

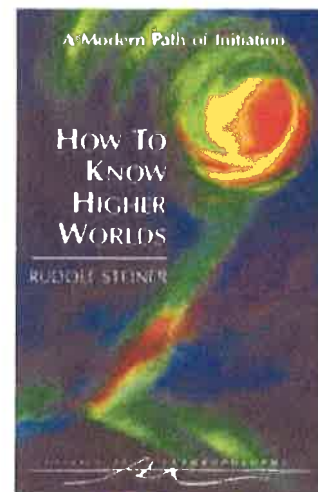
The Steiner Waldorf cult uses bait and switch to get state funding. Part 2

October 21st, 2010 · [103 Comments](#)

This is part 2 of a critique of Steiner Waldorf schools. Part 1 was [The true nature of Steiner \(Waldorf\) education. Mystical harrmpottery at taxpayers' expense. Part 1](#)

The part 3 is [Steiner Waldorf Schools Part 3. The problem of racism.](#)

This essay is largely devoted to the methods used by the Steiner movement in the hope of getting state funding. That involves concealing from ministers and inspectors some of the less desirable aspects of the cult. That is sadly easy to do, because ministers and inspectors usually use a tick box approach that can easily be corrupted (just have a look, for example, at what goes on at the [University of Wales](#)). It is a classical case of bait and switch, a method that was [used by chiropractors and acupuncturists](#) to pervert the normally high standards of NICE. The technique is standard in alternative medicine, as described by the excellent Yale neurologist Steven Novella, in [The Bait and Switch of Unscientific Medicine](#)..



Steiner's [bible of the cult](#), 1905

The involvement of a few universities with Steiner training is every bit as disgraceful as their involvement with quack medicine, In fact Anthroposophical medicine is among the barnier forms of quackery.

Here is part 2 of the essay by two of the most knowledgeable people on the topic. They are known on Twitter as [@thetismercurio](#) and [@lovelyhorse_](#).

Steiner Waldorf Free Schools – ‘Do we have to mention Steiner, or Anthroposophy?’

At the time of writing we are aware of 16 Steiner Waldorf schools and new initiatives in the UK applying for or publicly expressing interest in Free School Funding. The established schools are:

- [Brighton](#) Steiner School
- [Cambridge](#) Steiner School
- [Elmfield](#) Steiner ‘Academy’ Stourbridge (see weekly news sheet)
- [Exeter Steiner School](#)
- Meadow School, [Bruton](#), Somerset
- [Michael House](#), Steiner Waldorf School, Derbyshire
- [Norwich](#) Steiner School
- Rudolf Steiner School [Kings Langley](#), Hertfordshire
- Rudolf Steiner School [South Devon](#)
- St Michael Steiner School, [Wandsworth](#)
- St Paul’s Steiner School, [Islington](#)

Initiatives & kindergartens:

- [Leicestershire](#)
- [Lincoln](#)
- Mulberry Tree kindergarten, [South Gloucestershire](#)
- Beachtree kindergartens [Leeds](#)
- [Cragg Vale](#), near Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire

The umbrella organisation for Steiner Waldorf schools in the UK is the [Steiner Waldorf Schools Fellowship](#). The Chief Executive Director of the SWSF is [Christopher Clouder](#) but another prominent figure is Development Director Sylvie Sklan. As representatives of the SWSF they have been the plausible public face of Anthroposophy, working for many years within the establishment to create the conditions for wholesale public funding of Steiner Waldorf schools in the UK. As pragmatists they see Michael Gove’s Free Schools Initiative as the Movement’s big chance.

We will take you into the woods to show how the Steiner edifice of nonsense has been obscured by smoke and mirrors. A government report indicates the truth, but the schools themselves are reluctant to share their Special Knowledge.

Into the Woods. A government report, and a very special inspection service

There is no independent evidence to support the pedagogy of Steiner Waldorf education. But supporting the funding of the Steiner Academy Hereford, the only state funded Steiner school to date (created under New Labour), is a government report from 2005, The [Woods Report](#) ‘Steiner Sc

C7-3369

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **alicia h.** <zzzoey@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Aug 30, 2011 at 3:04 PM
Subject: Re: the NZ people
To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

This incident made me remember the first email I got from the not so angelic Angel. She forwarded an email from Sune. In it he explains that he chose the name Eva because he once had a girlfriend named Eva. It is a very confused piece of writing.

'I suspect this is about personal revenge rather than Steiner generally. Perhaps they want a payout from the school?'

It wouldn't surprise me; or that they will benefit from it (they were going to make a film, but it's come to nothing I guess?). And I think there's definitely an element of personal revenge. I would have put it down to their experiences being so close in time, them still being upset, and so forth. But I think I might reevaluate that assumption.

One thing I remember that I found weird -- and I wrote about it somewhere, I just can't remember where... and can't find it, perhaps it was just on twitter -- was their insisting that the children should be allowed to return to the school. I couldn't believe they'd ever send them back, but... Anyway, the mere idea of demanding something so bizarre, even if it was just to make a point, seemed pretty suspect.

-a

On 30 August 2011 15:03, Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Tue, Aug 30, 2011 at 2:01 PM, Diana Winters
> wrote:

>>
>>
>>
>>
>> Date: Tue, 30 Aug 2011 13:02:03 +0100
>> Subject: Re: the NZ people
>> From: melanie.bying@gmail.com
>> To: zzzooney@gmail.com
>>
>>
>> indeed. This shows what bollocks it all is.
>> Yes - bat-shit crazy. And I'm sure that however vile the school
>> undoubtedly was, Angel and Steve were not .. angelic. I suspect this is
>> about personal revenge rather than Steiner generally. Perhaps they want a
>> payout from the school?
>> Anyway I'm forwarding this to Diana again, to help clarify.
>> Joe is fine but it was not a nice experience - he felt trapped there and
>> knew it was going to get worse. As he came home to great results and the
>> possibility that he will be able to get into a really good uni, he has put
>> it down to mischance. I don't want his name associated with them, of course,
>> or mine if I can help it.
>> Cheers for your support!
>>
>> On Tue, Aug 30, 2011 at 12:54 PM, alicia h. <zzzooney@gmail.com> wrote:
>>
>> Just the fact that her name is Angel Garden. Well.
>>
>> I read the article. Nothing riveting. I'm not going to bother with it,
>> unless something happens in the comments.
>>
>> What they did to Joe is very upsetting -- that *is* horrible.
>> Actually, it's absolutely unacceptable. I'm glad to hear he made it
>> back on that flight. What were they thinking?! I hope he's ok now.
>> First bat-shit crazy steiner school people, now horrible anti-steiner
>> school people.
>>
>> Do what you can to ignore them. They seem unpredictable, and that's
>> not worth messing with.
>>
>> This does raise a few questions of course: what was their own role in
>> the complete fall-out with the waldorf school... I'm not suggesting
>> they cause the entire problem, I don't think so. But their own
>> behaviour may have contributed to the consequences, no doubt.
>>
>> Astrologer, ha. I'd think an astrologer was able to predict problems
>> with the help of the stars ;-)
>>
>> -a
>>
>> On 30 August 2011 13:30, Melanie Byng <melanie.bying@gmail.com> wrote:
>> > just be polite & don't mention me. I liked him - Steve - when I met him

>>> but
>>> he will do anything she says. She is btw an Astrologer.
>>> Angel, who was in England with her dying mother, changed her flight to a
>>> day
>>> earlier so that Joe could look after their kids while she was picked up
>>> from
>>> the airport (we had arranged his return flight at the same time as she
>>> went
>>> out to France, so they would only have one trip - this was not what she
>>> wanted. Steve then fleeced Joe (he is 17) for the price of her changed
>>> flight - taking his euros away from him just before he got on the plane.
>>> The
>>> reason they changed her flight? Because she didn't want to drive with
>>> her
>>> children in the car. The trip to Bergerac airport from their house is 1
>>> hr
>>> 15 - they told us it was longer - I think to convince us the kids
>>> shouldn't
>>> go. This meant we were mystified by Steve not leaving in time to take
>>> Joe
>>> the following day - R was on the phone asking him please to leave (Joe's
>>> flight was very expensive - if he'd missed it there was a 2 day wait for
>>> the
>>> next flight to England) I did not breath until I knew my child was on
>>> that
>>> plane, I was so scared they'd do something else. It's hard to forget
>>> that
>>> sensation.
>>> Also, Angel was determined to get an evening with Steve (without the
>>> kids)
>>> so they left Joe AGAIN with the girls after she arrived - after having
>>> told
>>> him off for letting them down by leaving. There was no contract of
>>> course -
>>> they weren't paying him. I cannot get over what they expected from him,
>>> as
>>> if he were some kind of servant. And he was kind to the girls - he is
>>> kind,
>>> they're as wild as you'd expect them to be.
>>> Just before he left he was on skype (from his room on his computer)
>>> telling
>>> me they'd said Steve would take him to the airport if he cleaned their
>>> house
>>> - imagine - if he cleaned their house. Dear Dog. Anyway I don't know
>>> what
>>> will happen - they might out me I suppose if they get spiteful and want
>>> to
>>> hurt us.
>>> I was particularly kind to her because of her mother's illness. That is
>>> worth bearing in mind.
>>> x

>> >

>> > On Tue, Aug 30, 2011 at 11:59 AM, alicia h. <zzzoocy@gmail.com> wrote:

>> >>

>> >> Ouch. He, Steve, contacted me a few days ago. I'll forward the
>> >> discussion to you once I've emailed you this. I've actually found them
>> >> a bit difficult at those few times I've had anything to do with them
>> >> -- not that I've been able to, sort of, pinpoint what the trouble is
>> >> really. Some pretty odd requests. Weird expectations. I'll have to
>> >> read the LSN stuff, because I suppose that article is what he referred
>> >> to in the correspondence to me the other day.

>> >>

>> >> On 30 August 2011 12:13, Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com> wrote:

>> >> > hi Alicia -

>> >> > I don't intend to comment or interact with these people - (they just

>> >> > posted

>> >> > on the LSNetwork)

>> >> > They stayed here (they were looking at Sands School) and Joe went to

>> >> > stay

>> >> > with them in their house in France - supposedly to learn some French

>> >> > &

>> >> > help

>> >> > look after the children. No one spoke French to him and the dad left

>> >> > him

>> >> > with the kids for hours, there was barely any food - he wanted to

>> >> > come

>> >> > home

>> >> > - they didn't want to lose their free help and made it pretty

>> >> > difficult.

>> >> > At

>> >> > one point we were worried he wouldn't make it to the airport. They

>> >> > are

>> >> > dreadful people, frankly. I don't want this discussed AT ALL publicly

>> >> > of

>> >> > course but I suggest that you treat their advances with caution. I'm

>> >> > forwarding this to Diana in case they try to contact WC. I would urge

>> >> > anyone

>> >> > (including Pete) to be aware that they are not entirely trustworthy.

>> >> > x

>> >>

>> >>

>>

>

>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **alicia h.** <zzzoey@gmail.com>

Date: Sat, Sep 3, 2011 at 11:08 AM

Subject: Re: Angel and Steve

To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

Wiremu Haua and childrensbehaviour are the same. Angel and Steve post from the UK now (Aldershot, Hampshire, but the stats give very weird locations). Wiremu posts from New Zealand, Wellington.

You're right about Wiremu's blog (ie, childrensbehaviour) -- I'm looking at it now. I remember coming across a blog with nothing but copies of other people's work a while ago; I wonder if it was this one, and now I realize that was Wiremu's too -- the one on blogspot. (Yes, it was... I mentioned it on critics, I see now...)

I'm posting a comment about it.

These people are all weird.

On 3 September 2011 11:08, Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com> wrote:

> I wonder about these other people - are they the same person? Re
> Christchurch? The Wiremu Haua site just uses screeds of other people's work
> without attribution - the children's behaviour site has the same type of
> material and very little about the children - putting nothing in context. I
> wondered if in fact this was just another trick of A & S's.
> Steve was told off once on a forum for using multiple identities, this is
> where I found them originally.
> At any rate I find these new individuals suspect. Is it troll season?

> On Sat, Sep 3, 2011 at 12:18 AM, alicia h. <zzzoey@gmail.com> wrote:

>>
>> But: she's agreed so many times now that it's the individual's call to
>> end anonymity and that they're committed to protect people's anonymity
>> (she has to say that obviously) that, hopefully, she realizes it would
>> look very bad if she didn't protect your anonymity too; if sh'e
>> protect only the anonymity of people who participate in their film,
>> well, they're simple crooks and emotional blackmailers (and that's not
>> good for reputation). No matter how vengeful she might feel, I hope
>> she realizes she's actually committed herself to this, to preserving
>> anonymity, if that wasn't already clear. (They can always wipe out
>> their own websites.)

>>
>> It's interesting that as many comments as they have written today,

>> they have not commented on what I wrote about their many websites, and
 >> them tweeting as Rudolf Steiner, and about David Mollet. I find that
 >> rather telling. They have tried to turn the other 'items' of
 >> discussion against me -- but I guess that they didn't have any answer
 >> to these issues. Or didn't want to have.

>>

>>

>> On 3 September 2011 01:01, alicia h. <zzzoey@gmail.com> wrote:

>> > It's ok (that they're there being obnoxious; I'll survive... although,
 >> > again, in comparison Sune seems like this little pet you have for
 >> > amusement, which is very odd) -- I am afraid that I've managed to
 >> > enrage them though and that they will somehow start to think of what
 >> > they did to you (and Joe) and that assume I know something. Because,
 >> > as the angelic one points out, people might feel guilty because they
 >> > are guilty and they're guilty of bad behaviour. Also in the real
 >> > world.

>> >

>> > I had the impression Mollet was pro-waldorf, yes. Did a very quick
 >> > google. Noticed he'd been mentioned on critics in the past. Judging by
 >> > how the film clip turned out, I'd say they'd edited hard to make a
 >> > point. It looks very odd. Sure, you need to edit to some extent. But I
 >> > like to hear people get to speak... entire sentences.

>> >

>> > It was you indeed -- I didn't want to be explicit about that, so tried
 >> > to give off the impression that I didn't really remember all that much
 >> > (or I would have had to link). It's really a small thing. I didn't
 >> > want them to get away with it though -- they're so not ok with people
 >> > quoting them, and I'm not going to be emailing them just so that she
 >> > won't look bad from what I'm quoting (well well, how did they make
 >> > Mollet look, one might ask...). And who knows -- next week, she might
 >> > have changed her mind and then she reports me to wordpress (I don't
 >> > see her as particularly reliable or predictable, so who knows...).

>> >

>> > It's much easier if I know I've quoted according to fair use.
 >> >
 >> > You did indeed make them a favour -- and I've sent lots of people to
 >> > their websites. They don't link much to other people so they've not
 >> > sent anyone to me, as far as I can tell (I don't remember ever seeing
 >> > incoming links, but I know there are many clicks on my links to them).
 >> > They didn't appreciate it, but it's a small thing. I think it's not so
 >> > much that they don't appreciate it -- they seem pretty eager to
 >> > advertise themselves -- as it is about them wanting to feel they're in
 >> > charge.

>> >

>> > -a

>> >

>> >

>> >

>> > On 3 September 2011 00:14, Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com> wrote:

>> >> now steve is there too - I'm sorry they're on your blog. What do they
 >> >> want?

>> >> To justify their actions? Dear Dog.

