



OxfordAgainstCutting ProtectingGirls&Women

POSITION STATEMENT ON COSMETIC FACIAL FILLERS

Oxford Against Cutting considers cosmetic facial fillers (such as lip fillers and botox) to be a form of harmful practice.

We consider these procedures to be harmful as they can be:

1. Exploitative of people's vulnerabilities and insecurities
2. Addictive as they have to be constantly repeated to maintain their effect
3. Physically harmful due to the chemicals they contain causing complications and side effects
4. Harmful to mental health
5. A financial burden, possibly leading to debt

We believe many people are under pressure to have these procedures due to media influence (including social media and advertising) and widespread images that normalize unnatural body appearance.

Our charity is particularly concerned about the lack of regulation of the cosmetic alterations industry, the ease of accessibility of "tweakments" available on the high street and the normalization of these invasive, harmful procedures.

We are fully committed to promoting body positivity, healthy ageing and individualism and we discourage people of all ages from having cosmetic procedures. Our work particularly supports young people who are being pressured to have procedures even before the natural ageing process has begun.

We encourage people with negative body image to seek support to increase self confidence in preference to accessing cosmetic procedures.

We call upon medical professionals and therapists to follow the "do no harm" principle and join us in our mission to support natural body positivity.

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