OF  
HEDGING

DR WEXLER BUT, BUT, .....(TRYING TO ANSWER)

BONELLA LIKE, DO YOU STAND BY THOSE, I MEAN IS THAT THE  
SURVEY BEEN DONE? DO YOU STAND BY THOSE?

DR WEXLER I KNOW I CAN TELL YOU OTHER FIGURES THERE ARE

OTHER STUDIES BUT THEY'RE NOT AS GOOD AND  
NOT  
AS COMPREHENSIVE, I MEAN THAT'S THE BEST THAT  
IS  
VERY, VERY GOOD INFORMATION. YOU WON'T FIND  
YOU WON'T FIND BETTER QUALITY ANYWHERE

BONELLA HOW MANY ORTHODONTISTS IN THIS COUNTRY,  
PRACTISING ORTHODONTISTS?

DR WEXLER: OH, AROUND ABOUT 400

BONELLA RIGHT, WELL DIDN'T YOU SAY THERE WERE 184 IN  
NEW ZEALAND & AUSTRALIA?

DR WEXLER: NO THERE WERE 500. THERE WERE 500 SURVEYS  
SENT  
IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND; 270 CAME BACK.  
NOW, I GUESS THERE'S ABOUT 100 OF THEM  
ARE IN, MAYBE LESS THAN 100, IN NEW ZEALAND  
AND ROUND ABOUT 420; WE'VE GOT  
380 MEMBERS, NOW THERE ARE PROBABLY ONLY 20  
PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS, SO I SAY  
ROUND ABOUT 400; REMEMBER THERE ARE A LOT OF  
PEOPLE

DON'T PRACTISE, THEY'RE RETIRED THEY'RE THEY  
DID'T RETURN THEIR SURVEY, NOT OUT OF  
WILFILLNESS  
BUT THEY JUST PROBABLY DID NOT GET IT.

BONELLA YOU SAID I MEAN, BECAUSE WE'RE NOT GOING TO GO  
INTO THE WHOLE THING, WE HAVE'T GOT TIME TO.

DR WEXLER: TELL ME WHAT YOU WANT TO KNOW AND I'LL TRY  
AND

BONELLA I GUESS WE JUST NEED TO, YOU KNOW, DO YOU  
BACK THAT STUDY? YES? IF YOU'RE QUOTING THOSE  
STATISTICS?

DR WEXLER BUT, HANG ON.

BONELLA WE 'RE QUOTING ON THIS, IS UNPUBLISHED, I KNOW  
THAT YOU KNOW, THAT YOU KNOW THAT IT WILL BE  
PUBLISHED  
BUT NOT BEFORE WE GO TO AIR

DR WEXLER WHAT DO YOU MEAN "BACK" DO YOU MEAN LIKE  
"STAMP"  
LIKE STAMP MY NAME ON IT?

OVERTON AMHM, LIKE THE SOCIETY

BONELLA I FULLY ENDORSE THAT STUDY, I MEAN, DO YOU?

DR WEXLER OH, YES!

BONELLA OK, WELL I JUST NEED TO UNDERSTAND, IT HAS'NT BEEN PUBLISHED YET

DR WEXLER WELL MAYBE I MISUNDERSTAND

BONELLA YOU'RE JUST TELLING US THIS. WE NEED YOU TO ABSOLUTLEY ENDORSE IT; I THINK IT WE NEED TO PICK UP ON GIVEN THAT MAHONEY TREATS 95% CASES THAT HAVE BEEN BROUGHT IN WITHOUT EXTRACTIONS WHY WOULDN'T YOU DO THAT EVERY TIME YOU POSSIBLY CAN.

DR WEXLER DID'NT I SAY THAT WE DID?. ALRIGHT, THERE'S NO PROBLEM WITH THAT.

OVERTON MUFFLED CONVERSATION..... THAT'S ALRIGHT, WERE GOING TO CUT BACK...

OVERTON OK, WE'LL DO THE STUDY AGAIN

OVERTON WHAT'S THE STUDY THAT YOU ARE QUOTING ME AND WHAT ARE THE FIGURES?