>> >>

>> >>

>> >> On Fri, Sep 2, 2011 at 9:10 PM, Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

>> >> wrote:
>> >>>
>> >>> it was an idea that got dropped, and at any rate made no sense since
>> >>> as
>> >>> you say all they had was an idea of what Steiner schools should be
>> >>> like.
>> >>> They're using Molett in a way he didn't intend - he's still
>> >>> pro-Steiner?
>> >>> look: Waldorf Homepage this may be what they meant by rehabilitating
>> >>> the
>> >>> system. Molett is also confused imo about the role of anthroposophy
>> >>> and it's
>> >>> all v odd. Some Experience! Still, she told me they'd use the footage
>> >>> regardless, so he's edited to make a certain point. This wouldn't be
>> >>> unusual
>> >>> for filmmakers of course.
>> >>> It was me who quoted their article btw not you, you in fact edited it
>> >>> down. I only used it all because stuff disappears. I thought I was
>> >>> doing
>>>> them a favour, and there was a link to the original... but best not
>> >>> mention
>> >>> me or all hell will break loose.
>> >>> as seems to be happening already.
>> >>> On Fri, Sep 2, 2011 at 8:28 PM, alicia h. <zzzooney@gmail.com> wrote:
>> >>>>
>> >>>> Yes, I remember that site. I'm actually confused by all their sites
>> >>>> --
>> >>>> I can't remember where I saw what. Now that I looked at the awful
>> >>>> Mollet 'interview' I was struck by the link that was constantly in
>> >>>> the
>> >>>> film: opensteiner.com. It must be fairly new too. I think that's not
>> >>>> a
>> >>>> good choice, given that the nice California guy whose name I suddenly
>> >>>> forgot runs openwaldorf. Which is established and has -- if not a
>> >>>> modern website, lol -- at least a very good concept.
>> >>>>
>> >>>> I saw that repeat comment of hers, and I wondered what the point was
>> >>>> -- it was the same comment! Couldn't she have written a new one? Of
>> >>>> course she says that the aim was not debate but for them to attract
>> >>>> people for their project... It's implicit in the article, but that
>> >>>> comment made it explicit. I just don't see why it *all* had to be
>> >>>> repeated. It was replies to comments higher up in the thread!?
>> >>>>
>> >>>> The idea of them taking the schools back from Steiner people... it's
>> >>>> ridiculous. They say they knew nothing about anthroposophy not long
>> >>>> ago, and they still don't seem to know all that much (at least it's
>> >>>> not their focus), and... so why would *they* and people like them,
>> >>>> and
>> >>>> with whom they get along, take the schools back? If they were anthros
>> >>>> or waldorf people with experience, I'd say the idea is eminently
>> >>>> reasonable. But if you don't know what waldorf is about, it's a bit
>> >>>> like the Vegan society (if it exists) taking back (or just taking
>> >>>> really) Mc Donald's. To teach Mc Donald's how to fry burgers. It
>> >>>> would

>> >>>> be a bit silly. I think waldorf folks would be better off for
>> >>>> listening to critics -- actually, I think they need to do that. But
>> >>>> it
>> >>>> doesn't mean anybody else has a right to take the schools back, and
>> >>>> refashion them after their own ideas as to what waldorf ought to be,
>> >>>> when they so patently don't know what it was and is supposed to be.
>> >>>>
>> >>>> -a
>> >>>>
>> >>>> On 2 September 2011 21:09, Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
>> >>>> wrote:
>> >>>> > yep - just like Lichte.
>> >>>> > first they wanted the Steiner movement themselves to turn on Mark
>> >>>> > Thornton
>> >>>> > and the Titirangi school. They were never going to do that. We are
>> >>>> > much
>> >>>> > more
>> >>>> > helpful. But none of us have a financial motive, very much the
>> >>>> > opposite. As
>> >>>> > you say, it's honesty that counts.
>> >>>> > There was a whole site once by these two, very confused, about
>> >>>> > claiming
>> >>>> > Steiner back from the people who run the schools.
>> >>>> > You've done readers a service by warning them, if Angel's behaviour
>> >>>> > wasn't
>> >>>> > enough. Now she's dismissing you (on LSN) and is returning to her
>> >>>> > previous
>> >>>> > comment. It is gob-smacking.
>> >>>> > x
>> >>>> > On Fri, Sep 2, 2011 at 5:31 PM, alicia h. <zzzooney@gmail.com>
>> >>>> > wrote:
>> >>>> >>
>> >>>> >> Another motive is, I think, that they want to make a documentary,
>> >>>> >> from
>> >>>> >> which they could potentially earn something. (As you said the
>> >>>> >> other
>> >>>> >> day, money.) That isn't bad, necessarily, but it is bad when
>> >>>> >> people
>> >>>> >> start to suspect you're making things up (or perhaps more likely:
>> >>>> >> exaggerating) because it would further your professional project.
>> >>>> >> Revenge too, I think. Rehabilitating Steiner perhaps -- but I'm
>> >>>> >> not
>> >>>> >> sure they know all that much about Steiner, or the background of
>> >>>> >> the
>> >>>> >> education.
>> >>>> >>
>> >>>> >> If she replies on LSN I will keep my answer very short. I think
>> >>>> >> I've
>> >>>> >> managed to get through the message I wanted to get through: that
>> >>>> >> people think twice before they get involved in anything.
>> >>>> >>
>> >>>> >> I feel that this is similar -- which I think I said -- to Lichte.
>> >>>> >> He
>> >>>> >> pretends to help people get their story out and blah blah -- and

>> >>>> >> it's
>> >>>> >> all just to further his own goal, to promote himself. Which isn't
>> >>>> >> bad
>> >>>> >> either -- it's just that I don't like it when it happens under the
>> >>>> >> guise of 'help'. And when people don't oblige, after they have
>> >>>> >> perhaps
>> >>>> >> committed to one thing, they will be treated nastily.
>> >>>> >>
>> >>>> >>
>> >>>> >> On 2 September 2011 17:00, Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
>> >>>> >> wrote:
>> >>>> >> > I suspect you should stop now but I'm glad you commented as you
>> >>>> >> > did.
>> >>>> >> > I
>> >>>> >> > wouldn't recommend anyone to take part in a documentary where
>> >>>> >> > they
>> >>>> >> > have
>> >>>> >> > control of the editing!
>> >>>> >> > And yes, they don't have much material. That's partly because it
>>>> >> > has
>> >>>> >> > always
>> >>>> >> > been unclear what they wanted - to rehabilitate Steiner? To get
>> >>>> >> > their
>> >>>> >> > kids
>> >>>> >> > back in? To get revenge? I suspect they're not sure - or at
>> >>>> >> > least
>> >>>> >> > they
>> >>>> >> > were
>> >>>> >> > not sure before. They will agree with us if they think it helps
>> >>>> >> > their
>> >>>> >> > case,
>> >>>> >> > but that could change of course.
>> >>>> >> >
>> >>>> >> > On Fri, Sep 2, 2011 at 3:19 PM, alicia h. <zzzoey@gmail.com>
>> >>>> >> > wrote:
>> >>>> >> >
>> >>>> >> >> Good you didn't, she's a weird woman. She responds very oddly
>> >>>> >> >> to
>> >>>> >> >> the
>> >>>> >> >> debate on LSN and the stuff on my blog. I wonder if I should
>> >>>> >> >> refrain
>> >>>> >> >> from replying on LSN.
>> >>>> >> >>
>> >>>> >> >> I suspect that they don't have as much material for their
>> >>>> >> >> documentary
>> >>>> >> >> as they need, and that this might be the reason she's turning
>> >>>> >> >> more
>> >>>> >> >> 'aggressive' about the anonymity and other people's
>> >>>> >> >> responsibilities.
>> >>>> >> >> I think she's implying that the only way to stop evil is to
>> >>>> >> >> participate in their film-making. Sort of. But I think people
>> >>>> >> >> feel
>> >>>> >> >> even more cautious about films than to put down their thoughts
>> >>>> >> >> and

>> >>>> >> >> experiences in writing.

>> >>>> >> >>

>> >>>> >> >> On 2 September 2011 15:32, Melanie Byng

>> >>>> >> >> <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

>> >>>> >> >> wrote:

>> >>>> >> >> > luckily no. They were only here one night - spent most of

>> >>>> >> >> > their

>> >>>> >> >> > time

>> >>>> >> >> > at

>> >>>> >> >> > Sands. They wanted to film me but I didn't want to be public.

>> >>>> >> >> > They

>> >>>> >> >> > were

>> >>>> >> >> > very

>> >>>> >> >> > friendly while they were here of course, not so nice to Joe

>> >>>> >> >> > when

>> >>>> >> >> > he

>> >>>> >> >> > wasn't

>> >>>> >> >> > useful to them.

>> >>>> >> >> > I think they need to realise the investment in time etc re

>>>> >> >> > the

>> >>>> >> >> > documentary.

>> >>>> >> >> > There's nothing wrong with this - it's their profession - but

>> >>>> >> >> > their

>> >>>> >> >> > motives

>> >>>> >> >> > are not 'pure' even taking that into account. I don't think

>> >>>> >> >> > she

>> >>>> >> >> > cares

>> >>>> >> >> > about

>> >>>> >> >> > any of the individuals - & she did tell me one or two people

>> >>>> >> >> > had

>> >>>> >> >> > backed

>> >>>> >> >> > away. One can see why.

>> >>>> >> >> >

>> >>>> >> >> > On Fri, Sep 2, 2011 at 2:19 PM, alicia h. <zzzooney@gmail.com>

>> >>>> >> >> > wrote:

>> >>>> >> >> >

>> >>>> >> >> > There's a very nasty tone in her comments. Not just the

>> >>>> >> >> > emotional

>> >>>> >> >> > blackmail (for want of better expression).

>> >>>> >> >> >

>> >>>> >> >> > Their film cutting technique ought to scare people off.

>> >>>> >> >> > Imagine

>> >>>> >> >> > having

>> >>>> >> >> > your message garbled like that.

>> >>>> >> >> >

>> >>>> >> >> > How long did they stay with you? You didn't do any filmed

>> >>>> >> >> > interviews?

>> >>>> >> >> >

>> >>>> >> >> > On 2 September 2011 14:56, Melanie Byng

>> >>>> >> >> > <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

>> >>>> >> >> > wrote:

>> >>>> >> >> > > She's about to blow, I suspect. Like a whale. She is an

>> >>>> >> >> > > extremely

>> >>>> >> >> > > big

[illegible]

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>> <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>>

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> She

>>>>> >> >> >> >>>> however invited Sune for an interview to explain his

>>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> on

>>>>> >> >> >> >>>> I don't know how her mother is (she was dying of

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> but

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> is

>>>>> >> >> >> >>>> thing called 'inhibited grieving' - whereby people

```
>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> normal
```

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> re the death of a loved one with angry behaviour

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> others

> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>>

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>>

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>>

>>> >>>>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>>>>

[illegible]


~~~~~

~~~~~

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>>

>>>>> >>> >>> >>> >>>>>

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>>

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>>

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> On Fri, Sep 2, 2011 at 9:12 AM, alicia h.

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> <zzzooney@gmail.com>

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> wrote:

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>>

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> Oh. I've got to go check. Haven't got any emails

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> from

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> them

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> since

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> the

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> ones

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> I forwarded.

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>>

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> On 2 Sep 2011 09:36, "Melanie Byng"

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> wrote:

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> > on your blog, sounding a bit cross. Complaining

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> > about

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> > anonymity. I

>>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> > wonder if

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> > they plan to 'out' me? Or what they'll do next.

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> > We're

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> > sure

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> > they

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> > wouldn't

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> > imagine their behaviour was wrong re Joe or

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> > anyone

>> >>>> >> >> >> >> >>>> > else.

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To: "alicia h." <zzzooney@gmail.com>

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> }
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>>
>> On Sat, Sep 3, 2011 at 7:39 PM, alicia h. <zzzooney@gmail.com> wrote:
>>>

>>> > They don't make Thornton appear like an asshole anyway. They aren't
>>> > spectacular. So it's hard to know if he's spectacularly evil or
>>> > anything. I guess I should have read their letter too, but I tried a
>>> > few and they were very long and I know much of the story from their

>>>> > other articles.

>>>> >

>>>> > Not sure anonymouse is foolproof, but I thought it was better than
>>>> > nothing. I think you mentioned it a while ago. I didn't know what it
>>>> > was. I realized it's much simpler than other methods where you have to
>>>> > download programs and blah blah. In particular as I don't use it much,
>>>> > so it's not worth the fuss.

>>>> >

>>>> > On 3 September 2011 20:13, Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com> wrote:
>>>> >> what a great metaphor! 'a small herring in the mouth of a whale.' I
>>>> >> love it.

>>>> >> Well, good. I should use anonymouse. What did you think about the
>>>> >> letters?

>>>> >>

>>>> >> On Sat, Sep 3, 2011 at 7:06 PM, alicia h. <zzzooney@gmail.com> wrote:

>>>> >>>

>>>> >>> I tell you a secret: I used Anonymouse.org when visiting their website
>>>> >>> today. I wanted to read the letters Mark Thornton wrote them. I was
>>>> >>> fascinated by the fact that he says so little in their film clips -- I
>>>> >>> assume that he can't have said many horrible things because then
>>>> >>> they'd include them.

>>>> >>>

>>>> >>> I never use anonymizing web services otherwise. I just realized they
>>>> >>> will see it's someone from Sweden, and I'm probably the only one in
>>>> >>> Sweden who ever visited their website. Well, me and Sune. And I didn't
>>>> >>> want them to know more.

>>>> >>>

>>>> >>> She would. He'd be like a small herring in the mouth of a whale.

>>>> >>>

>>>> >>>

>>>> >>> On 3 September 2011 20:01, Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
>>>> >>> wrote:

>>>> >>> > she is huge. Like a giantess (as in Harry Potter) and not in any way
>>>> >>> > like an
>>>> >>> > angel. She could devour him.

>>>> >>> > where were we? Oh this is their site, but Steve knows all about
>>>> >>> > computer

>>>> >>> > technology, so can probably see you following me on there if he's
>>>> >>> > looking.

>>>> >>> > amazon films - news

>>>> >>> >

>>>> >>> >

>>>> >>> >

>>>> >>> > On Sat, Sep 3, 2011 at 6:50 PM, alicia h. <zzzooney@gmail.com> wrote:

>>>> >>> >>>

>>>> >>> >>> She wouldn't ask him; she'd devour him. After she'd determined the
>>>> >>> >>> star constellations were right. I can see him, being eaten. I'm
>>>> >>> >>> clairvoyant, of course.

>>>> >>> >>>

>>>> >>> >>>

>>>> >>> >>> On 3 September 2011 19:45, Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
>>>> >>> >>> wrote:

>>>> >>> >>> > it's interesting how much people will say on camera, as
>>>> >>> >>> > self-publicity.

