

CONNECT

A Tarnished Treasure?

MA-3385D

If the NHS is a national treasure - must it now be seen as a tarnished one?

- 1 The National Health Service (NHS) is often referred to as a jewel in Britain's crown – the envy of much of the world – and a national treasure. Shocking recent revelations show, however, that it is a tarnished treasure, at best.

It can be argued that the NHS is being unfairly smeared by the media – perhaps to persuade people that it needs to be privatised. Media smearing is a valid hypothesis, or, rather, it was until a retired doctor shared with the world what he thinks about one current, horrendous, NHS media topic. It looks as if the NHS doesn't need the media to smear it – it can do that itself!



- 2 **Dr Peter Hilton** had a letter published in **The Times** newspaper on 13 September 2023. His letter was in response to the media revelations that almost a third of NHS female surgical staff have been sexually assaulted in the last five years.

Assaulted, that is, not by some random stranger - but by male surgeons. Some of those sexual assaults have even taken place in the operating theatre while a patient was lying on the operating table!

Sky News covered this story in - [Medical abuse: Retired surgeon says she experienced sexual harassment in over half of the jobs she did as a trainee.](#)

Dr Hilton, a retired consultant anaesthetist, said in his letter that the sexual assault that is clearly an epidemic in NHS hospitals – being perpetrated by male medics – is not a problem.

Female medics, he said, who are being assaulted should just shut up - and toughen up.

He also called these female doctors "*snowflakes*" who "*clearly had not done their homework*" before embarking on their medical careers.

The letter in The Times appears to have gone "down the memory hole" - however, its content has been shared by Butterflies & Wheels as part of their article - [Women should toughen up about rape](#).

This is what Dr Hilton's letter said:

Sir,

*This "snowflake generation" of young doctors, largely female and selected on mainly academic excellence, clearly did not do their homework. Medical training and practice is brutal and demanding, with long hours, and bullying happens. Sexually inappropriate comments and actions do occur. It is stressful. All I can say is that if they want to make a success of this rewarding career then they should toughen up. Perhaps four A*s at A-level are not the answer to all the problems they will face.*

Dr Peter Hilton

Consultant anaesthetist/intensivist 1986-2020

Haverfordwest

Dr Hilton remained unrepentant, it appears, when shocked and horrified responses to his views began to appear in the media and on social media. In an article on **Personnel Today's** website - [Doctor tells sexually harassed female surgeons to 'toughen up'](#) he's reported as saying:

"I'm not the only one of my generation that feels like this. I've sent the letter to colleagues I worked with and they agree wholeheartedly,"

How incredibly concerning is this – he's saying, other NHS doctors as well think it's OK to molest their colleagues! In a follow-up article after his letter, Dr Hilton refers to "*bullying*" and "*sexually inappropriate comments and actions*."

I find it difficult – I'm sure I'm not alone - to reconcile the terms "*bullying*" and "*sexually inappropriate*" with the statistics highlighted below, as reported in the same article. These statistics are presented as being from recently published research:

29.9% of female surgeons have been sexually assaulted

63.3% of female surgeons have been sexually harassed

89.5% have witnessed sexual offences being committed

I also find it extremely difficult to understand Dr Hilton's apparent reasoning about it being acceptable to take out one's stresses and frustrations on one's colleagues. What difference does it make if – as he says – being a doctor is a brutal and demanding career with long hours?

Who are the real snowflakes here, some might ask? Could they be – doctors who can't stand the tough reality of the career they've chosen?

Relieving one's stresses and frustrations on any colleague is repulsive. In particular, using more junior female doctors in the same way as emotional and sexual playthings – when the perpetrators control the paths of those junior doctors' careers – is beyond despicable.

And what of the helpless patients being operated on while these crimes are being committed? Dr Hilton has said, following his letter to The Times newspaper, that the wellbeing of patients being operated on is the top priority. How does that work, when female surgeons are being distracted by male colleagues assaulting them?

Who knew that some surgeons are opportunists, just like those perverts of whom many women have been the victims on crowded underground trains? Men must also suffer from these opportunistic assaults – and children too.

Now, we're told, some male surgeons do the same thing. They take the opportunity of the close proximity in the operating room and the relative lack of clothing - under scrubs – to grope young female surgeons. There are probably times, as well, when it's difficult to prove who the wandering hands – and other body parts – belong to! And – we're told, by a retired consultant, that all this is perfectly all right and anyone who doesn't like it being done to them is somehow faulty.

Does Dr Hilton also think, I wonder, that it's acceptable for doctors to beat their children - when they eventually get home after working those long hours - because as parents they are in a position of power over their children?