DR WEXLER: THE STUDY CAME FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF  
ADELAIDE, THE CENTRE FOR THE AUSTRALIAN,  
CENTRE  
FOR POPULATION RESEARCH ON ORAL HEALTH. IT  
SURVEYED ALL THE ORTHODONTISTS IN AUSTRALIA  
AND NEW ZEALAND AND GOT RESPONSES FROM  
OVER  
TWO THIRDS.

OVERTON AND WHAT DID THEY SAY?

DR WEXLER 60% OF THE CASES UNDERWAY IN 2001 DID NOT HAVE  
EXTRACTIONS; 40% DID.

OVERTON DO YOU FULLY SUPPORT AND ENDORSE THAT  
STUDY?

DR WEXLER: ABSOLUTELY. IT'S DONE BY THE BEST PEOPLE IN THE  
COUNTRY AND THERE'S NO REASON TO DOUBT WHAT  
THEY'VE DONE AND WHAT THEY'VE COMMUNICATED.

OVERTON THE SOCIETY IS HAPPY TO SAY YES, 40% OF PEOPLE  
ARE HAVING EXTRACTIONS IN THIS COUNTRY OVER A  
YEAR LONG PERIOD?

DR WEXLER THE SOCIETY ONLY KNOWS WHAT IT CAN READ IN  
THE

JOURNAL AND THAT WILL BE PUBLISHED AND I'M  
SURE  
IF THAT'S WHAT PUBLISHED THAT'S WHAT THEY'LL  
READ. IT'LL BE 60% DON'T HAVE EXTRACTIONS WHEN  
THEY SEE A SPECIALIST ORTHODONTIST.

OVERTON

GIVEN THAT DEREK MAHONEY TREATS  
ORTHODONTIC  
PATIENTS. 95% OF THOSE PATIENTS DON'T REQUIRE  
EXTRACTIONS THEY JUST REQUIRE THE FUNCTIONAL  
APPLIANCE TREATMENT AND BRACES SURELY  
GENERAL ORTHODONTISTS WOULD BE BEING DO  
THAT.  
WHY ARE'NT THEY FOLLOWING THAT TYPE OF.....?

DR WEXLER

PEOPLE SELECT CASES. THERE COULD BE A LOT OF  
REASONS WHY HIS PRACTICE IS DIFFERENT FROM  
THE  
AVERAGE. EVERYBODY 'S PRACTICE IS DIFFERENT  
FROM THE AVERAGE. THE AVERAGE IS ONLY THE  
AVERAGE, MATHEMATICALLY. SOME PRACTICES  
WILL TAKE OUT MORE TEETH THAN 40%, SOME WILL  
TAKE OUT MORE AND SOME WILL TAKE OUT LESS.  
AND THAT'S HOW WE GET TO THE AVERAGE. IT'S NOT

SURPRISING TO FIND THAT IN THE RANGE OF RESULTS. THAT SOME, THAT THEY'RE SPREAD ACROSS A WHOLE RANGE. I MEAN THAT'S THE WAY LIFE IS, SO IT DOES'NT SURPRISE ME THAT THERE ARE SOME PRACTITIONERS WHO EXTRACT LESS AND THERE ARE PRACTITIONERS WHO EXTRACT MORE, BUT IT MAY NOT BE, IT MAY BE THAT PARTICULAR TYPES OF PATIENTS COME TO THAT PRACTITIONER, MAYBE DR MAHONEY GETS ALL THE CASES THAT HAVE MINIMAL CROWDING. I DON'T KNOW

OVERTON LAUGH, HMM I NOT GOING TO DO THAT

BONELLA C....., C..., ER, ITS AHM, YOU KNOW, BUT, WHY ARE, WHY ARE'NT THE ONES WHO ARE EXTRACTING MORE DOING, YOU KNOW, ER, A DISSERVICVE?

OVERTON AH, LA,



DR WEXLER YOUR'RE ASSUMPTION IS THAT EVERYBODY SEES  
THE  
SAME CROSS SECTION OF CASES AND IT IS'NT LIKE  
THAT. IT IS'NT, AHM, SOME PRACTICES SELECT  
CASES  
ON  
CERTAIN CRITERIA, UNWITINGLY OR UNKNOWINGLY.  
THIS IS ONE OF THE, I SUPPOSE THINGS, DRIVING THE  
QUESTION THEN WHY ARE THEIR DIFFERENCES?  
WELL  
IT'S LIKE SAYING WHY ARE THERE DIFFERENCES  
BETWEEN PEOPLE? WELL THERE ARE, AND WE JUST  
ACCEPT THAT, AND WHEN PEOPLE COLLECT IN  
MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY, COLLECT THEIR  
PATIENTS,  
THERE WILL BE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE  
PRACTICES. THEY'RE NOT ALL THE SAME.