>>> >>> >> > But
>>> >>> >> > these people tend not to want to be celebrities. I suppose in the
>>> >>> >> > 60s
>>> >>> >> > there
>>> >>> >> > hadn't been this 'hate-campaign'.
>>> >>> >> > I'd watch it too. But there isn't any way he'd come out of it as
>>> >>> >> > he
>>> >>> >> > sees
>>> >>> >> > himself, it would be a disaster for him. Even if anthros made it.
>>> >>> >> > Especially
>>> >>> >> > then. And what would Angel ask him? She's a fucking astrologer,
>>> >>> >> > as
>>> >>> >> > Joe
>>> >>> >> > told
>>> >>> >> > me several times.
>>> >>> >> >
>>> >>> >> > On Sat, Sep 3, 2011 at 6:35 PM, alicia h. <zzzoey@gmail.com>
>>> >>> >> > wrote:
>>> >>> >> >
>>> >>> >> > A documentary about Sune, that's something I would watch. For
>>> >>> >> > the
>>> >>> >> > shere oddity. I really want to know what his life is like. For
>>> >>> >> > real.
>>> >>> >> > It intrigues me. But you're right, it might have to be a
>>> >>> >> > wildlife
>>> >>> >> > expert.
>>> >>> >> >
>>> >>> >> > There's another Swiss/German documentary from around the 60s.
>>> >>> >> > It's
>>> >>> >> > equally fascinating. This guy who grew up in the next village
>>> >>> >> > managed
>>> >>> >> > to get the documentary done -- and to get lots of people to
>>> >>> >> > speak.
>>> >>> >> > People who had met Steiner and all. To speak to an outsider as
>>> >>> >> > though
>>> >>> >> > confidence wasn't even an issue -- he would never have
>>> >>> >> > accomplished
>>> >>> >> > that with threats and anger. What is sad is that this probably
>>> >>> >> > won't
>>> >>> >> > happen again, because people don't have that trust. They know
>>> >>> >> > that
>>> >>> >> > in
>>> >>> >> > the production process they don't have a say anymore -- and they
>>> >>> >> > know
>>> >>> >> > too well that people will lie to get what they want. But both
>>> >>> >> > these
>>> >>> >> > films are great, and I think the fact that they weren't made by
>>> >>> >> > anthros made them great. But how often do anthros trust
>>> >>> >> > non-anthros?
>>> >>> >> >
>>> >>> >> > -a
>>> >>> >> >
>>> >>> >> > On 3 September 2011 19:18, Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
>>> >>> >> > wrote:

>>> >>> >> >> > well you have to have a certain affection for it to understand
>>> >>> >> >> > it
>>> >>> >> >> > -
>>> >>> >> >> > not
>>> >>> >> >> > necessarily like it but find it worth delving into. And people
>>> >>> >> >> > are
>>> >>> >> >> > interesting when they talk about their passions.
>>> >>> >> >> > 'The teachers speak, and that's where it goes
>>> >>> >> >> > wrong from a PR point of view.'
>>> >>> >> >> > Yes, and they have the right not to be edited out of what
>>> >>> >> >> > they're
>>> >>> >> >> > saying. To
>>> >>> >> >> > get them to speak at all was quite a skill. Someone should
>>> >>> >> >> > interview
>>> >>> >> >> > Sune,
>>> >>> >> >> > but it may have to be a wildlife expert from inside a hide. At
>>> >>> >> >> > night.
>>> >>> >> >> >
>>> >>> >> >> >
>>> >>> >> >> >
>>> >>> >> >> >
>>> >>> >> >> >
>>> >>> >> >> > On Sat, Sep 3, 2011 at 6:05 PM, alicia h. <zzzooney@gmail.com>
>>> >>> >> >> > wrote:
>>> >>> >> >> >
>>> >>> >> >> >> There are indeed great documentaries in this. They won't make
>>> >>> >> >> >> a
>>> >>> >> >> >> good
>>> >>> >> >> >> documentary though. It's going to be hideous, if they ever
>>> >>> >> >> >> finish
>>> >>> >> >> >> it.
>>> >>> >> >> >> With ridiculous actors and people not allowed to speak full
>>> >>> >> >> >> sentences.
>>> >>> >> >> >>
>>> >>> >> >> >> There was one, Swedish, from the 1960s. The anthros hated it.
>>> >>> >> >> >> But
>>> >>> >> >> >> it's
>>> >>> >> >> >> beautiful (I have that feeling that, even though the
>>> >>> >> >> >> film-maker
>>> >>> >> >> >> considers them utter loons, he has some kind of affection for
>>> >>> >> >> >> it...
>>> >>> >> >> >> for not making it ugly). The teachers speak, and that's where
>>> >>> >> >> >> it
>>> >>> >> >> >> goes
>>> >>> >> >> >> wrong from a PR point of view. I have to watch it again one
>>> >>> >> >> >> day;
>>> >>> >> >> >> I
>>> >>> >> >> >> just sent a copy of it to a young man in Järna. He's dutch,
>>> >>> >> >> >> has
>>> >>> >> >> >> been
>>> >>> >> >> >> in that anthro youth program they have there, and is a
>>> >>> >> >> >> documentary
>>> >>> >> >> >> film-maker to be. I figure none of the people he knows in
>>> >>> >> >> >> Järna

>>> >>> >> >> will
 >>> >>> >> >> ever draw his attention to that movie ;-)
 >>> >>> >> >>
 >>> >>> >> >> I think you're doing the right thing not to have anything to
 >>> >>> >> >> do
 >>> >>> >> >> with
 >>> >>> >> >> them anymore. There are limits. If one thinks about
 >>> >>> >> >> priorities,
 >>> >>> >> >> one
 >>> >>> >> >> should spend no energy dealing with people like that -- the
 >>> >>> >> >> world
 >>> >>> >> >> is
 >>> >>> >> >> full of decent people, fun people, and so forth. Cold,
 >>> >>> >> >> selfish,
 >>> >>> >> >> boring
 >>> >>> >> >> twits are really not necessary for anything. (That's why
 >>> >>> >> >> they're
 >>> >>> >> >> standing on the door-steps of the ethereal kiosk; they have
 >>> >>> >> >> to,
 >>> >>> >> >> they
 >>> >>> >> >> would never understand the concept anyway. And they're not
 >>> >>> >> >> getting
 >>> >>> >> >> in.)
 >>> >>> >> >>
 >>> >>> >> >> 'In some ways it was a good thing we found out what they were
 >>> >>> >> >> like
 >>> >>> >> >> before they got going in any serious way. We must not be
 >>> >>> >> >> associated
 >>> >>> >> >> with them.'
 >>> >>> >> >>
 >>> >>> >> >> I agree -- and at least we've made sure that it has been
 >>> >>> >> >> pointed
 >>> >>> >> >> out.
 >>> >>> >> >> That there's something fishy going on, and that people should
 >>> >>> >> >> be
 >>> >>> >> >> careful what they get involved in (which applies to all
 >>> >>> >> >> situations
 >>> >>> >> >> really). We can call ourselves whistle-blowers ;-)
 >>> >>> >> >> Angel's
 >>> >>> >> >> style
 >>> >>> >> >> in
 >>> >>> >> >> those comments on LSN did, I believe, make people think
 >>> >>> >> >> 'what?'
 >>> >>> >> >> --
 >>> >>> >> >> but
 >>> >>> >> >> Angel and Steve will probably think the problem is other evil
 >>> >>> >> >> commentators (like me).
 >>> >>> >> >>
 >>> >>> >> >> -a
 >>> >>> >> >>
 >>> >>> >> >> On 3 September 2011 18:30, Melanie Byng
 >>> >>> >> >> <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
 >>> >>> >> >> wrote:
 >>> >>> >> >> > that's not to say there isn't a great documentary in this -
 >>> >>> >> >> > there

>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > is!
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > But it
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > should be more whimsical. More about human folly and the
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > desire
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > to
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > keep
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > believing in something in spite of all the evidence. About
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > why
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > there's a
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > longing for other worlds (especially for certain people who
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > haven't
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > the
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > kudos they'd like in the real one.) And so on.
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > On Sat, Sep 3, 2011 at 5:20 PM, Melanie Byng
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > wrote:
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > they are French. That's bad enough ;) But I think it's
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > Angel
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > they
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > find
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > hard to take. They're also cross that the children don't
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > speak
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > French,
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > which
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > considering how easy it is to learn a language in infancy
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > does
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > seem
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > a
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > bit of
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > a loss. But to a French family the lack of education and
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > the
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > chaos
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > is
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > grotesque. I use that word advisedly.
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > Yes, she shouldn't be on the internet. But this is EXACTLY
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > how
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > she
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > speaks,
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > the cadence and the veiled threats. They weren't aimed at
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > me
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > of
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > course,
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > at
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > the time.
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > He's thinking - why did that nice woman stop talking to
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > us? It
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > must
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > be
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > Alicia's fault. And also he must know we've communicated.
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > He
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > must
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > think

>>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> if
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> only Thetis would make an appearance, or the events in
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> France
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> are
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> mentioned
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> he can defend himself and suggest I'm over-reacting, and
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> that
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> since
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> I
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> haven't answered any of their emails I clearly would
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> rather
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> wreck
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> their
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> project than discuss it sensibly and that this would be
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> the
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> right
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> 'etiquette'.

>>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> But I don't care about them enough to answer their emails.

>>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> I
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> blocked
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> her
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> the minute I knew Joe was on the plane home. I unfollowed
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> because
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> they
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> tried
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> to direct message me. I don't want ever to talk to them
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> again.

>>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> Not
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> because
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> what they did was terrible, though it was pretty shitty,
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> but
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> because
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> they're
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> entirely untrustworthy and mendacious and manipulative and
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> above
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> all,
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> selfish. You're doing the right thing advising people not
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> to
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> trust
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> them
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> and
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> I'm grateful you've done so, it's really good that critics
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> know
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> too.

>>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> In
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> some
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> ways it was a good thing we found out what they were like
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> before
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> they
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> got
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> going in any serious way. We must not be associated with
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> them.
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> I feel it's important to be honest, and that means
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> stressing

>>> >>> >> >> >> >> that
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> although
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> the Waldorf movement can be a danger to those already
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> involved,
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> and
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> there
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> have been a few attempts to intimidate others (some
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> serious)
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> most
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> of
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> the
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> time they are ineffectual. You said this very clearly and
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> isolated
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> why
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> most
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> families don't want to campaign against their schools. To
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> use
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> similar
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> tactics to certain anthros, as they're doing, is to lose
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> the
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> point.
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> We
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> want
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> the movement to be honest, we think the education isn't
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> very
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> good,
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> but
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> we're
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> not prepared to use any tactic to convince others we have
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> a
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> case.
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> In
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> fact we
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> need only to persuade policy-makers to read and take
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> seriously
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> the
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> material
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> that's already out there! It's been said very clearly
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> before.
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> Now
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> it's
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> finally being more widely accepted. When people are more
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> aware
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> what
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> this
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> education system is it loses popularity, the brand is
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> tarnished.
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >>
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >>
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> On Sat, Sep 3, 2011 at 4:39 PM, alicia h.
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> <zzzooney@gmail.com>
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> wrote:
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >>
 >>> >>> >> >> >> >> It's possible she shouldn't be on the internet, because

>>> >>> >>> >>> >>> she's
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> not
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> handling it. And it's clear she's calling the shots; he
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> seems
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> a
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> bit
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> awkward, trying to blame everyone else. (Interesting how
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> he
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> tried
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> to
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> make me sort-of-responsible for you unfollowing them on
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> twitter
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> --
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> he,
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> of all people, must be aware there might just be another
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> reason
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> for
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> that. Maybe tried to lure me into saying I knew
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> something.
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> Rather
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> clumsy attempt, if so...)
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>>
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> It must be very difficult for the grandparents. They
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> could be
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> mad
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> too,
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> of course.
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>>
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>>
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> On 3 September 2011 17:22, Melanie Byng
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> wrote:
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> > well I hope they have fucked off now.
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> > If she's in Aldershot she's with her mother, who is
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> > dying
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> > of
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> > cancer.
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> > So
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> > what
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> > the hell is she doing on your blog? How does she have
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> > the
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> > energy
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> > to
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> > devote
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> > to arguing with you - or to sell the documentary?
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> > Anyway it's a folie a deux - he's doing everything she
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> > says.
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> > Even
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> > his
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> > parents won't speak to either of them anymore, so upset
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> > are
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> > they
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> > about
 >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> > what's happening to the children. Though for all i know

>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > his
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > parents
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > are
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > equally mad. Who knows? Why do I know any of this
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > stuff?
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > Jeez.
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > On Sat, Sep 3, 2011 at 3:15 PM, alicia h.
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > <zzzoocy@gmail.com>
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> > wrote:
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> Oh, absolutely right. All of it.
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> On 3 September 2011 15:44, Melanie Byng
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> wrote:
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > no, not you. I don't think she means me, except I
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > did
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > point
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > out I
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > knew
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > quite
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > a lot of the people I've commented on from the South
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > Devon
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > school
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > -
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > or
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > Plymouth Uni. John Burnett, Alan Swindell et al. But
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > we
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > haven't
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > socialised
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > with them for years.
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > You're right that in a village, or any smallish
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > community
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > it's
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > v
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > difficult
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > to make a stand about something which others endorse
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > or
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > even
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > think
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > is
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > fairly
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > harmless. I do know people whose children are at the
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > school
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > here,
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > although
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > they're getting far fewer. I have to walk my dogs
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > past
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > their
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > houses
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > and
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > meet
>>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >>>> >> > them via my own offspring or other friends and it

>>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > would
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > make
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > life
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > difficult
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > if they knew who I was. But not very difficult and
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > as
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > time
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > passes
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > even
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > that
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > will be less.
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > But as you say, if you have smaller children or have
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > only
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > just
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > left
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > it
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > can
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > be agonising for families. And children care very
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > much
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > about
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > their
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > friends,
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > who are sometimes all they care about at a school.
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > Parents
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > who
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > feel
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > they
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > have made a bad choice generally don't want to cause
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > more
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > sadness
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > for
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > their
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > own children. We all understand this very well,
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > which is
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > why
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > we
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > don't
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > put
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > pressure on parents to come forward even though it's
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > frustrating
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > -
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > I
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > got
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > the impression from information they gave me that A
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > & S
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > have
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > already
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > done
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > this. Admittedly some of the ex-parents behave v
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > oddly
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > (Steiner
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > attracts
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > some bizarre individuals) but you cannot force them
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > to

>>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > say
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > what
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > you
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > want.
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > It's complex - some still like Steiner, or they like
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > the
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > school
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > and
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > feel
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > hurt, or refuse to read anything about anthroposophy
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > -
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > Cathy
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > gets
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > this
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > all
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > the time in Yorkshire. Suddenly they say 'But why do
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > you
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > hate
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > it
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > so
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > much!'
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > And put down the phone.
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > So you have to go back to the pedagogy, and show
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > evidence
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > of
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > the
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > teaching
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > materials, and the historical context, and cite
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > anthros
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > in
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > their
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > own
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > words.
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > This is hard and takes diligent research, but as
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > Dawkins
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > told
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > us
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > 'I
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > don't
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > like anecdote, I like evidence,' and then he smiled
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > at
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > his
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > own
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > abruptness.
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > On Sat, Sep 3, 2011 at 2:25 PM, alicia h.
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > <zzzoocy@gmail.com>
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > wrote:
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > The baboon stuff seems to have shut them up
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > temporarily.
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > I stil wonder if she meant me or someone else:
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >

>>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > what
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > they're
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > doing, period. But it's almost superfluous to say
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > so...
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> >
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > It's obviously not possible to find any 'hard
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > evidence'
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > for
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > it,
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > but I
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > do wonder if they didn't help create the
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > situation at
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > the
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > school.
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > It's
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > bad for their children though.
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> >
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > -a
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> >
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > On 3 September 2011 14:24, Melanie Byng
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > wrote:
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > nothing she says makes sense! Round and round
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > she
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > goes.
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > She's litigious btw - but here she has no case
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > over
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > the
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > word
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > 'target'.
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > It's
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > like Singh's 'bogus' only you're not saying it
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > in a
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > newspaper,
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > she
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > is
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > not an
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > association and anyway they ARE targeting
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > certain
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > people -
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > as
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > you
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > say.
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > Target: 'select as an object of attention'.
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > That's
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > one
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > of
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > the
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > word's
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > meanings. It is interesting that she's
 >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> > immediately

>>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

>>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> > ha.

>>> >>> >> >> >> >>> >> >>> >

>>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >>> > On Sat, Sep 3, 2011 at 12:47 PM, alicia h.

>>> >>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> > wrote:

>>> >>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> <http://zooey.wordpress.com/2011/09/03/hey/>

>>> >>> >> >>> >>> >> >>> >> >>> >> On 3 September 2011 13:02, alicia h.

>>> >>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> wrote:

>>> >>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> > think

>>> >>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> > of

>>> >>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> > is

>>> >>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> > Must

```
>>> >>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> > out
```

>>> >>> >> >> >>> >>> >> >> >>> >> > mr

~~~~~

~~~~~

>>> >>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> > in

>>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> > film.

[illegible]

```
>>> >>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> > imagine
```

>>> >>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> > they'd

>>> >>> >> >> >>> >> >>> >> >>> >> > to the footage. I have never seen a

>>> >>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> > docu

>>> >>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> > butchers

>>> >>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> > people say in the way they did with

>>> >>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> >

[illegible]

[illegible]

----- Forwarded message -----

From: alicia h. <zzzoey@gmail.com>

Date: Sun, Sep 4, 2011 at 10:42 PM

Subject: Re: send-up

To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

4 Sep 2011 23:20, "Melanie Byng" <melanie.byng@gmail.com> wrote:

> thank you!

>

> It wasn't a joke (from her) and it isn't a joke (from him). No, it wouldn't
> make sense and it's pure spite. I won't have them anywhere near my family,
> don't you worry.

>

> I will text you if anything happens. Meanwhile, enjoy yourself, and &
> I will be there in spirit (spooky)

>

> On Sun, Sep 4, 2011 at 10:11 PM, alicia h. <zzzoey@gmail.com> wrote:

>

>> Yep -- steve pretends it was a joke. They don't seem to be very funny
>> people. And they are certainly serious about interviewing Sune and they know
>> I know it so they mentioned it. But as far as I'm concerned, they can do all
>> the satirical sketches they want; it would probably make sense to noone
>> anyway.

