

Dear

Industrialised healthcare: how do we replant our human sense?

An introduction

I was recently given, by Professor Chris Ham, a report he wrote for the King's Fund: *Reforming the NHS from within. Beyond hierarchy, inspection and markets* (<https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/reforming-nhs-within>).

The report assembles thorough evidence to show that serial NHS reforms – based on increasing regulation, inspection and marketisation – have brought neither greater efficiency nor economy savings.

My attached response adds another dimension to the King's Fund's arguments: that these reforms have also caused very significant social and psychological damage – this is evident at many levels of experience and relationships. Obviously such damage has implications for economy and efficiency, quite apart from its human consequences.

The King's Fund's report's very important messages have become ever-more accurate and pertinent since publication in 2014. Do not be daunted by its length (56 pages): the writing has great clarity and liveliness. I have responded to it with *Industrialised healthcare: how do we replant our human sense?* This is less than half as long, but I hope a worthy development.

I hope you will find time read both: I cannot remember a time more in need of courageous and thoughtful dialogue about these matters.

With best wishes

David Zigmond

Attachment

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Tractored out. Dorothea Lange, 1938