OVERTON BUT IF 163 PEOPLE WENT AND SAW ORTHODONTISTS  
AND THEY RECOMMENDED EXTRACTIONS AND THEN  
THEN THEY SAW DEREK MAHONEY AND HE SAID WE  
CAN HELP YOU WITHOUT EXTRACTING TEETH,  
SURELY

THAT SAYS SOMETHING ABOUT HIS METHOD?

DR WEXLER WELL, YOU HAVE TO SHOW ME ALL THE CASES.

OVERTON I'D EXPECT YOU TO SAY THAT, BUT JUST THINKING A  
A BIT MORE WIDER DOES IT SAY SOMETHING ABOUT  
EXTRACTIONS AND NON-EXTRACTIONS?

DR WEXLER LOOK IF YOU AMHM, YOU, NO, IT DOES'NT REALLY, IT  
JUSTS SAY THAT PERSON HAS A NAME FOR THAT  
TYPE  
OF TREATMENT MAYBE HE SELECTED OUT OF  
THOUSANDS, 160 PEOPLE WHO WERE SUITABLE FOR  
HIS KIND OF TREATMENT. YOU CAN'T ASSUME THAT  
HE,  
THAT HE'S DOING ANYTHING WRONG,  
OR, ER I DON'T KNOW.

OVERTON YEAH, TO ME THAT SAYS WELL 163 PEOPLE WENT TO  
ORTHODONTISTS. THEY SAID YOU NEED YOUR TEETH  
OUT, HE THEN TOOK THEM IN FOR A SECOND OPINION  
AND SAID WE COULD HELP YOU WITHOUT TAKING  
YOUR TEETH OUT. "I CAN HELP YOU"

DR WEXLER WHAT I CAN SAY IS THIS MOST OF THE PUBLIC WILL

SEE THE ORTHODONTIST IN THEIR LOCALITY AND  
THOSE PEOPLE WILL BE THE BEST POSSIBLE PEOPLE  
TO  
ASK THE QUESTIONS TO.

OVERTON           MICHAEL BUG.. MICHAEL BUGGEY HIS MOTHER TOOK  
HIM TO 6 ORTHODONTISTS   THEY ALL SAID YEAH,  
YOU HAVE  
TO HAVE TEETH OUT AND THEN HE GOES BY SHEER  
CHANCE A DENTIST SAID GO AND SEE THIS BLOKE  
AND  
HE WENT AND SAW MAHONEY AND HE'S GOT A  
LOVELY JAWLINE AND FACIAL FEATURES.

DR WEXLER        I REALLY, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO COMMENT  
ABOUT AN INDIVIDUAL CASE I HAVE'NT SEEN, I MEAN  
I CAN'T GIVE YOU AN EXPLANATION AS TO WHAT  
WENT ON THERE, ER, I AM NOT IN A POSITION, ALL I  
CAN  
TELL YOU THAT THE REGISTERED SPECIALISTS IN  
THIS  
COUNTRY ARE EXCELLENT, THEY'RE EXCELLENT  
PEOPLE, THEY HAVE, THEY HAVE PROPER TRAINING  
PROPER

EXPERIENCE THEY HAVE, THEY ARE SPECIALIST QUALIFIED AND REGISTERED IN THEIR STATES AND THEY'RE THE SAFEST PEOPLE TO TAKE YOURSELF FOR AN ASSESSMENT IN ORTHODONTICS.

OVERTON HOW DID THE SOCIETY FEEL ABOUT ME COMING TO TALK ABOUT THIS AND TO TALK TO PEOPLE LIKE JOHN MEW AND DEREK MAHONEY?