>> I'm in the country house and there have been so many comments that I
>> probably have missed several. The phone app sucks of you have more than like
>> two comments to read and reply to. Next boat home is late tuesday afternoon
>> so I will suffer this predicament for two more days ;-)

>>

>> In any case, if there is any comment they write (or have written already)
>> that you feel uncomfortable with in that way (I mean, you know, they don't
>> really write comments that makes anyone feel comfortable... But if they
>> write something personal or something that shouldn't be there) tell me and
>> I'll delete it. (I can put comments on moderation too -- I'd prefer not to,
>> but if there are signs of anything bad about to happen, I'll do this
>> immediately. Tell me if so.) If you need me to react immediately, and I'm
>> not online (I am in the countryside so I should not have my nose darting
>> towards the smartphone screen all day long...), my swedish mobile number is
>> [redacted] (I've forgotten the national code though...) I don't carry it
>> on me all the time but pretty much most of it. And if you text me, it might
>> reach me quicker than email/tweet/other online activity would do.

>>

>> No, you shouldn't invite them back, which you would do by taking in their
>> daughter. Joe is important -- they are not. And they mean trouble. You don't
>> know what they might accuse you of. Very unpredictable.

>.

>>

>>

>>

>>

>> -a

>> On 4 Sep 2011 21:35, "Melanie Byng" <melanie.bying@gmail.com> wrote:

>> > they mean that they'll mock you, Alicia, by writing a satirical video

>> sketch

>> > about you.

>> >

>> > They did this about a politician in NZ (Anne Tolley, the education
>> minister)

>> > - Angel played her (wearing a wig) it wasn't bad as satire and of course

>> > politicians are fair-game for satirists. You are however not a
>> politician,

>> > hold no public office and are not accountable to voters. In your case it

>> > would be pure spite. Also incomprehensible to anyone who hasn't studied

>> your

>> > blog, and although you have lots of visitors most of those are

>> sympathetic,

>> > even many of the anthros (who like your photos & appreciate your

>> interests).

>> > So I don't know who the intended audience would be or how it would help

>> > their cause.

>> >

>> > Steve rang us tonight - we missed the call. The message said I had to

>> read

>> > an email from Angel as it was v urgent. Her emails go straight into my

>> > trash, I have no intention of reading anything. It may of course be some

>> > kind of threat. I would rather they didn't use your blog to try to

>> > communicate with me (as Melanie) by which I mean to refer to things that

>> > have not been discussed on the blog, or to force me to respond with

>> threats,

>> > veiled or otherwise.

>> > I did say I'd have their daughter here if she did a trial week at Sands

>> > school, that was before they behaved so badly. It was a reasonable offer

>> to

>> > make to a family who don't live in the area and who are facing a

>> > bereavement. I feel sorry for the child, but even if I could stomach it,

>> it

>> > would be horrible for Joe. Anyway of course it's impossible, in fact we

>> feel

>> > we have to talk to Sands. They're used to odd parents, but not litigious,

>> > possibly dangerous ones.

>> > I don't know why they think it's odd that you 'turned against them'. Her

>> > comments on the LSN were enough.

>>

On Sun, Sep 11, 2011 at 10:50 PM, Mike Collins

wrote:

Noted, thanks. I never did like the tone of their communications. I'm not on any of the private lists any longer, I consider them unsafe so far as confidentiality and security goes.

On Sun, Sep 11, 2011 at 7:52 PM, Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com> wrote:
hello Mike - looking forward to the next blogpost.

Just a note to let you know that on personal experience (mildly but unpleasantly and involving one of my own children) Angel and Steve, formally from the New Zealand Titirangi School are not trustworthy. Comments posted on Alicia's blog bear this out.

It's not a good idea in our view to encourage Steiner parents to view their sites or get involved with any possible (but frankly unlikely) documentary. They've relied on our goodwill publicising their activities which we won't do from now on. They have very little means, but are potentially litigious and certainly capable of dishonesty or misrepresentation.

Forwarded conversation

Subject: **can you see**

From: **alicia h.** <zzzoey@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Sep 22, 2011 at 4:01 PM
To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

any content on this page?

http://anonymouse.org/cgi-bin/anon-www.cgi/http://www.amazonnewsmedia.com/ANM/ANM/Entries/2011/9/22_Steiner_critics_mob_Steiner_Whistleblowers.html

It's just an empty, grey column on my computer.

I found it because, supposedly, it contains a link to my blog (on click).

-a

From: **Melanie Byng** <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Sep 22, 2011 at 4:05 PM
To: "alicia h." <zzzoey@gmail.com>

no - nothing. They're idiots.

I suppose I ought to see if they've outed me. Does that mean going outside the anonmouse?

From: **alicia h.** <zzzoey@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Sep 22, 2011 at 4:13 PM
To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

Maybe it's an empty page, lol! As empty as their arguments.

I don't know. I guess perhaps yes. I've been hesitant to do it -- I

figure they'll know it's me (since it's a visit from Sweden), and given that I have a blog, with content they don't like, I fear they'd contact my internet provider, or something. But maybe that's unnecessarily paranoid.

Google hasn't indexed your first name anyway:

http://www.google.com/#sclient=psy-ab&hl=en&source=hp&q=site:www.amazonnewsmedia.com+melanie&pbx=1&oq=site:www.amazonnewsmedia.com+melanie&aq=f&aqi=&aql=1&gs_sm=e&gs_upl=29022130146111304001717101010121159162514.31710&av=on.2,or.r_gc.r_pw.r_cp.&fp=f468585998098c1f&biw=1600&bih=674

No hits.

From: **Melanie Byng** <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Sep 22, 2011 at 4:18 PM

To: "alicia h." <zzzoey@gmail.com>

I wondered what to do if they did name me. In some ways it would be a relief. In other ways not so much :(

From: **alicia h.** <zzzoey@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Sep 22, 2011 at 4:20 PM

To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

I wonder if it's one of their hard evidences, i e, video. If so, the clip might be available on their youtube-channel too? Why do they post this on Amazon film, not on their steiner website?

It wasn't on Steinermentary's youtube, but I haven't checked amazon films.

From: **alicia h.** <zzzoey@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Sep 22, 2011 at 4:22 PM

To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

well, that's the big question -- what to do? not easy to say.

not too many read their websites though.

On 22 September 2011 17:18, Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com> wrote:

From: **Melanie Byng** <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Sep 22, 2011 at 4:30 PM

To: "alicia h." <zzzoey@gmail.com>

the dog-puppet perhaps? How idiotic.

Statement, if needed, would be that our concern is to act with decency, as we would like the Steiner movement to.

Your blog is your own concern anyway, and your purpose is only to reflect on the ideas that interest you. You don't owe them a platform.

 From: **alicia h.** <zzzoey@gmail.com>
 Date: Thu, Sep 22, 2011 at 4:33 PM
 To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

there is text. I got it when clicked 'view source' -- for some reason, the browser can't display it. It looks funny but I'll copy it here anyway, since it's possible to read:

<p style="padding-top: 0pt; " class="paragraph_style_1">The couple at the centre of the Titirangi Steiner school case, currently in front of the Tribunal of Human Rights in New Zealand, say they were “mobbed” by Steiner critics for encouraging people to speak out about abuses in the Steiner movement.
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">A well-known Steiner critic, Alicia h., attacked the couple, after Ms Garden, wrote an article on the <a

title="http://www.localschoolsnetwork.org.uk/2011/08/some-very-good-reasons-why-steiner-schools-shouldnt-have-state-funding/"

href="http://anonymouse.org/cgi-bin/anon-www.cgi/http://www.localschoolsnetwork.org.uk/2011/08/some-very-good-reasons-why-steiner-schools-shouldnt-have-state-funding/">Local

Schools Network looking at the case of the Norfolk Steiner school in which Jo Sawfoot was acknowledged by Employment Tribunal to have been ‘targeted’ as an irritant. The judge described Ms Sawfoot as a whistleblower. You can read about this case <a

onclick="window.open(this.href); return false;"

title="http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2016998/Assault-pupil-6-cost-Steiner-school-100-000.html"

href="http://anonymouse.org/cgi-bin/anon-www.cgi/http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2016998/Assault-pupil-6-cost-Steiner-school-100-000.html"

onkeypress="window.open(this.href); return false;">here and <a

onclick="window.open(this.href); return false;"

title="http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/8649751/Steiner-school-faces-100000-payout-to-whistle-blowing-teacher.html"

href="http://anonymouse.org/cgi-bin/anon-www.cgi/http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/8649751/Steiner-school-faces-100000-payout-to-whistle-blowing-teacher.html"

onkeypress="window.open(this.href); return false;">here, and

download the court papers <a onclick="window.open(this.href); return

false;" title="http://www.steinermentary.com/SM/UK-NISS-Tribunal.html"

href="http://anonymouse.org/cgi-bin/anon-www.cgi/http://www.steinermentary.com/SM/UnsubTribunal.html"

onkeypress="window.open(this.href); return false;">here.
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">Given how similar the targeting techniques were of the two schools, including lying to Government bodies, Ms Garden's article on LSN expressed how encouraging she found the judgement, and further encouraged others to come forward with such cases.
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">The Steiner critics mobbed the couple online, saying that asking others to speak out was the same as pressuring them, by making them feel guilty. Unable to answer the question "if people don't identify the schools where children are mistreated, how will it stop?", the blogger alicia h., along with another critic Diana, went in for a mobbing, which took place on Alicia's

blog and met a gruelling 16 points in this <a

title="http://www.overcomebullying.org/mobbing-indicators.html"

href="http://anonymouse.org/cgi-bin/anon-www.cgi/http://www.overcomebullying.org/mobbing-indicators.html">online

test.
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">Angel Garden, mother of the three children who were expelled from the private Titirangi Steiner School in West Auckland, says an anonymous Steiner critic, Thetis Mercurio, joined in the mobbing by remaining silent about circumstances known to her which may have had an effect on whether criticism was seen to be justified and whether it continued.
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">Angel Garden described the situation she found herself in...
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">"It was really horrible, Alicia did all the classic techniques, questioning everything about us, running us down and using stigmatising language, saying it was our fault and we made everything up including people thanking us, and that they needed to warn people off us etc., and the main thing that is levelled against whistle blowers, that we're out for ourselves....
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">"The anonymous critic known as Thetis Mercurio asked me to write the article, because of the need to publicise the fact of having got our case in front of the Human Rights Commission. Yet when the critic weapons laid into us, she did not come forward. Thetis and Alicia are good friends. We would like Thetis Mercurio to come forward and explain why she did not

prevent her friend from mobbing us by using accusations such as that we are just out for ourselves, when Thetis knew perfectly well the reason why I wrote the article and she could have stepped in and told the mobbers that which would at least have got them off that angle!

<p class="paragraph_style_2">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">“There were five of them in total, Alicia h, Thetis Mercurio, Diana, Esther Fiddler and PeteK, all of whom are very vocal in the anti-steiner movement.
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">“Alicia first objected to a comment I made which she found dismissive of Steiner critics, she came in pretty hard with a my friends have done a lot more than you for Steiner criticism kind of thing" and I immediately apologised and acknowledged her point, but she just ignored that and went off on her 'guilt trip' number, which was the beginning of the duffing up that we received.
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">“There was only one line inviting people to send in testimony, but that infuriated Alicia, who interpreted a general invitation as me "guilt-tripping" and targeting people. It was OTT. Alicia and Diana couldn't answer the question "if people don't come forward how will it stop?", but they had a very strong viewpoint that "most people just get on with their lives”, and they obviously think that this is the ‘normal’ response.”
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">Oddly though, in this instance, that viewpoint seems to have led them to attack two people who have worked hard to bring awareness to the several issues raised by what happened to their children.
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">“The mobbing has made us realise that there are many agendas in "Steiner criticism" that might be hidden. The strong agenda around secrecy, with Thetis Mercurio hanging back and just watching us getting mobbed by her friend, seems like a continuation of the secrecy that exists within the schools, and the Steiner critics rank-pulling might indicate that some similar unofficial but powerful hierarchy may exist within the critics community. There was just no reason for the critics to be so vicious towards us. And there is very little we could do to call Thetis Mercurio out, since she's anonymous!
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">“The critics stated that to just ‘get on with your life’ is the common thing to do apparently as a virtue, whereas we, who thought it would be over quickly, went in to try and make a change and were due to have the meeting with the trustees, which was very supported by many at the

school, and then, instead, we were foisted out. So we stood up, and what happened next was so extraordinary, in terms of the whole skuttling and reorganisation that went on, that it did take us a while to realise none had the will for it at all in face of the pressure to conform.
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">“Then we realised that we were also in an absolute legal vacuum regarding children’s welfare, which we set about looking into."
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">The couple have worked hard to expose the gaps in the law on private schools in New Zealand, earning commendation from opposition Education spokesman Trevor Mallard.
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">“We’ve always been careful to examine how much of what happened to our children and ourselves at the hands of the school was down to the Steiner connection. But we discovered that, being a private school, there is simply no law governing the welfare of children at that school, and we were immigrants, so really we’ve done quite well in getting it onto the Tribunal Director’s desk and that was only through publication.
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">“That’s why it’s so satisfying for us that someone used our information to avoid their own child getting hurt and why we appreciate them letting us know about it.
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">“The fact that alicia and Diana said that other people’s testimony featured by us might just be fake, and probably is, even those people thanking us, is just really really unkind. There’s no other way to put that unfortunately. It’s rubbishing them just as much as us, and it’s in pretty bad taste really especially towards those people in our videos who wanted to make a statement but didn’t feel they had any choice but to do it anonymously, which was supposedly the position the critics were trying to 'defend' when they attacked us.
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">“That’s just another point that shows that the mobbing happened for its own sake and not really to defend any particular point of view.
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">“After this event we can only assume that those for whom the need for anonymity so that they can 'get on with their lives', near or within the same community that they have some 'criticism' of, that what happened to them was mild enough that that would be possible. We think there is a big difference between the two things, people who have had to fight and

may have lost much, to keep their self respect and try to alert others, and those who wish to maintain their lifestyle as a first priority, whom we must assume are not really being anonymous about anything particularly bad, as to keep silent about things that really would put other peoples kids in danger, on the basis of your kid's school friends, we think would be repugnant to most people, so we just assume that what happened to us is entirely different and that's why those critics just don't understand us. For us it was nothing to do with lifestyle.
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">"That's why we found Pete K's dropping in to make a "how sad, these people seemed legit" comment so disappointing. We would have expected him to understand, since he's been very litigious and outspoken all along and had to fight fiercely. Yet he didn't seem to realise that he'd just joined in with a mobbing, and hammered into a family who are simply trying to make a difference. It was pretty disappointing to be frank since he seemed not to have even read the blog and didn't question any of the crass assumptions that were being made there. And he almost certainly isn't aware of Thetis Mercurio's involvement.
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">"It's also interesting to note that we've got TV companies denying Steiner parents a voice on the pretext that they won't put the kids on the telly on the one hand, and on the other there are Steiner critics using the fact of having spoken out at all as a reason not to be given a voice, since others may feel guilty for not doing so. With such restrictions on being allowed to speak, and so many difficult 'requirements' to meet it's hardly surprising that the uninitiated still think Steiner Education is a softer, better alternative, which means the movement keeps growing and the unsuspecting will keep falling into big deep holes."
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">Asked what the agenda of the critics was in slamming people who are appearing on the desk of the HR tribunal, Angel said:
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">"I don't understand it at all, it is worrying that anonymity should be placed so clearly above the welfare of children who aren't yours, as if they aren't as valuable somehow as your own "identity". Elsewhere Alicia h states that "If critics had known all these things before choosing waldorf, they would have chosen differently" yet she told us to "shut up".
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">"The original article on LSN only asked a couple of questions about anonymity, but Alica said that was "targeting" people, a word that also appeared in the