- 3 In [Doctor tells sexually harassed female surgeons to 'toughen up'](#) on Personnel Today's website, Dr Rhiannon D'Arcy - a registrar in public health medicine - congratulated the Times for printing Hilton's letter - for "airing medicine's dirty laundry."

Indeed – we know, now, how filthy that laundry is! Medical and surgical work may well be difficult, stressful and exhausting - but nobody is forced to be a medic. Doctors are relatively well-rewarded – both financially – and in terms of their status. Being a doctor is something to be proud of. And all too often, doctors – in particular, surgeons - ARE proud – and are often described as arrogant.

So here's a question – it's a biggie – could *arrogance* be part of the reason for the sexual assault epidemic within the NHS? That is, the arrogance not only of individual medics, but of the NHS itself?

In fact, going up a notch, is the issue not even arrogance, but *hubris*? [Wikipedia](#) defines *hubris* as "a personality quality of extreme or excessive pride or dangerous overconfidence, often in combination with (or synonymous with) arrogance. The word *arrogance* comes from a Latin word

which means "*to feel that one has a right to demand certain attitudes and behaviours from other people*". The term hubris originated in Ancient Greece, where in legal usage, it meant assault or sexual crimes and theft of public property. Wikipedia goes on to say that hubris *often indicates a loss of contact with reality and an overestimation of one's own competence, accomplishments, or capabilities*.

BOOM!

Does the right to demand certain attitudes and behaviours from others, manifest as the expectation and assumption that medics can violate their colleagues? Assault and sexual crimes are perpetrated by individuals, but Dr Hilton's letter indicates that there is a strong expectation and assumption that these offences are perfectly acceptable.

Theft of public property is also an interesting aspect of hubris. The NHS, which is public property, is being incrementally stolen from the public.

The other aspect of hubris is - *a loss of contact with reality and an overestimation of one's own competence, accomplishments, or capabilities*. These characteristics – of both individual medics and the medical system – are well evidenced. One particularly compelling commentator on this, in my opinion, decades ago said that psychiatry was afflicted by both of these delusional issues.

This commentator was **Dr Thomas Szasz**. Dr Szasz, a Hungarian-American academic and psychiatrist who lived from 1920-2012, spoke out strongly about the *social control* aims of medicine.

Being a Jew and living in Hungary until he was eighteen meant Dr Szasz was alert to how the state could – and did – use medicine as a weapon. In his case, he saw this in his own field of psychiatry.

After moving to the US at the age of eighteen, Dr Szasz practised psychiatry and psychotherapy in New York. I will write about this fascinating *anti-psychiatry* psychiatrist in a separate article.

Meanwhile, in addition to the Wikipedia article [Thomas Szasz](#) there are some most interesting videos online, both of Dr Szasz and about him. To refer to just two:

[Dr Thomas Szasz On A Fraud Called Psychiatry](#)

In this short video, Dr Szasz questions how almost 300 new psychiatric "diseases" could have been discovered in only sixty years. Psychiatry, he said, is "*not science – it's politics and economics – and behaviour control*."

[Unregistered 171: Robert Whitaker \(VIDEO\)](#)

A science journalist Robert Whitaker talks with podcast host Thaddeus Russell about Dr Szasz. Robert has researched contemporary psychiatry and its catastrophic mass deployment of psychoactive drugs. Thaddeus has experienced psychiatry, so to speak, from the other side.

WARNING: the description for this video says:
If you're seeing a traditional psychiatrist or taking medication for mental health, this episode will very likely change your life.

- 4 Could the hubris of the NHS be behind another horrifying issue – the apparent disregard for human life and people's wishes?

Just days after Dr Hilton's letter was published a young woman's life was ended by the NHS. **Connect** published [Is This Really Murder by NHS?](#) – BP-3376A.

This is an article on **Christian Concern's** website about a 19-year-old young woman known only as **ST** who was placed by the NHS – against her expressed will - on a death pathway and has now left this world.

There have been many others before ST – and until things change, many to follow her – who have had their lives ended by the NHS. Charlie Gard, Alfie Evans and Archie Battersbee were all children unable to speak for themselves, due to their medical conditions or their ages, or both. They could only be represented by their families.

Unlike them, ST was conscious and able to speak. She was of sound mind and instructed her lawyers to plead in court for her to be *allowed* to go to Canada for experimental treatment, which - ST believed - would give her a chance of survival.