DR WEXLER THE SOCIETY IS HAPPY TO PUT THEIR POINT OF VIEW AND THEIR POINT OF VIEW IS THAT THE SPECIALISTS IN MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY ARE THE CORRECT PEOPLE TO SEE FOR SPECIALISED PROBLEMS. ORTHO-DONTIC TREATMENT IS A SPECIALISED TYPE OF DENTAL TREATMENT AND IT SHOULD BE BEST PERFORMED BY THE REGISTERED QUALIFIED EXPERIENCED SPECIALIST PRACTITIONERS. ALL THE STATE GOVERNMENTS HAVE REGISTERS OF DENTISTS AND SPECIALISTS TO HELP THE PUBLIC IDENTIFY WHICH PEOPLE HAVE THE APPROPRIATE SKILLS. IT IS ILLEGAL TO CALL YOURSELF AN ORTHODONTIST UNLESS YOUR'E ON THE REGISTER. IT IS ILLEGAL TO CALL YOURSELF A DENTIST UNLESS

YOU ARE ON THE REGISTER AND THAT'S SO THE  
PUBLIC CAN IDENTIFY WHO ARE THE REAL EXPERTS  
IN  
VARIOUS FIELDS.

OVERTON            GEOFF WE'LL LEAVE IT THERE THANK YOU.

TAPE CONTINUES

OVERTON            MISS BONNELLA

***AT THIS POINT THE INTERVIEW WITH DR WEXLER CONCLUDED.***

THE CAMERA POSITION WAS NOW REVERSED ACCROSS THE ROOM TO  
SEE A DIFFERENT BACKGROUND. MR OVERTON NOW FACED THE  
CAMERA. MS BONELLA, THE PROGRAMME PRODUCER, HAD BEEN  
TAKING NOTES ON HER PAD WHILE DR WEXLER ANSWERED MR  
OVERTON'S QUESTIONS ON FILM. MS BONELLA SAT IN THE DENTAL  
CHAIR OUT OF VIEW AND SHE READ BACK TO MR OVERTON, HIS LINES  
FROM HER NOTEPAD WHICH HE DULY SAID TO THE CAMERA. MS  
BONELLA SAID THE LINES TO MR OVERTON AND HE REPEATED THEM  
VERBATIM, USING AN ACTOR'S DRAMATISATION THAT WAS ABSENT  
DURING THE RECORDING OF DR WEXLER'S ANSWERS. MS BONELLA  
GAVE MR OVERTON A VARIETY OF VERSIONS OF MOST QUESTIONS,  
WHICH WERE NOT EXACTLY THE SAME AS THOSE PUT IN THE  
INTERVIEW TO OBTAIN THE ANSWERS. THEY RECORDED A VARIETY OF  
VERSIONS OF THE QUESTIONS, NOT SURE WHICH ONE WOULD TURN

OUT BEST ON THE PROGRAMME. MR OVERTON NEEDED SEVERAL ATTEMPTS ON MANY OF THE QUESTIONS BEFORE HE AND MS BONELLA MOVED TO THE NEXT QUESTION.

UNFORTUNATELY, THIS TRANSCRIPT DOES NOT INCLUDE A FEW OF THE QUESTIONS THAT COMMENCED THE RECORDING OF THIS SECTION OF QUESTIONS. THEN DR WEXLER INTERRUPTED THEM AND TURNED ON THE ASO TAPE RECORDER. THE RECORDING CONTINUES FROM HERE.....

MUMBLED CONVERSATION

BONELLA PEOPLE LIKE DEREK MAHONEY?

OVERTON PEOPLE LIKE DEREK MAHONEY?

BONELLA YOU'D AGREE THAT HE'S A VERY GOOD ORTHODONTIST?

OVERTON YOU'D AGREE THAT HE'S A VERY GOOD ORTHODONTIST?

BONELLA HE CONSIDERS HIMSELF A MAVERICK AN OUTCAST AMONGST HIS COLLEAGUES

OVERTON HE CON HE CONSIDERS HIMSELF A MAVERICK AN

OUTCAST AMONGST HIS COLLEAGUES

BONELLA BUT YOUR'E MORE MAINSTREAM ARE'NT YOU

OVERTON BUT YOU'RE MORE MAINSTREAM ARE'NT YOU

SOUND RECRDIST SORRY MUFFLED CONVERSATION

OVERTON BUT YOU'RE MORE MAINSTREAM ARE'NT YOU

BON WHY IS HE CONSIDERED A MAVERICK SORRY AN  
OUTCAST A MAVERIVK MUFFLED

OVERTON WHY IS HE CONSIDERED A MAVERICK AN OUTCAST  
SILENCE

***ASO RECORING TAPE RUNS OUT - MR OVERTON INFORMS DR WEXLER.***

AFTER MISSING A FEW MORE QUESTIONS, DR WEXLER RESUMES THE  
ASO TAPE RECORDING. UNFORTUNATELY SOME QUESTIONS ARE  
MISSING FROM THE TRANSCRIPT HERE.. RECORDING RESUMES  
WITH.....