judgement of the Norfolk Steiner school. When Alicia was picked up using such a provocative word though, she did fudge it and back-pedal quite hard by saying that she meant 'target' in the sense of us not trying to attract trainspotters. So she wasn't meaning 'target' at all in the sense of the article. It's a classic mobbing tactic, talk it up big, throw mud at you, but if you call them out, they'll throw it into the ridiculous basket. Mention the libellous element in claiming that your work is all fake, your footage illegal, and the big guns disappear, to be replaced with a strain of hilarity - trainspotters.
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">"We are astonished that these people think that they somehow own a territory called "Steiner Criticism", and will police it in this way in the face of the evidence of abuses that some people document and then use that information to call the schools to account. Are the Steiner Critics an organisation? If so, where's the constitution?"
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">"We are very unwilling to classify ourselves as Steiner "critics", anyway, looking at the judgement in the Jo Sawfoot case, and alicia's comment that she found discussing the weird philosophy of Rudolf Steiner more interesting. She, of course, has now made it clear that we're not one of them and they all need to be warned off.
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">"We identify more with Jo Sawfoot's approach as it is more similar to ours. We don't want to engage with the nutty anthroposophy of Steiner education, we would rather stick to the facts, which are, in Jo Sawfoot's case that she's been targeted as a whistleblower in a kindergarten. That was the court judgement.
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">"We did not expect our whistleblowing to have the effect that it did, that's certainly something that needs to be said. We thought that if we stood up that in 24 hours it would be history, because there were so many people in the school saying that it was great someone was finally doing something about it. In the end, some people, who have all left the school, decided that they would like to give testimony and they asked us to reconstruct it, due to the lifestyle reasons that Alicia and Diana have advocated. So why they are slamming us for that I don't know.
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">"Alicia and the other critics are not honouring them or their choice, by slamming us for that or saying that because an actor is speaking the words of another person, while the screen tells you that it's a "reconstruction" that it means that it's "fiction". It wasn't true, it's just another mobbing tactic. <a

title="http://www.overcomebullying.org/mobbing-indicators.html"
 href="http://anonymouse.org/cgi-bin/anon-www.cgi/http://www.overcomebullying.org/mobbing-indicators.html">Have

a look at the test!
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">“Obviously we are not much understood by Alicia (indeed she said as much) or the others who joined in the with the mobbing. But just because you are ignorant of a way of responding to something, or doing things, that is not reason to attack people.
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">“There is a lot of Steiner related testimony online, but a lot of it is not attached to any school. Even though Steiner schools use the whole, “it depends on the individual school” thing as a huge buckpass, nevertheless I'm not sure that it's whistle blowing to just leave the identity of schools out when publishing such material. It's quite a clever tactic in a way to tar the whole movement by just letting it hang there that it could by any Steiner School. Not really sure about the ethics of that though.”
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">So how does it feel to have been attacked by those from whom they might have expected help or at least an attempt at understanding?
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">“Well looking into it a bit more, these are just the kinds of things that happen to whistle blowers, although we didn't expect to be whistle blowing the Steiner critics in this way, I think people should be aware of how autocratic it's all become. After what happened to us, we feel it is urgent to make clear to people who may think of standing up, how hard it might be for them, when even groups who they might turn to for advice, help or support, may turn on them savagely if they are perceived to be a threat. That kind of thing, in whistle blowing terminology is called “secondary wounding” and it's fairly standard unfortunately.
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">“And in a way that proves the point because why should there be a movement of people opposed to Steiner criticism, with it's own rules etc.? Doesn't that just mean that it's not being very effective, since it's getting so cosy?...
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">“The reason that the Steinermentary project is self-generating is because only those people who wish to stand up and give straight back the atrocious aggression that has just been shown to them by a community, will access it, and therefore it is for them. Others, such as those who don't want people to know who they are, in being “critical”, or who want to spend a lot of time discussing the indoctrination effects of a cult education,

have plenty of places to go. Our time in Steiner was so short, we have no knowledge of those things, as we weren't really indoctrinated.”
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">So aren't you trying to take over Steiner Criticism with your Steinermentary site?
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">“God no! I can't think of anything worse than getting too attached to it all... We just made Steinermentary to mark his 150th birthday. It was our present to Rudolf Steiner, that's all, we thought that it would be a good idea to provide this sort of platform in case people got brave and wanted to put video up. The mobbers ridiculed our site saying that YouTube already exists, but people wouldn't necessarily find this material on YouTube where there is such a glut. We're still looking for evidence, but if it's just us and now the papers from the Norfolk case, so similar and on the other side of the world, then Rudolf is a very lucky boy to have such ethical advertising. After this we'll be clarifying our policies and our priorities for outing abuses in this school movement.
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">“As far as PLANS is concerned, we of course recognise Dan Dugan's contribution to the “canon” of Steiner criticism, but we feel that he is more than that, and that such an old campaigner will know all about the hype and just be glad that someone else is doing some work. We don't know, we wrote to him ages ago but we never heard back.”
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">So how do you feel about the Steiner Critics now?
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">“I think Alicia h., Diana and the rest have reduced themselves unnecessarily in their treatment of us, she could have made positive criticisms politely which we would have appreciated. As it was, even when I gave her ample recognition, apologising immediately for my mistake, she didn't even acknowledge it.
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">“Basically she seems to have been looking for an excuse to lay into us, and me writing the article gave her that excuse. As far as Thetis Mercurio is concerned, we hold her responsible for not calling off her friend by simply telling her the truth, what her motivation for that was is totally beyond me, she came over as so supportive.....but she's used her anonymity as a weapon in this instance.
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">“The mobbing makes it harder to take anything positive from the criticism, because, if there are important bits to think about in there, they are so covered in

attacking, ridiculing, accusatory and frankly libellous statements,
that it's a pretty toxic job to go and look for them.
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_2">"It is possible that as
alicia h. is someone who didn't have a choice about staying in Steiner
education, she may not have much understanding of people like us who
are prepared to stand up and take stringent action on our own
children's behalf even in the face of such open aggression. That's no
excuse for her being so slap-happy. This kind of behaviour certainly
will not help the reputation of the Steiner Critics."
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">
</p>

<p class="paragraph_style_1">Keith Thompson
ANM
</p>

*****!

From: **alicia h.** <zzzoey@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Sep 22, 2011 at 4:34 PM

To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

I haven't read it yet, but I noticed they talk about themselves in
third person again ;-) Now I must fetch my microwaved soup...

From: **alicia h.** <zzzoey@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Sep 22, 2011 at 4:41 PM

To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

I should have included on this from the beginning. The
Steinermentary folks have put up a new website:

<http://anonymouse.org/cgi-bin/anon->

www.cgi/http://www.amazonnewsmedia.com/ANM/ANM/Entries/2011/9/22_Steiner_critics_mob_Steiner_Whistleblowers.html

You can't see any text via anonymouse, but because I don't want to go
on their websites non-anonymously, I clicked 'view source' and got the
text. It's in the message below (although somewhat difficult to read,
because it includes the html-code).

They interview themselves about us. Totally ridiculous. You're
mentioned, so is Thetis, but only as ThetisMercurio -- thank Dog.

From: **alicia h.** <zzzoey@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Sep 22, 2011 at 4:44 PM

To: , Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

Seems she thinks you're with them, Mel. Or maybe she does this to

provoke you? Difficult to tell. Esther has become a Fiddler.

-a

 From: **Melanie Byng** <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
 Date: Thu, Sep 22, 2011 at 6:56 PM
 To: "alicia h." <zzzoey@gmail.com>
 Cc: >

she had better not start on After today's tweeting, even is hiding under his desk.

Angel has clearly gone mad - actually I'm guessing that through the hard-to-read text. First they report themselves in the third person, then they switch to the first: 'why? Why? Thetis - why did you turn on us?'

I did suggest she wrote something for the LSN, before I realised she was unreliable, some weeks before - when it was announced that Frome and Leeds were to be interviewed as free schools. I felt that a reflection on the situation in NZ regarding the accountability of Steiner schools would be interesting. She then (weeks later) had his idea about whistle-blowing, the original draft was muddled but I bore in mind that she'd been looking after her dying mother and said I was happy to help her make her ideas more coherent. I didn't do this, of course, after they behaved so capriciously towards Joe.

I imagine that anything I do is an excuse to out me. Silence is an excuse. Why do they want to 'call me out'? What have I done?

Remember I talked about inhibited grieving? Let's assume the mother is real. Angel is on self-destruct, because nothing she's doing now is helping anyone - not her family or herself or her cause.

What a mad screed.

On Thu, Sep 22, 2011 at 4:44 PM, alicia h. <zzzoey@gmail.com> wrote:

Seems she thinks you're with them, . Or maybe she does this to
 provoke you? Difficult to tell. has become a Fiddler.

 From: **alicia h.** <zzzoey@gmail.com>
 Date: Thu, Sep 22, 2011 at 7:52 PM
 To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
 Cc:

That third person thing they're doing really adds to the madness.
 (It's not entirely useless though:
<http://zoey.wordpress.com/2011/09/02/comments-lsn/#comment-11848>.)

Yep -- I figured that was the real story behind it. Though it doesn't really matter, considering what happened later. Also, what really did it wasn't the article (though it was not very good), it was the comments she wrote on LSN. None of us had understood what they were

about. We just assumed it was probably ok, even though not all ideas seemed that brilliant (like the reenacted interviews).

'Why do they want to 'call me out'?

I suspect they want to call anybody out -- if someone shows the least resistance, they begin to demand things. Which is obviously a bit scary -- I don't trust people who behave like that, and I think it makes them unpredictable.

I notice from their tweets that they have updated stuff about their methodology:
<https://twitter.com/#!/steinermentary/status/115410566591430656>

Not sure it's worth reading though -- these people are a big waste of time.

I wonder about her mother because I've been having blog visits from France every day lately (a few days to a week ago they spent LOTS of time researching me... which is what alerted me... that many visits from the same computer in France!). You know the location I mentioned to you earlier, Mel. I know it's them now, because one old post they linked to from their new post was visited this morning -- and it's a post that nobody visits anymore. (I had forgot all about it. It's this one: <http://zooey.wordpress.com/2009/11/09/4pm/>) I take it that they visited it before they posted that post. They have been going through some of the things I've written about Lichte.

Now -- THAT would be a match made in heaven! They and Lichte. Let's hope they find each other!

So she's still in France. I think they've been in France for a couple of weeks now. Either her mum is dead or she was never ill.

-a

 From: **Melanie Byng** <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
 Date: Thu, Sep 22, 2011 at 8:11 PM
 To: "alicia h." <zzzooney@gmail.com>
 Cc:

or maybe she wasn't THAT ill. She rarely wanted to talk about her when we communicated, which seemed very odd.

But I would be very surprised if she were clever enough to pretend that much information and tell it to Richard too - who would have spotted if it didn't make sense. I hope.

They are a waste of time, yes!! I loved your chat with Mr Dog. I hope they read it.

Anyway - Lichte is clearly dreadful too, so I hope they meet up and f**k with each other and then hate each other and spend the rest of their lives slugging each other off, thus leaving the rest of us alone.

 From: **alicia h.** <zzzoey@gmail.com>
 Date: Thu, Sep 22, 2011 at 8:24 PM
 To: Melanie Byng <melanie.bying@gmail.com>
 Cc:

It may not be so easy to spot these things -- not if the person is used to making things up, telling half-truths, exaggerating, lying...

Mr Dog is a skilled interrogator. He stares at you and nags until you give in.

It's exactly what I thought too -- about them and Lichte. They deserve each other.

 From: **Melanie Byng** <melanie.bying@gmail.com>
 Date: Fri, Sep 23, 2011 at 5:34 AM
 To: "alicia h." <zzzoey@gmail.com>
 Cc:

We identify more with Jo Sawfoot's approach as it is more similar to ours. We don't want to engage with the nutty anthroposophy of Steiner education, we would rather stick to the facts, which are, in Jo Sawfoot's case that she's been targeted as a whistleblower in a kindergarten. That was the court judgement.

I wanted to highlight this.

I've made up a bit of comment, if you quote it without citing the source I will sue your a***:

...We don't want to research anything, or understand any subtlety: damn the pedagogy, we just want to defend our reputations. We want it handed to us on a plate and with any luck we'd like a nice fat payout from the Ttirangi school. The fact that Jo Sawfoot is still highly supportive of Steiner ed (though now virtually unemployable) is irrelevant to us, as she looks very likely to get those mega-bucks....

Their argument bounces around like a pinball, anything that goes 'ding' is good: liking Steiner, saying happy birthday to Steiner, people shouldn't defend their 'lifestyles' - it can't have been THAT bad - what happened to us was WORSE only we went to the trouble of making films with actors saying their words (so that they could carry on defending those 'lifestyles') so their experiences must have been quite bad...

But at the time it served our purpose. Now we're not so sure we would defend their anonymity.

It seems that [redacted] didn't reply to them - he was wiser than me. It seems they'd like him to come forward and defend them too, or he is also an enemy. As for me, I am using my anonymity as a weapon. Which is as good a reason as any to disarm me.

From: **alicia h.** <zzzoey@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, Sep 23, 2011 at 10:18 AM
To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
Cc:

The more they write, the more appalling they seem. That can't be their intention...

Btw, now -- this morning -- they're in Paris. Maybe they're going back to the uk. Or flying to New Zealand. Their kids should be in school now!?

From: **alicia h.** <zzzoey@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, Sep 23, 2011 at 12:09 PM
To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
Cc:

I wish I could quote you on that -- but I guess they might figure it's you and that it would enrage them ;-)

Date: Wed, Oct 12, 2011 at 7:07 PM
 To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

oh Dog how I wish I'd never brought that stuff over there. If I had just left the LSN thread when she was being an idiot. I could have warned people there, and it would have been the end of it. Well, there's no saying they wouldn't have turned up anyway -- but there wouldn't have been a thread inciting them.

On 12 October 2011 19:57, Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com> wrote:

 From: **alicia h.** <zzzoey@gmail.com>
 Date: Wed, Oct 12, 2011 at 7:10 PM
 To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

i guess it's obvious why they have been browsing my blog for material though... they have a lot of sins to pin on me ;-)

 From: **Melanie Byng** <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
 Date: Wed, Oct 12, 2011 at 7:26 PM
 To: "alicia h." <zzzoey@gmail.com>

I'm so sorry you had to be involved in this - you've done nothing wrong. Promise x

Richard is going to write to Dan - don't worry, he can't mind us reading that email.

Richard wants to read the link - but anonymised - can you do that? And send it to him:

The other idea is that it is suggested to them (I don't know by what means) that you will remove the page about her if they take down these pages.

Can your parents give you any advice? or maybe you don't want to involve them. That is a horrible slur - that I groomed her child. I don't know what to make of that.

 From: **Melanie Byng** <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
 Date: Wed, Oct 12, 2011 at 7:27 PM
 To: "alicia h." <zzzoey@gmail.com>

Richard says he wants to read it - but we may well call the police.

x

Well, they have things on their minds and don't need Angel and Steve...

-a

 From: **Melanie Byng** <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
 Date: Thu, Oct 13, 2011 at 12:13 AM
 To: "alicia h." <zzzoey@gmail.com>

ok, I understand why.

Dan is quite loathe to get involved, I've noticed.

R is quietly robust - he thinks clearly and acts strategically. This has improved with age, you can look forward to controlling your rages in time. At the end of this is his clinical judgement, which she seems to have forgotten.

 From: **alicia h.** <zzzoey@gmail.com>
 Date: Thu, Oct 13, 2011 at 12:14 AM
 To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

'well, you don't have to trust him. I think he's genuine, but that doesn't mean he isn't about to accuse you of offering to marry him and then leaving him at the altar. In a manner of speaking. '

That's exactly what could happen, at least with someone who has Angel's kind of mind. Luckily most people aren't like her, So I won't do anything hasty about him. Three people on FB like the Steinermentary Project's page --- he's one of them, I noticed... So maybe I need to keep an eye out.

It would be so boring to turn off comments -- they're so much fun! With a few exceptions. But so much fun happens in them.

You were right not to recommend that -- and I won't be tweeting a lot about Steiner schools. Occasionally yes. But it's been a conscious choice not to tweet or retweet everything; as I said, most of my followers don't care. I rarely put anything on facebook either, and the only time I post links to my blog is when I post photos.

I think Graham is right -- they can't out you because of what they themselves have written about you.

Their project is in pieces, and that's why they have all this time on their hands to do this. They may have to join forces with mr Light. Mrs Bliss-Ninny may be sympatetic too, but she was pro-waldorf. Other than that, they don't seem to have much. Maybe they fear that those they had already interviewed (if they existed), would withdraw their participation.

 From: **Melanie Byng** <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
 Date: Fri, Oct 14, 2011 at 12:36 PM
 To: "alicia h." <zzzooney@gmail.com>

they don't have anything.

From what she said to me, it's quite usual for people to withdraw their support. She always described it as a surprise (one woman apparently threatened to sue them) but now we can see why that may happen.