Allowed? As I've asked before - don't we need to ask – *whose life IS it?*

CONNECT:

[Whose Life Is It Anyway?](#) – M- 2305 BA
[Is There Dignity in Dying?](#) – M- 2325 DB

The NHS, despite this, asked the **Court of Protection** to authorise the removal of life-saving medical treatment from ST, effectively condemning her to death. Despite this? Or was it because of it? Does the hubris of – and within - the NHS mean anyone who disagrees with it, gets what's coming to them? I'll leave readers to make up their own minds about that.

The doctors argued that ST's refusal to trust their judgment, being - that she was going to die - amounted to a "delusion". Some might say these doctors are the ones who are delusional – for believing they can't be wrong. The judge, of course, agreed with the NHS that ST's refusal to believe her doctors meant she *lacked the capacity to make decisions on her own behalf*.

Connect had previously published an article about the same tragic case on **TCW's** website.

[This Is A Dangerous Place](#) - BP-3371A.

This article not only questions whether anyone should still think, after Lucy Letby, that the NHS is a wonderful institution. It also suggests people should consider another court case - the trial of two nurses, who are being prosecuted for allegedly ill-treating patients in their care – for amusement.

- 5 Has the medical industry now gone the same way as – according to Dr Szasz – the psychiatric industry went a long time ago? That is – it is an agent of the state?

The tragic story of ST – as well as other horrific stories that are emerging about how some patients are mistreated while under the control of the NHS – suggests that it is.

Incidentally, ST was not *allowed* to be represented by her own lawyers in court – she was represented only by the state's lawyer. As a result of her tragic case, a new piece of "case law" has been created. The next time someone disagrees with their doctors, can we assume this new case law will be used to support the NHS? That is, in its apparent view that anyone who disagrees with doctors has no capacity to make decisions and should not have the power to try to retain their own life?

Patients who by their very existence challenge the NHS – by declining the Covid jab and related tests, for example – are being targeted for mistreatment, to the point of – it appears – being put on a death pathway. This mistreatment of one particular patient – who survived, albeit with the need to recover once safely back home – was the subject of yet another article on Connect.

[Could the NHS Be Any Worse?](#) – BP-3373C

Being an agent of the state could perhaps explain the hubris that appears to underpin what could be described as the *rape culture* within the NHS.

It could also explain the arrogant (hubristic?) sidelining of "alternative" therapies – the ones that rely on the body's healing modalities rather than Big Pharma's products.

- 6 Dr Peter Hilton's letter in The Times will become part of history, I'm sure, in the way that **Ratners**, the jewellery retail chain, did when its head **Gerald Ratner** dropped a truth bomb.

In 1991, Gerald Ratner sank his jewellery empire in a matter of seconds, as reported by **This Is Money** in [Gerald Ratner still reeling 30 years on from gaffe that sank his jewellery empire in a matter of seconds](#).

In answer to the question:

"How can you sell your jewellery for such a low price?"

he said:

"Because it's total crap."

Ratner resigned the year after his infamous remark, about which he's quoted as saying:

"It's something I've been living with for the last 30 years. It's like a scar on your face."

- 7 Whether Dr Peter Hilton ever, like Gerald Ratner, comes to regret what he said, the world's view of the NHS will never be the same again – I hope!

But wait - I'm talking about the NHS here - it's one of our national treasures, if not THE NUMBER ONE national *treasure*!

Indeed it is – and that's NOT a good thing. As **Dr Malcolm Kendrick** explains in a fascinating historical account of vaccines - [Vaccines – how did they come about?](#) – a national treasure exists in a "*sainted realm*." This means their faults and problems are forgiven, or pass unnoticed. Both vaccination and Jenner - its inventor - are now national treasures. As Dr Kendrick puts it:

Both exist in a realm above all criticism. This is never a good thing. Particularly not in the world of science. But it has happened. Dare to critically examine either, at your great peril. Try suggesting that the whole concept of vaccination was pure luck, primarily based on a two-thousand-year-old idea, and you will be attacked. This, I guarantee.

Is the NHS a tarnished treasure? It looks that way. Does that mean we should give up on it? Of course not! We the People need a healthcare system that's free at the point of use – to ensure everyone can access treatment.

It's OUR NHS – we need to reclaim it! Not only in terms of "[We Own It](#)" – which is an organisation campaigning for public ownership of our NHS and other national assets and infrastructure -but in terms of what the NHS offers us and how it operates. It needs a thorough clean-up, yes – but it can be done – and it should be done.

We all need to say YES to this vision of our NHS. Let's be prepared to get our gloves on and polish our treasure till it's shiny again. That doesn't mean pushing the issues under the carpet – not on your life!