MUFFLED CONVERSATION (OVERTON/BON)

OVERTON OK THIS REMINDS ME OF MY BOTOX STORY DR ...  
BROWN BOMBERS  
DO YOU SEE THAT STORY

THAT WAS ALL DONE IN REVERSALS TOO

BONELLA WAS IT

OVERTON YES

MUFFLED CONVERSATION

**CLOCK CHIMES**

OVERTON FOUR O'CLOCK - SAVED BY THE BELL

MUFFLED CONVERSATION WE MAY NOT MAKE THAT  
6.00 O'CLOCK PLANE.

OVERTON NEXT PATIENT

ANYWAY MRS SMITH WE'VE PUT YOUR BRACES ON  
BUT THEY'RE NOT FINISHED YOU'LL HAVE TO LEAVE

OVERTON YOU'RE GOING TO GET A SHOT OF HOLLY WITH HER  
TEETH TO WON'T YOU? (TO CAMERAMAN)

CAMERA YEAH, I'LL GO REALLY TIGHT ALMOST MACRO.

MUFFLED

CAMERA IS THAT JUST INTRO CUT YEAH, THAT'LL BE USEFUL

BONELLA YES



OVERTON  
STUFF

BUT IT'S GOOD WE CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF THIS

CAMERA

YES AND

BONELLA

CAN I SHOW YOU THIS PATIENT HERE DO YOU THINK  
HE NEEDS EXTRACTIONS

OVERTON

CAN I SHOW YOU THIS PATIENT HERE DO YOU THINK  
HE NEEDS EXTRACTIONS

FEMALE

HE WENT TO 6 ORTHODONTISTS AND THEY ALL SAID  
FOUR ON THE FLOOR – FOUR TEETH OUT

OVERTON

HE WENT TO 6 ORTHONDONTISTS AND THEY ALL SAID  
FOUR ON THE FLOOR – FOUR TEETH OUT

CAMERA/OTHER MUMBLED

OVERTON

HE WENT TO 6 ORTHODONTISTS THEY ALL SAID FOUR  
ON THE FLOOR – FOUR TEETH OUT

FEMALE

DO IT WTHOUT THE FLOOR ON THE FLOOR, JUST IN  
CASE

OVERTON

YES

SAID

HE WENT TO SIX ORTHODONTISTS AND THEY ALL

FOUR TEETH OUT

OVERTON            THEY, HE WENT TO SIX ORTHODONTISTS AND  
                         THEY ALL SAID  
                         YOU NEED FOUR TEETH OUT

BONELLA            THE 6 ORTHODONTISTS SAID YOU NEED THE TEETH  
                         OUT HIS MOTHER DID'NT WANT THEM OUT AND  
                         YOU'RE SAYING HE SHOULD'NT HAVE THEM OUT

OVERTON            THE SIX ORTHODONTISTS SAID HE NEEDS HIS.....  
                         THE SIX  
                         ORTHODONTISTS EACH SAID HE NEEDS HIS....  
                         THE SIX

TEETH....            ORTHODONTISTS EACH SAID HE NEEDS FOUR

THE SIX ORTHOD.....

THE SIX ORTHODONTISTS SAID HE  
NEEDS TEETH OUT, HIS MOTHER.....

BONELLA            THE SIX ORTHODONTIST ALL SAID HE NEEDS TEETH  
                         OUT, HIS MOTHER DID'NT WANT THEM TAKEN OUT  
                         AND YOUR'E SAYING HE SHOULDN'T HAVE HAD THEM  
                         OUT

OVERTON            THE SIX ORTHODONTISTS SAID HE NEEDS TEETH OUT

HIS MOTHER DID'NT WANT THEM....

THE SIX ORTHOD....."OH,.....PEEETER!!"