Sam seems to think that I could diffuse the whole business by having a chat with Angel, I think she feels it's my fault for not talking to Angel after Joe got home. I can't get her to understand the pathology. It's very painful.

 From: **alicia h.** <zzzooney@gmail.com>
 Date: Fri, Oct 14, 2011 at 12:45 PM
 To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

chatting with her is pointless -- the woman is self-obsessed and will never care for the perspective of the other person, even if you explain your thoughts and feelings. The only thing I could think of would be if you had written a short email saying you will break off contact and cannot help with the things you had initially said you'd help with. Just a neutral bye bye, sorry, can't do it, things got in between. But now that I write this, I get this feeling that you and R did write something, right in the beginning of this affair? In any case, that's the only thing I can think of, and I'm not sure it would have made any difference. Chatting, not. How do you chat with someone who is full of ultimatums and threats? I'm sure it would be possible to chat with Steve, he's not got her pathology -- but not as long as he's under the angelic spell.

I totally see why that would happen (the withdrawals)... if you do a film like that, confidence is everything. I suspect Angel is surprised a lot -- because she seems to get into trouble with people a lot... and never is it her fault ;-)

 From: **Melanie Byng** <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
 Date: Fri, Oct 14, 2011 at 1:05 PM
 To: "alicia h." <zzzooney@gmail.com>

borderline... they threaten suicide too, and she may have threatened other things, which is why Steve may not want to risk leaving the children with her if he's ever thought of escaping.

>> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> yes, what is that? it would need an organisation
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> like
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> the
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> illuminati
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> to make such a global grab.

[illegible]

>> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> I think I will add something to what I wrote
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> yesterday.

>> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> On 23 October 2011 19:29, Melanie Byng
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

>> >> >> >> >> >> >>>> >> >> wrote:

[illegible][illegible]

>>>>>>>>>>>>> I wrote to Roger and said I felt confident he
>>>>>>>>>>>>> would

[illegible][illegible]

>> >> >> >> >> >> >>>> >> >> > He

[illegible]

>> >> >> >> >> >> >>>> >> >> > one

[illegible]

>> >> >> >> >> >> >>>> >> >> > him

>> >> >> >> >> >> >>>> >> >> > to

[illegible]

>> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> everything - so I thought his reply was a bit
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> lacking.

>> >> >> >> >> >> >>>> >> >> > But

>> >> >> >> >> >> >>>> >> >> > the

[illegible]

>> >> >> >> >> >> >>>> >> >> > thing is that he doesn't know me or my son, he

[illegible]

>> >> >> >> >> >> >>>> >> >> > know

>> >> >> >> >> >> >>>> >> >> > that

[illegible][illegible]

>> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> clinical

>> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> opinion. I

>> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> > just

>> >> >> >> >> >> >>>> >> >> > have

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> to hope it makes him think more before linking

>> >> >> >> >> >> >>>> >> >> > to

[illegible][illegible]

>> >> >> >> >> >> >>>> >> >> > I can't see that parodying us would interest

[illegible]

>> >> >> >> >> >> >>>> >> >> > so

[illegible]

>> >> >> >> >> >> >>>> >> >> > hope

 From: **alicia h.** <zzzoey@gmail.com>
 Date: Sat, Nov 5, 2011 at 7:42 PM
 To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

well, yes. That is the answer. They get no attention. And since they are the center of the world, they need attention.

 From: **Melanie Byng** <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
 Date: Sat, Nov 5, 2011 at 8:15 PM
 To: "alicia h." <zzzoey@gmail.com>

you should be flattered ;)

Thing is, they want what you have. To be loved, for people to care what you do. Actually I don't think Steve is needy (he's much cleverer and more appealing) but she is a bottomless pit.

 From: **alicia h.** <zzzoey@gmail.com>
 Date: Sat, Nov 5, 2011 at 8:45 PM
 To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

thank you... yeah, well... She would like that, and I think she pretended she (or they) had it. They misinterpret everything of course, but support is a powerful drug... at least for someone like Angel. But Steve's busy supporting her, so he probably doesn't have the time to be needy ;-)

 From: **Melanie Byng** <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
 Date: Sat, Nov 5, 2011 at 10:04 PM
 To: "alicia h." <zzzoey@gmail.com>

he has to support her. Otherwise he could lose his children. If the diagnosis is accurate she might even have made threats to hurt them. Or herself. Or him.

 From: **alicia h.** <zzzoey@gmail.com>
 Date: Sat, Nov 5, 2011 at 10:55 PM
 To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

Sadly yes. Hopefully it's not as bad. But it wouldn't exactly surprise.

 From: **Melanie Byng** <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

From: **Melanie Byng** <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
 Date: Mon, Nov 7, 2011 at 11:44 AM
 To: "alicia h." <zzzoey@gmail.com>

Alicia's quick-fire legal mind had woken her at dawn with the realisation that there was more to this than had met the inner eye. How could she have missed it? The infamous Titirangi Illuminati! Of course! Cursing her memory, she rolled out of bed and made for the kitchen.

'At last,' barked Mr Dog. He had been working for hours, as always several paws ahead of her. He nudged a back-pack in her direction. It contained a flask of coffee, oatcakes, and a slab of biodynamic seed-cake. 'For the journey,' he said gruffly, and winked...

 From: **Melanie Byng** <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
 Date: Mon, Nov 7, 2011 at 11:55 AM
 To: "alicia h." <zzzoey@gmail.com>

I do apologise, I could go on like that all day.

At the Devon school they used often to employ parents, probably in lieu of fees. My friend the woodsman was the landsman there, they treated him badly, as if they were doing him a favour.

Steve must have been doing something, locked in his room all day in France. Perhaps he was involved with some kind of pornography? Just the adult kind. At any rate they certainly have a lot of kit - laptops, cameras, sound equipment, editing equipment. He's quite highly qualified. So he ought to have been able to get work anywhere - unless there are employment rules in NZ which means it takes a while before you can enter full time employment. They are present on an ex-pat website which has a lot of info, I'll link to it.

They are not real film makers, all very low budget, I've not seen them involve anyone else,

I really do see her ending up in prison, I don't know why I say that now but I just get the feeling.. call it clairvoyance..

 From: **alicia h.** <zzzoey@gmail.com>
 Date: Mon, Nov 7, 2011 at 12:09 PM
 To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

haha!! that's the situation -- spot on!

Anyway. Angel complains that Thornton doesn't mention both Steve and her worked for the school. But I never see Angel mention this herself, until in this letter. Why not? Is it similar to her not mentioning she's an astrologer?

 From: **Melanie Byng** <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
 Date: Mon, Nov 7, 2011 at 12:12 PM
 To: "alicia h." <zzzoey@gmail.com>

xxx

On Fri, Jan 13, 2012 at 11:11 AM, wrote:
 sorry, fell asleep last night and had to whizz out this morning for food so only just read your replies.

Will reply properly later but agree, I think ignoring her is the only way, so teeth gritting it is!

xx

On 12 January 2012 22:59, Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com> wrote:
 Try not to make it more important than it is, I know it's hard.

Angel has a borderline personality disorder. This is a clinical judgement, not a personal opinion. It isn't simply depression. It makes her very dangerous, but luckily for us and sadly for others the danger is to those close to her. If she were your boss (always possible) she could make your life very difficult, but she doesn't have any power base. She is completely ineffectual unless we give in to her. We can't do that, because apart from anything else she is likely to misrepresent and manipulate others. It's quite likely she'll end up in serious trouble and possibly in prison - if she sends enough threatening texts, libels or threatens to blackmail the wrong person. Stand back and let her get on with it.

Obviously I wish I hadn't met her, and even more that hadn't stayed with them, but he only wanted to learn some French! He did after all look after their children for a week - all week - and was quite cheerful even when it went wrong - it was their behaviour which led to us feeling afraid for his safety (realising - and this was after Richard had a lengthy phone conversation with her - that he could be in some danger). I don't know what you say to people after that - most people would have screamed and shouted. We withdrew. She sent me a text which was an attempt to blackmail me. I wrote to her and explained that I would not help her, and I asked her not to contact me.

It really didn't add up to much, once Joe was home. Even after all the silly stuff she wrote I was able to forget it by blocking and ignoring it. There are lots of people ranting on the internet. I am not going to communicate with her in any way. It is, as Alicia says, futile. I haven't wronged her, whatever happened to her happened years ago.

As far as Alicia's blog goes, Angel and Steve behaved very badly, they're nasty, deceitful and manipulative. We your sympathy for people who deserve it. In fact it is best that none of us are involved with her project - who knows what they're doing.

Maybe the job is done and you can withdraw, at least if they haven't got it by now there seems little we can do. Block her, ignore her and she will have to find other things to do. You have no obligations at all to her in any way.

xxx

On Thu, Jan 12, 2012 at 8:32 PM, wrote:
 thanks for all your thoughts, well I guess I shouldn't have responded to her the other day, what prompted me was that I saw she was jumping on the Frome hashtag and worried that people coming to this cold (as was) could mistakingly think we were all associated and jeopardise the conversation I was having with her on twitter. When I spoke with on the phone she asked me if I knew someone called Angel Garden, I kept it brief and said there had been a falling out between her and Mela

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Melanie Byng** <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
 Date: Thu, Jan 26, 2012 at 9:27 AM
 Subject: Re: Parents looking for advice - Steiner Ed
 To: Francis Gilbert

sorry - I didn't delete the odd last bit of that email. It would have read 'it didn't stop her threatening me,' which
 's an indication that it has been pretty horrible.

On Thu, Jan 26, 2012 at 9:24 AM, Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com> wrote:
 hello Francis, nice to hear from you. Like the recent articles re the curriculum on your blog.

Best ignored!

My husband Richard and I met this woman and her partner Steve last summer, they'd been in NZ but were in England visiting a sick relative. They intended to make a documentary about Steiner schools, after their children were excluded from the Titirangi Steiner School, and had written a great deal about this online. I wanted to lessen, not increase my involvement so I was not in a position to help, except to offer to put her in contact with other groups. A couple of incidents (which had little to do with their project) convinced us that she is unstable and we withdrew from contact.

The individuals involved with the Waldorf Critics group, and others are rightly wary of Angel's behaviour.

She has a twitter account which is a stream of attacks on me - she has very few followers. I try to keep my sense of humour!

all the best, Melanie.

Our experience with Angel and her husband became unpleasant and we withdrew from contact. This didn't

On Thu, Jan 26, 2012 at 8:52 AM, Francis Gilbert
 What should I make of this? Ignore?

wrote:

Hope you are well...



Andy Lewis <andy.scall.lewis@gmail.com>

trolls

7 messages

Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

31 January 2012 14:35

To: andy@scali-lewis.net

hello Andy,

This is a long email, for which I apologise, but it may be necessary.

if you're about to write about the Steiner Academy Frome, you'll need to know about a couple of malevolent trolls, Angel Garden and Steve Paris, who may try to use the comments. I say this partly because they have published scurrilous material, some of which involves my 17 year old son, Joe. I would really rather not give them the fun & excitement of legal action, which is why we don't give them any attention. I'm hoping eventually they'll get bored and go away, but it's not happening yet. If you look down the twitter feed you can see it gets personal:

[Steinermentary \(steinermentary\) on Twitter](#)

(They have other twitter accounts, including @amazonnewsmedia)

They're trying to make a documentary about Steiner schools, after their children were excluded from a private Steiner school in New Zealand. They've made films before, low budget, one was about using yam as medicine. (!) They don't have the money or resources to make anything serious, but have produced various sites with video clips and mocked-up interviews with individuals. These are interesting, so we initially promoted their work by tweeting links etc.

They came to England last summer to visit a very sick relative, we met a couple of times largely because they wanted to look at Sands democratic school for their children. It's near here, Joe was there for a while and it's great for ex-Steiner kids who are behind academically. Angel and Steve had just bought a little house in France (Steve Paris is French) which they invited us to visit. We were busy, but Joe knows he needs to improve his languages, so we made an informal arrangement for him to fly over and help with the children in return for a chance to learn some French. No contract was drawn up. With teenagers, things often don't work out, so when he decided after a week he didn't want to stay we weren't too surprised, although his email was slightly alarming. He told me there was very little food, he was left with the children for hours and ignored by Steve, no one spoke any French to him and 'Angel is a fucking astrologer!'

At this point things became a little strange. It culminated in Joe skyping me the morning of his flight home and saying 'They say they'll take me to the airport if I clean their house,' We made some firm phone calls. At the airport, Steve fleeced Joe for all the money he had on him. We didn't stop worrying until we heard from the airline that he was safely on the flight.

Joe is a nice lad who reads Nabokov and Tolstoy, writes poetry and plans to study History at Uni. He's very bright and quite sanguine, so the experience was soon forgotten. But we decided we would rather not have any more contact with Angel and Steve. While Joe was away my husband Richard had had a long phone conversation with Angel about her mother's cancer treatment, from which he'd drawn a few conclusions. Richard is a GP & academic & an expert in primary care mental health, including personality disorder.

After receiving a threatening text from Angel I wrote a polite but firm email telling her that I felt unable to engage with her any more, and that I certainly was in no position to help in any way with their documentary. I feel that the posts we wrote for DC were our contribution to the debate, and that communities who face Steiner academies should decide themselves whether they want to oppose them. I knew that Angel was likely to 'out' me (I was anon at the time) and after quitting twitter for a while I decided to use my own name.

By this time Angel had been banned from Alicia Hamberg's blog (@zzzooley) for attempting to post attacks

on me in the comments, and because she was making it very clear that she expects ex-Steiner parents to use their own identities to 'whistle-blow' re bad experiences at Steiner schools. If not, she feels pressure should be brought to bear on these families to 'come clean'. It's of course very difficult to make a documentary if no one will tell their stories in public. For us, and for the Waldorf Critics in the States, this makes their project a potential danger to vulnerable individuals. None of us will promote their work.

Of course their accusations (many, manically expressed) involve people preventing their documentary, hurting children in the process. Angel even accuses me of 'grooming' her daughter (who I didn't even meet) presumably because I suggested Sands as a possibility and then withdrew my support. You can imagine how it feels to be accused of 'grooming' a little girl. And then to have these accusations sent to journalists (one of whom forwarded an email asking me what I would like him to do about it). Ignoring is the best thing.

So if they do appear on the quackometer, please just check that they don't use the opportunity to attack Waldorf Critics, Alicia, Lovelyhorse (Sam) or myself, because it has nothing to do with Steiner schools. They would be far more relevant commenting after a post about yams, or astrologers, or people calling themselves ludicrous names like 'Rainbow Star-child' or 'Angel Garden', or how psychopaths are initially charming.

Sorry about the length. All the best to you and your family,

Melanie.

Andy Lewis <andy.scali.lewis@gmail.com>
To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

31 January 2012 18:33

Hi Melanie

Got the email.

On a train now with low connectivity. So briefly. Not going to tolerate people using my post discussion for anything other than that. Sounds horrific. We ought to chat on the phone soon. My post is going slow. Work. babies. Procrastination. Usual problems.

A

X

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]

Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
To: Andy Lewis <andy.scali.lewis@gmail.com>

31 January 2012 18:39

cheers. I feel a lot better now you're informed.

I understand all those things - especially babies. It's not an easy subject either. My number is

thank you. Mx

[Quoted text hidden]

Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>
To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

1 February 2012 23:02

I am sure you will have picked up that they are attacking me pre-emptively!

http://www.amazonnewsmedia.com/ANM/ANM/Entries/2012/2/2_Is_home_birth_quackery.html

I am glad I checked who they were before responding.

[Quoted text hidden]

Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
To: Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>

1 February 2012 23:08

>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> system and prisons. My parents' building has
>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> very
>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> nice
>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> basement
>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> dungeons. I could use them as prototypes when
>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> I
>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> build
>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> mine...

>> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> Where Angel goes spectacularly wrong is in
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> imagining
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> that
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> I
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> am
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> the
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> kind of country that would grant free speech
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> to
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> folks
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> like
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> her.
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> Or
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> even citizenship.

>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> Shall I rename the blog 'the ethereal
nation'?

>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> Mr

>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> Dog

>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> is

>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> already

>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> eager

>> >> >> >> >>> >> >> >>> >> >> to help write the constitution.

>> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> Nice beaches and drinks of course. And
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> ice-cream
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> parlours.

>> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> On 19 February 2012 13:37, Melanie Byng
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> wrote:
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> I saw that. I thought the mention of a
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> rogue
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> full
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> moon
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> was
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> very
>> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> funny.

>>>>> >>>>> >>>>> >>>>> >>>>> >>>>> I just wrote to Dan and said that their
>>>>> >>>>> >>>>> >>>>> >>>>> >>>>> working
>>>>> >>>>> >>>>> >>>>> >>>>> >>>>> methods

14

>>>> I have an hour left to eat. Must get up early tomorrow.

>>>>

>>>> On 19 February 2012 23:04, Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com> wrote:

>>>> > concentrate on that. I have to work on Midsummer Night's Dream for

>>>> > the

>>>> > next

>>>> > couple of days. I think it can wait.

>>>>>

>>>>>

>>>> > On Sun, Feb 19, 2012 at 10:01 PM, alicia h. <zzzooney@gmail.com>

>>>> > wrote:

>>>>>>

>>>>>> thank you. There is an other reason I should perhaps avoid doing

>>>>>> anything today: I have had over a thousand visitors today, and most

>>>>>> of

>>>>>> them are from sweden. Plus new twitter followers who would just be

>>>>>> perplexed seeing a post about this. It's a very bad situation

>>>>>> really.

>>>>>> Good but bad. People want to know lots of things about

>>>>>> anthroposophists and anthroposophy and I will be virtually one-eyed.

>>>>>>

>>>>>> On 19 February 2012 22:56, Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

>>>>>> wrote:

>>>>>> > just remember - there are lots of people who know about this now

>>>>>> > and

>>>>>> > they

>>>>>> > will tell each other. But let me know the minute you see anything

>>>>>> > because I

>>>>>> > can probably do something about it.

>>>>>>>

>>>>>>>

>>>>>> > On Sun, Feb 19, 2012 at 9:54 PM, alicia h. <zzzooney@gmail.com>

>>>>>> > wrote:

>>>>>>>>

>>>>>>>> by which I meant to start the sentence saying: he was.

>>>>>>>>

>>>>>>>> On 19 February 2012 22:54, alicia h. <zzzooney@gmail.com> wrote:

>>>>>>>> > well he is. It is still available in my tweetdeck. But when I

>>>>>>>> > click

>>>>>>>> > on

>>>>>>>> > it, to see it online, it's not online anymore -- perhaps

>>>>>>>> > someone

>>>>>>>> > else

>>>>>>>> > saw it and protested? and he then deleted it.

>>>>>>>>>

>>>>>>>> > It was this tweet (the one she's been tweeting all day long):

>>>>>>>>>

>>>>>>>> > RT @steinermentary: Why wld an apparently high profile anti

>>>>>>>> > #Steiner

>>>>>>>> > blog be promoted by a pro-#Waldorf site? <http://t.co/gUUOzbtm>

>>>>>>>> > #cults

Indeed, that is saying something. I had been thinking of posting something like this, but m line and making things worse rather than better...:

One day you will have to get over the fact that random people on the internet don't care enough about your children to blindly accept your word for what's been going on, especially when your behaviour contradicts what you're trying to make people believe. It's six months since I said I don't care about your children -- get over it. For what it's worth, I'm not a person who's very interested in children. I didn't trash your kids, Angel. I simply don't believe in you or what you're doing. Your children are not my concern. They are and were always your responsibility. Not the waldorf school's. Not that of random people you've encountered online. It's got nothing to do with me.

If people want to be on youtube, it's certainly not difficult to get an account. Nobody has to compromise their safety, integrity or credibility getting involved in someone else's 'project'.

I'd like to take the opportunity to point out that Angel Garden, Steve Paris, Steinermentary, Amazon News Media, Amazon Films, Titirangi Steiner Messenger, Titirangibully are all the same thing. They've also used other identities.

On 3 May 2012 14:38, "Diana Winters" - wrote:

right and the wackiest thing is the part about how if we don't like their project, that's an "ad hominem against her children." Huh? Those poor children - the worst fate to befall them is their own parents. The Steiner school pales in comparison, and that's really saying something.

Date: Thu, 3 May 2012 14:28:14 +0200

Subject: Re: steinermentary

From: zzzoey@gmail.com

To: melanie.byng@gmail.com

CC:

Haha! Sane, no. Half a year later she still obsesses about me insulting her children by not believing in her. What Diana wrote is great. I think they're still seeking recruits.

On 3 May 2012 13:42, "Melanie Byng" <melanie.byng@gmail.com> wrote:
email from DC (David Colquhoun) just now on watching Angel's nasty video about Andy Lewis and Alicia:

'That's quite appalling. And really baffling. She sounds quite sane, but clearly isn't'

On Thu, May 3, 2012 at 12:39 PM, Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com> wrote:

I think that's very good, what do you think, Alicia? The main point being not to allow them to attract others to their projects without due caution.

They wrote to Sam too, not to me (lol) As I said to Alicia and Pete yesterday they also wrote to David Colquhoun but I've spoken to him. Andy Lewis of the Quackometer of course they made their own nasty video about, and he knows most of the big-hitters so he has put out a warning.

there is a campaign by the British Humanist Assn re Steiner and Maharishi free schools about to hit the papers, signed by Edzard Ernst, Simon Singh and a few others including me. Angel will go warp factor 10 at that point.



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Cheap shot anyone?

Wednesday, 16 May 2012



I'm just logging some offensive remarks about disability made on the site of the Waldorf Critics, (who've just banned us for objecting to this and similar material).

This "free-speech public forum" advertises itself as "an information resource for anyone interested in Waldorf education who wants to hear views from outside the cult of Rudolf Steiner. Subscriptions are open to the public and postings are not reviewed in advance. Not for the overly sensitive."

The site claims not to allow ad-hominem arguments, which they define as meaning "that you speak freely about the topics, but not about the other subscribers."

So far so good. But the following exchange took place there last week and was not objected to, even though we've now been banned for questioning it, and trying to defend ourselves from the severe mobbing we've just endured there, before our last post was "reviewed in advance".

In fact we only went there at all because we were being discussed.

Pete Karaiskos was chastising me for being shocked when I saw my child being approached from behind and repeatedly pushed under the water. He pointed out that some information was missing from a video we made nearly three years ago that was featured in the [NZ Herald last week](#). (I'm making it sound as if Pete's comment was polite - it certainly wasn't).

He questioned my actions as the omission in the video could have made it look as if I did not act to protect my child, whereas I'd left that bit out of the video because, in trying not to identify the bullying child, I'd decided (almost three years ago) that the footage was naff, so left it out thus not properly representing my own actions.

Pete was later not open to hearing my acknowledgement of his point but I'm a human being who likes to learn and I'd defend that as a general approach because if you look at these videos, [the one in the Herald](#), (now corrected using the original footage) and this one, [Mr Gove's State-Funded Anthroposophy](#), you can see how far we've come.

Pete can't though, and here's the exchange which he and the other critics (many people read this list) felt was entirely reasonable.

Nobody made any objection whatsoever.

Angel said on 7th of May:

Trying to rubbish me because I was shocked at what happened to my daughter, is just cheap. I'm a walking impaired person, and your statement is personally pretty offensive.

Pete said on 7th of May:

Are you talking impaired too? Your mouth seems to work. Did you yell for HELP?

Angel said on 7th of May:

I did shout, but I was in shock, for the next 14 hours. That's just a fact - rubbish it how you want. Do you understand the concept of shock? You could look it up.

Pete said on 7th of May:

Ah... but you claimed you couldn't walk - so therefore, couldn't do anything. Now, it's a different claim.

Angel said on 8th of May:

No I didn't at all, that's just a total misrepresentation of what I said. Where did I say that?

Pete said on 8th of May:

Why right here dear:

[He linked back to the first comment above "I'm a walking impaired person"]

Angel said on 8th of May

Please don't call me dear, I'm not your dear, you're not even crazy about me. And saying 'mobility impairment' isn't the same as saying 'can't walk'. Whoever said it was but those who don't know?

Pete said on 8th of May:

You said "WALKING IMPAIRED". Anybody can look back and see what you said... what is the point of changing your story NOW? Are you kidding me? And you expect credibility? Do you think nobody is going to verify what you're saying? HERE OF ALL PLACES? Are you here to frustrate people with your obtuseness?

Pete said on 9th of May:

This is a case of somebody relentlessly shooting themselves in the foot with every post they make... (that would explain the walking problems)

Disabled people should be aware of this person's attitudes and the fact that others who read and contribute to this list, and who are fairly numerous, will not object to members using your impairment as a way of trying to attack and discredit you.

Oh, and apparently it's not ad-hominem. Go figure.



◀ PREVIOUS

NEXT ▶

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Melanie Byng** <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
 Date: Tue, May 8, 2012 at 9:10 AM
 Subject: Re: internet filing
 To: "alicia h." <zzzooney@gmail.com>
 Cc: Diana Winters

Joe says she's not walking impaired, she's just fat.

On Tue, May 8, 2012 at 8:30 AM, alicia h. <zzzooney@gmail.com> wrote:

This is crazy. And it's just one email not all of them (thank Dog...)? I can't think of any reasonable explanation?! Except these spiritual beings that inhabit technological gadgets. You may have to talk kindly to them ;-) I've learnt from experts recently.

Let's see if it has stopped tomorrow. Hopefully it has! otherwise I'll try to google it. This must have happened before. Possibly a hotmail glitch?

On 8 May 2012 09:03, "Melanie Byng" <melanie.byng@gmail.com> wrote:
 no. Can't imagine what's happening!

On Tue, May 8, 2012 at 2:27 AM, Diana Winters wrote:
 Oh, my God, I have received this 20 times now. Are you getting it repeatedly, too, Mel?

> Date: Mon, 7 May 2012 14:34:51 +0200

> Subject: Re: internet filing
 > From: zzzooney@gmail.com
 > To: melanie.byng@gmail.com
 > CC:

>
 > oh, it's ahrimanic forces at work...

>
 > On 7 May 2012 14:33, Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com> wrote:
 >> she must know I'm talking to people in private (on twitter). No one tweets
 >> their videos even though they're coming from Steve now, so it's confusing.
 >>
 >>



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angelic disharmony

May 9, 2012 · by [alicia hamberg](#) · in [annat](#)

Now that the [ghastly cat](#)* has escaped from its dungeon (fearlessly guarded by a fierce terrier), I might as well talk about this again, but hopefully for the last time. An other reason for talking about this is that I, and I think other critics as well, feel that sometimes the only option is to reject — or at least to take exception from — certain kinds of behaviour that is undertaken in order to, supposedly, further waldorf criticism, but seriously risk doing the opposite. (If I'm even actually doing, or wanting to do, much of that waldorf criticism anymore is another matter, which perhaps I'll deal with in another post.) Not that it should matter, but sometimes one feels that one should [say something](#), in order not to be associated with something one can't accept.

As some of you know, although perhaps not all (since there has been little reason to draw attention to any of this), a European couple residing in New Zealand has chosen to take action against a Steiner school (the [Titirangi Steiner School](#)), claiming that the school has abused their 'human rights'. Angel Garden's and Steve Paris's children were expelled because of the behaviour of the parents. Even the school has conceded that this was the case. And this is where people might come to develop a certain understanding for the school's actions. I don't know what really happened, of course, but the incidents that led to all of this were, according to the parents, incidents of bullying of one of their children. What seems apparent to me, though, from the parents subsequent behaviour, is their propensity for exaggeration and distortion. Not to speak of that unfortunate tendency to communicate in a way that is aggressive — basically, every other sentence is formulated as a kind of ultimatum — and making more or less thinly veiled threats. I'm not sure they realize any of this, but that is another matter. It is how they come across, and I'm personally not interested in being the recipient of such tomes.

Perhaps it's better to say as little as possible. It's difficult to deal in any reasonable way with accusations that are patently ridiculous, and to defend oneself against them only has you falling into that bottomless pit of your 'opponent'. Moreover, I have generally suspected — and hoped — that people who come across the couple will fairly quickly see that things don't quite add up. I never co-operated with them and never agreed to assist them, apart from answering a couple of e-mails before I knew better, and to sum up what happened (as far as my own involvement with them goes): I [disagreed with](#) some things they were doing and they wished to post unacceptable [comments](#) (containing, just by the way, things that had nothing to do with waldorf or anthroposophy) on my blog. The demands and expectations they place on other people significantly exceed what any human being is likely to be able to give them. (Or, for that matter, want to give them.) And I think this is yet something that might have played a part in their relationship with the school, as well.

One might ask what they mean with terms such as 'human rights', 'bullying', 'anti-feminist', 'anti-child, to mention just a few. However, as my reason for writing this post at all was to say how thankful I am to Diana for [what she wrote](#), I'm going to bring up the definition of 'hate-speech', which Angel Garden and Steve Paris claim I'm guilty of. I'm going to quote Diana in full (I have edited the links).

This (published by Steve and Angel):

[\[Angel's and Steve's website\]](#)

... is ludicrous. Almost beyond belief. I don't actually recommend reading it, as it's entirely pointless and content-free. I am just posting the link because I would like to respond to this:

"Hey why doesn't somebody have a look at Alicia Hamberg's hate-speech and actually speak up in defence of it? Who's got the balls for that?"

Me, that's who. I urge others to read what Alicia wrote, too. This is what they are going around the internet claiming is "hate speech":

[\[blog comment\]](#)

It is an eloquent piece of writing. I applaud Alicia for "writing so that every word can be used against her." Steinermentary is right up there with Sune Nordwall in mindless incomprehension of someone who can write like Alicia can write. If Alicia writes two sentences, people like this misunderstand both of them, and fly into a rage.

I formally request that the brainiacs at Steinermentary quote me quoting Alicia now, and defending Alicia, all over the net ... we've gotta spread this "hate speech" around a bit, it's too good to keep to ourselves.

As Pete [points out](#), this calls Angel's definition of the word 'bullying' into question. (And other words she uses, one might add.) On their twitter-accounts as well as on their websites, Angel and Steve have amply showed that their definition of 'bullying' is equally wobbly. For example, they appear to believe that not giving them attention is tantamount to bullying and mobbing. The web page Diana links to is by no means the only one of its kind. There are numerous similar ones (on several websites), where, in a similar manner, the couple goes after a number of people who have supposedly wronged them. And as they seem to do this so easily, it casts further doubt on their version of what has happened between them and the school.

From a perspective of waldorf education and anthroposophy, this is all utterly uninteresting. In my eyes, this case appears to be more about attention, distortion and personal vendettas towards anyone who happens to get in the way or does not heed the couple's wishes, expectations and demands. Perhaps there are people who can put up with that; I'm not one of them. Which is why I'm going to continue to refuse to recant my support for the Titirangi school. Whatever actually happened initially, I suspect they have been punished enough by now and regret ever enrolling this family. Making a charge of 'human rights abuse' appears to me a ridiculous move that makes a mockery of human rights and real abuses.

*Note that it's a long thread.

In case you haven't followed this over the past few days, there are some other threads on critics than the already mentioned one above. I'll post the links to the beginnings of these threads below (in the last case, it's the post where they entered the discussion).

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/waldorf-critics/message/23957>

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/waldorf-critics/message/23852>

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/waldorf-critics/message/23807>

On critics, Angel Garden and Steve Paris — it's not always clear who it is — post as 'Steinermentary', which is also the name of one of their websites, and use the name 'Rudolf'. You can also find them under various other names and on websites. Amazon News Media, Amazon Films, Titirangi Steiner Messenger, Rudolf Steiner Federation Messenger and, as mentioned Steinermentary. You'll find them on several youtube accounts (AmazonNewsMedia, AmazonFilmsChannel, Steinermentary, SafeToTell) and twitter accounts (@amazonnewsmedia, @steinermentary, @titirangibully, @sjparis, @angelgarden). This is not exhaustive, and not intended to be. There's also another website, titirangisteinerschool.com, which I assume might belong to the two of them and not to Titirangi Steiner school. (Actual link to the school provided above in the post.)



221 Comments



1. *Diana* · [May 9, 2012 - 1:44 pm](#) ·

"Making a charge of 'human rights abuse' appears to me a ridiculous move that makes a mockery of human rights and real abuses."

Absolutely right. It makes me very angry that people would abuse a system intended to address ACTUAL human rights abuses in this fashion.