We also all need to say NO to anything that we know is wrong. We need to say NO when someone asks us to do something that isn't right – and in the case of surgeons, this means saying NO when someone does something wrong. In practical terms this means calling out the sexual assault – followed with a right hook to the jaw if one is required.

The patient who lies helplessly on the operating table will be far safer as a result – even if they're joined momentarily by the decked surgeon - and so will all the patients in the future.

The perpetrators, too, will thank the women who stand up for themselves – and for all of us. They won't thank them at once – of course not, they'll be furious – but they will later. Even if it's from behind bars. (Is that the true reason for the shortage of doctors? – too many have gone to prison for heinous crimes?) Now there's a thought!

Meanwhile, we can all thank Dr Peter Hilton for telling us the truth. It doesn't matter that he appears not to understand that what he's saying is wrong – the outcome is the important thing. He's part of the change.

Well done, Pete!

THE HISTORY BOOK – THB

We have compiled a repository of interesting articles across a wide range of subjects – cross-referenced in many cases - all freely accessible to you and all our interested readers.

The articles take the form of webpages, PDFs, audios and videos - accumulated from a growing worldwide network of sources and authors.

Articles previously published on the CONNECT-m3 website – are filed in the [LIBRARY](#) section of **THB**. Filed in the [BANK](#) section are articles held for general reference and expanded research.

Further articles relative to the subjects covered in *this* magazine article can be read under their respective headings, in our different **Reading Rooms**.

The History Book is already a compendium of immensely valuable information and - with records being added every week - is rapidly expanding to become a unique source of reference on many important and major topics of our time.

Access to thousands of articles, on the expanding array of subjects, is FREE - providing for you - our reader – an easily accessible reference library within a few simple clicks 24/7. Please do enjoy!

CONNECT'S Maxim and Oath

Connect is only interested in finding and sharing the TRUTH.
In search of that TRUTH, we only pose questions – we have no answers.

By: Helen King

Source: CONNECT: [Magazine](#)

- 2 [LINK](#) **Sky:** Medical abuse: Retired surgeon says she experienced sexual harassment in over half of the jobs she did as a trainee
- 2 [LINK](#) **Butterflies & Wheels:** Women should toughen up about rape
- 2 [LINK](#) **Personnel Today:** Doctor tells sexually harassed female surgeons to 'toughen up'
- 2 [LINK](#) **This Is Money:** Gerald Ratner still reeling 30 years on from gaffe that sank his jewellery empire in a matter of seconds
- 3 [LINK](#) **Wikipedia:** Hubris
- 3 [LINK](#) **Wikipedia:** Thomas Szasz
- 3 [LINK](#) **Odysee: The Octopus:** Dr Thomas Szasz On A Fraud Called Psychiatry

- 3 [LINK](#) **YouTube: Unregistered Podcast:** Unregistered 171: Robert Whitaker (VIDEO)
- 4 [LINK](#) **Connect:** Is This Really Murder by NHS? – BP-3376A
- 4 [LINK](#) **Connect:** Whose Life Is It Anyway? – M- 2305 BA
- 4 [LINK](#) **Connect:** Is There Dignity in Dying? – M- 2325 DB
- 4 [LINK](#) **Connect:** This Is A Dangerous Place - BP-3371A
- 5 [LINK](#) **Connect:** Could The NHS Be Any Worse? – BP-3373C
- 6 [LINK](#) **This Is Money** in Gerald Ratner still reeling 30 years on from gaffe that sank his jewellery empire in a matter of seconds
- 7 [LINK](#) **Dr Malcolm Kendrick:** Vaccines – how did they come about?
- 7 [LINK](#) **We Own It**

FURTHER READING

- A [LINK](#) **The History Book:** Library/Subjects/NHS/Truths
- B [LINK](#) **The History Book:** Bank/Subjects/ NHS/Truths

PLEASE DOWNLOAD AND SHARE THIS ARTICLE

Letter to The Times

Sir, This “snowflake generation” of young doctors, largely female and selected on mainly academic excellence, clearly did not do their homework. Medical training and practice is brutal and demanding, with long hours, and bullying happens. Sexually inappropriate comments and actions do occur. It is stressful. All I can say is that if they want to make a success of this rewarding career then they should toughen up. Perhaps four A*s at A-level are not the answer to all the problems they will face.

Dr Peter Hilton

Consultant anaesthetist/intensivist 1986-2020; Haverfordwest

13 sep 23

Opportunity to join the CONNECT [team and network](#)

END