THE SIX ORTHODONTISTS SAID HE NEEDS TEETH OUT

HIS MOTHER SAID I DON'T WANT THEM OUT, AND

YOU'RE SAYING HE DID'NT NEED THEM OUT

BONELLA

UMHM AND 6 OTHERS FROM YOUR ORGANISATION

SAID YES 6 OTHER FROM 6 OTHER ORTHODONTISTS

OVERTON  
NEEDS

YES AND 6 OTHER ORTHODONTISTS SAID YES HE

THEM OUT

BONELLA  
DEREK

HE'S HAD VERY SUCCESSUL TREATMENT WITH

MAHONEY WITHOUT EXTRACTIONS DOES THAT

SURPRISE YOU?

OVERTON  
TREATMENT

HE'S HAD... HE'S HAD VERY SUCCESSFUL

WITH DEREK...

HE'S HAD VERY SUCCESSFUL TREATMENT

WITH DEREK MAHONEY WITHOUT EXCTRACTIONS

DOES THAT SURPRISE YOU?

CAMERA

JUST CHECKING, WERE YOU CROUCHED ON THAT?

OVERTON

I WAS PROBABLY UP HERE NOW

CAMERA I THINK YOU WERE. I THINK  
A COUPLE OF THOSE OTHERS WERE YOU UP THERE?

OVERTON I THINK YEAH

OVERTON I'LL DO THEM AGAIN

CAMERA BECAUSE IT WON'T PASS

OVERTON LET'S DO THE LAST TWO

BONELLA CAN I SHOW YOU THIS PATIENT, HE WENT TO 6  
ORTHODONTISTS

OVERTON I WAS STILL DOWN

BONELLA WERE YOU?

BONELLA THE SIX OTHODONTISTS SAID HE NEEDS HIS TEETH  
OUT

MUM SAYS SHE DOES'NT WANT THEM OUT

CAMERA OK WE'LL TAKE IT FROM THERE

OVERTON THE SIX ORTHODONTIST

THE SIX ORTHODONTISTS SAID, HE..... HMM

THE SIX ORTHODONTISTS SAID HE  
NEEDS HIS TEETH OUT THE MOTHER SAID I DON'T  
WANT THAT TO HAPPEN AND YOU SAY HE DID'T NEED  
THEM OUT

BONELLA AND SIX ORTHODONTISTS SAID "YES"

OVERTON AND SIX ORTHODONTISTS SAID "YES"

BONELLA HE'S HAD VERY SUCCESSFUL TREATMENT WITH  
DEREK MAHONEY WITHOUT EXTRACTIONS DOES THAT  
SURPRISE YOU?

OVERTON HE'S HAD VERY SUCCESSFUL TREATMENT WITH  
DEREK MAHONEY WITHOUT EXTRACTIONS DOES THAT  
SURPRISE YOU?

SILENCE

RUSTLING PAPER

SILENCE

**AT THIS POINT THE CAMERA POSITION IS MOVED TO FILM CLOSE UP  
THE PAGE OF PHOTOGRAPHS THAT MR OVERTON FLASHED UNDER DR  
WEXLER'S NOSE FOR ABOUT ONE OR TWO SECOND DURING THE  
INTERVIEW.**

MUFFLED CONVERSATION

CAMERA I'LL TAKE THE TOP BIT AND THE BOTTOM BIT, WE...

BONELLA WE DON'T NEED THE TEETH IN IT

CAMERA KINO BOX UMM, THANKS VERY MUCH, AND WE'LL  
BRING IT INTO FRAME

OVERTON CAN YOU PLEASE MOVE OUT OF THE MONITOR

BONELLA DO YOU WANT THE LINING IN?

BONELLA CAN I SHOW YOU THIS PATIENT HERE

OVERTON CAN I SHOW YOU THIS PATIENT HERE DO YOU THINK  
HE NEEDS EXTRACTIONS?  
MUFFLED CONVERSATION

OVERTON CAN I SHOW YOU THIS PATIENT HERE DO YOU THINK  
HE NEEDS EXTRACTIONS?  
MUFFLED CONVERSATION

OVERTON CAN I SHOW YOU THIS PA...  
CAN I SHOW YOU THIS PA TIENT HERE DO YOU THINK  
HE NEEDS EXTRACTIONS?  
SILENCE  
MUFFLED CONVERSATION

**CAMERA IS RE-ARRANGED AGAIN FOR THE SECOND SHEET OF PHOTOS**

CAMERA WHAT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IN THE MIDDLE  
HERE? THE TEETH?

OVERTON NO, NO, THE FACE, THE WHOLE THING, FACE  
BONELLA NO THE TEETH ARE'NT IMPORTANT  
BONELLA CAN I SHOW YOU THESE TWINS BEN AND QUINTON  
MEW'S BEN HAD TREATMENT AND QUINTON HAD JOHN

TREATMENT

OVERTON CAN I SHOW YOU THESE TWINS BEN AND QUINTON  
BEN HAD TRADITIONAL TREATMENT AND QUINTON  
HAD JOHN MEW'S TREATMENT

MUFFLED CONVERSATION WITH FEMALE

OVERTON CAN I SHOW YOU THESE TWINS.....  
CAN I SHOW YOU THESE  
IDENTICAL TWINS BEN HAD TRADITIONAL TREATMENT  
AND QUINTON WAS TREATED BY JOHN MEW

MUFFLED CONVERSATION MENTION OF BEN AND  
QUINTON

OVERTON CAN I SHOW YOU THIS PHOTOGRAPH OF IDENTIAL  
TWINS BEN HAD TRADITIONAL TREATMENT AND  
QUINTON HAD TREATMENT BY JOHN MEW

BACKGROUND CONVERSATION

OVERTON BUT I DID WELL..

OVERTON CAN I SAY THIS XXXXXXX

OVERTON CAN I SHOW YOU THESE IDENTICAL TWINS, BEN HAD  
THE TRADITIONAL TREATMENT AND QUINTON WAS  
TREATED BY JOHN MEW

SILENCE

GENERAL CONVERSATION

GOOD GOOD, WE LIKE YOU

**AT THIS POINT THE CAMERA WORK IS OVER, MR OVERTON GETS UP.**

DR WEXLER I DID'NT GET 20 GOES FOR EACH ANSWER

LAUGH

OVERTON YEAH, BUT I GAVE YOU 20 OPPORTUNITIES ON EACH  
QUESTION, DIDN'T I? I REPEATED MYSELF A BIT.

BONELLA GEOFF

DR WEXLER YES

FEMALE CAN WE SHOOT YOU IN THE SURGERY

DR WEXLER OH YES

FEMALE WITH HOLLY



DR WEXLER WITH HOLLY YES

DON'T KNOW CAN I JUST GET HOLLY FIRST FOR A COUPLE OF SECS

DR WEXLER HOLLY HAS BEEN PATIENTLY WAITING

FEMALE SHE'S BEEN FANTASTIC

DR WEXLER SHE THOUGHT SHE WAS ON FIRST

CAMERA COME AND HAVE A SEAT JUST IN HERE

FEMALE THANKS HOLLY SORRY ABOUT THE HOLD-UP

CAMERA WANT YOU TO LOOK STRAIGHT AT THE CAMERA

DR WEXLER HOLLY GOT A BIT OF AN UNUSUAL PROBLEM

CAMERA RIGHT

DR WEXLER SHE'S GOT A PRETTY STRANGE LOOKING ZIGZAG  
SPRING ON ONE SIDE

CAMERA YEAH

DR WEXLER NOW (HARD TO HEAR AS OVERTON STARTS TALKING  
TO SOMEONE SO WE ARE UNABLE TO HEAR WHAT  
DR WEXLER IS SAYING TO PRESUMABLY THE CAMERA  
MAN. IT SEEMED TO BE A CONVERSATION ABOUT  
HOLLY'S BEST SIDE **YES IT WAS CAMERA**

DR WEXLER        KATHRYN, HOLLY IS NOT HAVING ANY EXTRACTIONS,  
EXCEPT FOR THIS ONE. IT'S A BABY TOOTH THAT HAS NOT FALLEN OUT.

**CAMERA TAKES CLOSE UP OF HOLLY'S LIPS, TEETH & FACE**

RECORDING ENDS

**DR WEXLER & HOLLY AND CAMERA GO TO DENTAL TREATMENT ROOM  
AND IN A VERY AWKWARD FASHION DICTATED BY THE CAMERA  
POSITION, DR WEXLER IS FILMED PRETENDING TO ADJUST HOLLY'S  
BRACES.**