2. *alicia hamberg* · [May 9, 2012 - 2:02 pm](#) ·

Just completely off topic, really, but on topic more generally re making a mockery of human rights: a newspaper article I read today reminded me of the UN's Human Rights Council.



3. [Diana](#) · [May 9, 2012 - 4:26 pm](#) ·

It ought not to be easy to use a human rights tribunal to bring a vendetta. I'm sure the courts have thought of that and instituted safeguards. Possibly there are sanctions or penalties for bringing a case that is later dismissed as frivolous.



4. [Pete K](#) · [May 9, 2012 - 6:06 pm](#) ·

Well, speaking only from my own experience on the list... practically every time Angel quoted me – she MISquoted me. Not only that, she misquoted herself to make herself look better – even when her testimony was available for everyone to check. When she isn't misquoting people, she's mischaracterizing them with emotionally charged language like “hate speech” – it reminds me of Sune's “hate group” talk. It sounds like a very basic misunderstanding of what the term means but I suspect there's more to it. But this, too, is common for Angel, apparently. When she claimed she was “in shock” and I questioned it, she accused me of not understanding what it meant. She had to eat her words and admit that SHE was the one who didn't know what it meant... (didn't stop her from accusing me though). It appears to me that Angel and Steve may be projecting bullying onto the school. They seem to be VERY prone to bullying people while claiming to be victims themselves.



5. [Skepticat](#) · [May 9, 2012 - 6:09 pm](#) ·

Very nicely put, Alicia. Having seen the behaviour of these people *before* I knew the background story, it is pretty obvious to me who the real bullies are and I take the story of what their kids supposedly went through with a large pinch of salt.



6. [Diana](#) · [May 9, 2012 - 7:09 pm](#) ·

“practically every time Angel quoted me – she MISquoted me.”

I noticed that too. Her replies were also often illogical. Not to mention, her claims are often not on point, on the level of basic reality. Video is not a “very new technology.” It is not likely that a parent is “in shock for 14 hours” after seeing their child bullied. It is certainly very upsetting – I still recall vividly the one time I saw another child try to harm my child, in third grade – but I would not have been trying to tell you I was in shock 14 hours later, assuming the child was not hurt. Exaggerating does not help a case like this, it undermines it. So does attempting to get pity for yourself, rather than your child, which is mostly what they do.



7. [Andy Lewis](#) · [May 9, 2012 - 9:38 pm](#) ·

Hi Alicia

Just to add my support. I had a very weird email exchange with this couple after they posted a comment on my blog that got held up in moderation for a few hours. A rage ensued, emails sent, that somehow suggested I had some obligation to them to post whatever they wished on my site. After trying to communicate with them rationally, the rage got worse, so I told them I would not be corresponding with them anymore. And I have now filtered them out of my life.

Best ignored.



8. [Diana](#) · [May 9, 2012 - 10:03 pm](#) ·

Hi Andy, the link above (to “Angel and Steve's web site”, is their summary of their perceptions of that interaction with you. It isn't worth reading the whole thing, but a paragraph or two will explain to anyone with questions what it will be like to try to work with these two. (From friendly to the furies of hell in a millisecond, if frustrated in any way.)



9. [alicia hamberg](#) · [May 9, 2012 - 10:27 pm](#) ·

>>> >> > I've had with her, her foot is completely irrelevant. In fact, she
>>> >> > was
>>> >> > the one who brought up the foot in order to 'defend' herself, when
>>> >> > Pete rightly question what had happened at the school.
>>> >> >
>>> >> > She's simply using the foot in the same way she's using the children,
>>> >> > to boost her own victimhood.
>>> >> >
>>> >> > Moreover, what's it got to do with anything? She's only deflecting
>>> >> > attention from the real issues to herself, once more.
>>> >> >
>>> >> > On 16 May 2012 13:32, Diana Winters ·
>>> >> > wrote:
>>> >> > > It's aimed at Pete, for making fun of her foot. After about
>>> >> > > 12 nanoseconds
>>> >> > > of wrestling with my conscience, I'm pretty clear I don't care
>>> >> > > about
>>> >> > > her
>>> >> > > foot. I'll say it if no one else will ... I doubt her claim to have
>>> >> > > a "mobility impairment." They have NO credibility and the worst
>>> >> > > desire
>>> >> > > to
>>> >> > > continually play the victim of anyone I've ever seen.
>>> >> > >
>>> >> > > My guess would be, she did once have some kind of injury to her
>>> >> > > foot,
>>> >> > > but it
>>> >> > > was probably not nearly the big deal she made it. They probably did
>>> >> > > as
>>> >> > > they
>>> >> > > always do, look for someone to blame and someone to sue, then get
>>> >> > > involved
>>> >> > > with a succession of doctors who probably failed to recognize her
>>> >> > > "severe
>>> >> > > disability" and then they probably sued the doctors, appealing then
>>> >> > > to
>>> >> > > disability rights organizations etc. to get herself somehow
>>> >> > > officially
>>> >> > > recognized as "disabled." I have a suspicion that if we dug a bit,
>>> >> > > we'd find
>>> >> > > disability advocates who have had the SAME experiences with them as
>>> >> > > we
>>> >> > > have
>>> >> > > had. We are seeing just ONE episode in this couple's victimhood
>>> >> > > career.
>>> >> > >
>>> >> > > I mean, these people made us DOUBT that a Steiner school might
>>> >> > > really
>>> >> > > have
>>> >> > > done anything wrong. Probably there is an equivalent story re: her
>>> >> > > so-called
>>> >> > > "mobility impairment."
>>> >> > >
>>> >> > > I'm basing this partly on Joe's comment that she didn't really have

>>> >> >> > an

>>> >> >> > impairment, but it didn't surprise me. I would guess at best she

>>> >> >> > has

>>> >> >> > SOME

>>> >> >> > SLIGHT problem but quite likely, nothing warranting the amount of

>>> >> >> > sympathy

>>> >> >> > and victim status she tries to get from it.

>>> >> >> > _____

>>> >> >> > Date: Wed, 16 May 2012 10:54:03 +0200

>>> >> >> > Subject: Re: deleted tweets

>>> >> >> > From: zzzooney@gmail.com

>>> >> >> > To: melanie.byng@gmail.com

>>> >> >> > CC:

>>> >> >> >

>>> >> >> >

>>> >> >> > Nobody is. Soon, though, she's going to piss off disability

>>> >> >> > organisations

>>> >> >> > with her frivolous attempts to use disability as an argument where

>>> >> >> > it's

>>> >> >> > wholly irrelevant!

>>> >> >> > On 16 May 2012 10:50, "Melanie Byng" <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

>>> >> >> > wrote:

>>> >> >> >

>>> >> >> > They have turned off our electricity so I have to wrote this on my

>>> >> >> > phone

>>> >> >> > half way up the lane (no reception in house) oh look here's trilby

>>> >> >> > come to

>>> >> >> > join in.

>>> >> >> >

>>> >> >> > I saw something but I have a feeling no one is listening.

>>> >> >> >

>>> >> >> > On Wednesday, May 16, 2012, alicia h. <zzzooney@gmail.com> wrote:

>>> >> >> > Unsurprisingly, there's now yet another post from her. Haven't

>>> >> >> > read

>>> >> >> > it but

>>> >> >> > she advertises it asking how long we've come with disability

>>> >> >> > awareness.

>>> >> >> >

>>> >> >> > I can assure you that when I first criticized their methods I had

>>> >> >> > no

>>> >> >> > clue

>>> >> >> > whatsoever about her damn foot...

>>> >> >> >

>>> >> >> > On 15 May 2012 19:48, "Melanie Byng" <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

>>> >> >> > wrote:

>>> >> >> >

>>> >> >> > I certainly don't give a f**k

>>> >> >> >

>>> >> >> > On Tue, May 15, 2012 at 6:47 PM, alicia h. <zzzooney@gmail.com>

>>> >> >> > wrote:

>>> >> >> > > That's one of the things that's annoyed me the most. As if I

On 2 September 2012 23:30, alicia h. <zzzoey@gmail.com> wrote:

Diana Winters, who's not on twitter/fb, might be willing to help too -- she knows the anthro lingo in English so it might be worth asking her to read through the final result.

That's a thought that occurred to me too, Melanie, that in this particular circumstance, they've been careful not to give him even clues -- they need him badly, and realize he might not like what he discovers if he were to get suspicious about anything.

But, obviously, if I am to warn him -- I don't exclude it, definitely not -- I must make sure I tread carefully.

On 3 Sep 2012 00:21, "Melanie Byng" <melanie.bying@gmail.com> wrote:

Andy - yes, push on, as if in ignorance of any other translation. As always, ignoring them is best ;)

On Sun, Sep 2, 2012 at 11:17 PM, Melanie Byng <melanie.bying@gmail.com> wrote:

I'm sure he has no idea, and if he's happy to appear on your blog it probably means they've been careful how much they say to him about everyone else.

On Sun, Sep 2, 2012 at 10:51 PM, alicia h. <zzzoey@gmail.com> wrote:

...whether he agrees with it while being fully aware of their awful behaviour is another matter. I suspect not.

On 2 Sep 2012 23:34, "Melanie Byng" <melanie.bying@gmail.com> wrote:
oh bugger.

On Sun, Sep 2, 2012 at 10:31 PM, alicia h. <zzzoey@gmail.com> wrote:

He has a blog post where he links to their translations on their website which makes me assume he doesn't oppose it.

On 2 Sep 2012 23:28, "Melanie Byng" <melanie.bying@gmail.com> wrote:
has he agreed to let them translate it, as far as you know? Or are they just doing so?

On Sun, Sep 2, 2012 at 10:24 PM, alicia h. <zzzoey@gmail.com> wrote:

Gregoire has been on my mind today, especially after Gregoire commented again -- I'm so not sure what to do. Whether to say something or not. But so far I've had no exchanges with him except in the blog comments.

Unless he's given A&S exclusive rights to it, I'm not sure why he wouldn't agree. On the other hand, he might decide that if A&S are idiots, everyone might be. He's going to be drawn into a drama that has more to do with pathology than with anthroposophy. Unavoidable, but very unfortunate.

On 2 Sep 2012 23:03, "Melanie Byng" <melanie.bying@gmail.com> wrote:

Alicia - Andy needs Gregoire's permission to initiate a translation - I'm being a bit pushy due to the hideous A&S situation. I know Dan was keen too. I think others would help with the cost.

- Who was Steiner and why should we be concerned about anthroposophy?
- I noticed from your blog entries on Quackometer that you claim that there's about 10 thousand institutes and initiatives, ranging from banks to private companies that "endeavour to apply the belief system" - how harmful can that be and where is it particularly worrisome?
- Education, of course, is of big interest for many people - children being taught well is pretty much a universal concern - what is the current status of Waldorf schools in the UK, why are they of particular interest to you?
- What's been the overall response to your articles and questions questioning Waldorf schools?
- Should we be concerned and what can we do - is there suggested action/s that should be taken in your opinion?

Thanks again,

Kylie S.

Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>

22 September 2012 21:40

To: K Sturgess ·

Kylie

Thanks for yesterday.

I thought I had better warn you, if it has not already happened, that you may be contacted by Angel Garden or Steve Paris, who have a vendetta against me - because a comment of theirs fell into moderation for 2 hours on my blog and they took this as a personal slight and started a harassment campaign - blogs, tweets to loads of individuals, videos and emails. It has been going on for months. I am not the only person who has been subject to their bizarre behaviour. They are best not engaged with. They appear not to be able to function unless they can see themselves as victims of censorship and 'hate attacks'.

Anyway.

Thanks again,

A

[Quoted text hidden]

K Sturgess ·

23 September 2012 11:19

To: Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>

Hi,

No worries, it's fine - the only thing I've got is an advert for running shoes!

Kylie S.

[Quoted text hidden]

[illegible]

[illegible]



Home



Notifications



Messages



Discover

**Steve Paris** @sjparis · 3 Nov 2012

Search Twitter



@noodlemaz your bio says you're honest. Could you then please tell me why our work must not be promoted? What were you told about us?

**Dr Marianne**

@noodlemaz



Follow

@sjparis I heard negative and concerning things. They may or may not be true but I'd rather leave it at that, if you understand.



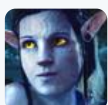
10:03 AM - 3 Nov 2012



Reply to @noodlemaz

**Steve Paris** @sjparis · 3 Nov 2012

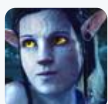
@noodlemaz thanks for getting back to me but are you saying that friendship trumps evidence?

**Dr Marianne** @noodlemaz · 3 Nov 2012

@sjparis testimonies of friends are worth a lot, and somewhat a separate issue. I'm not saying it impacts on the truth of your links. GL.

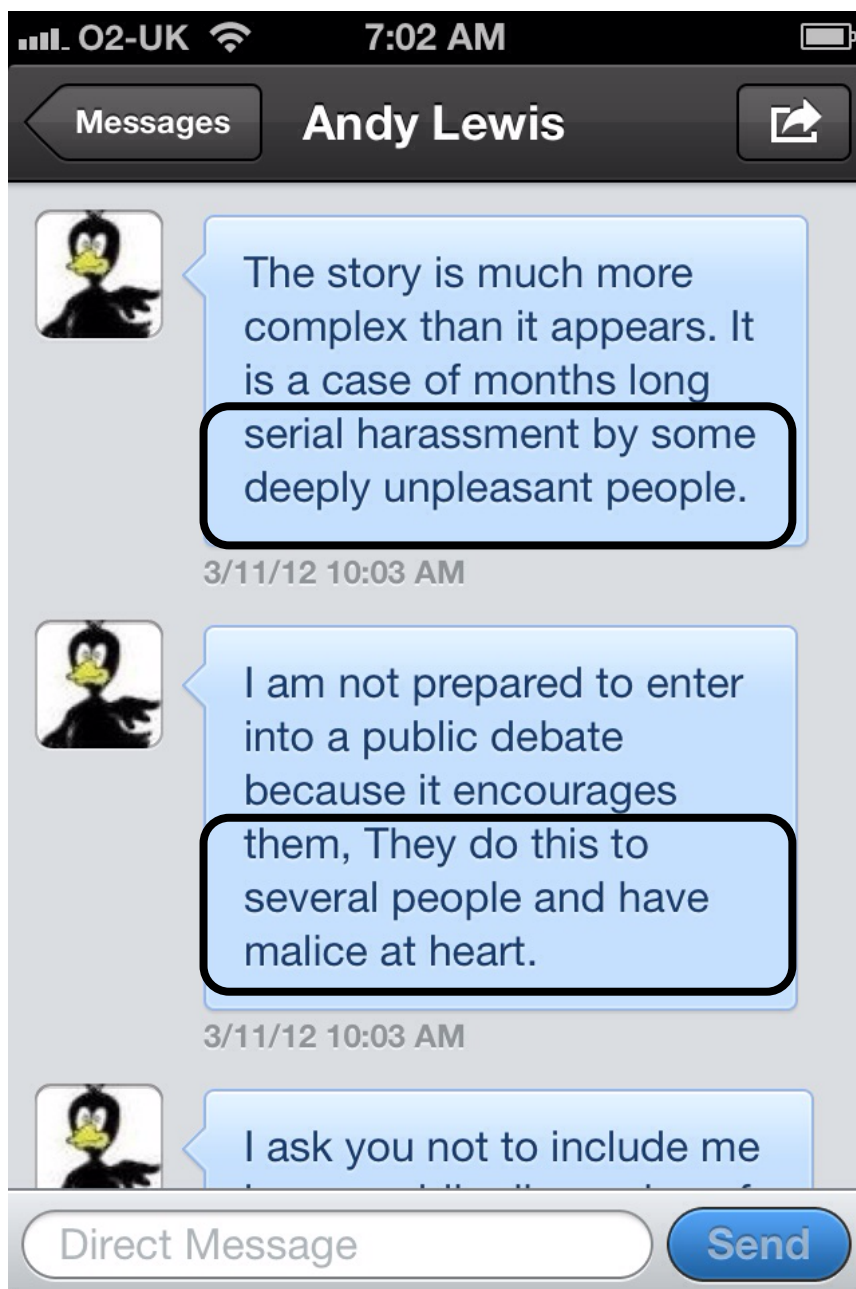
**Steve Paris** @sjparis · 3 Nov 2012

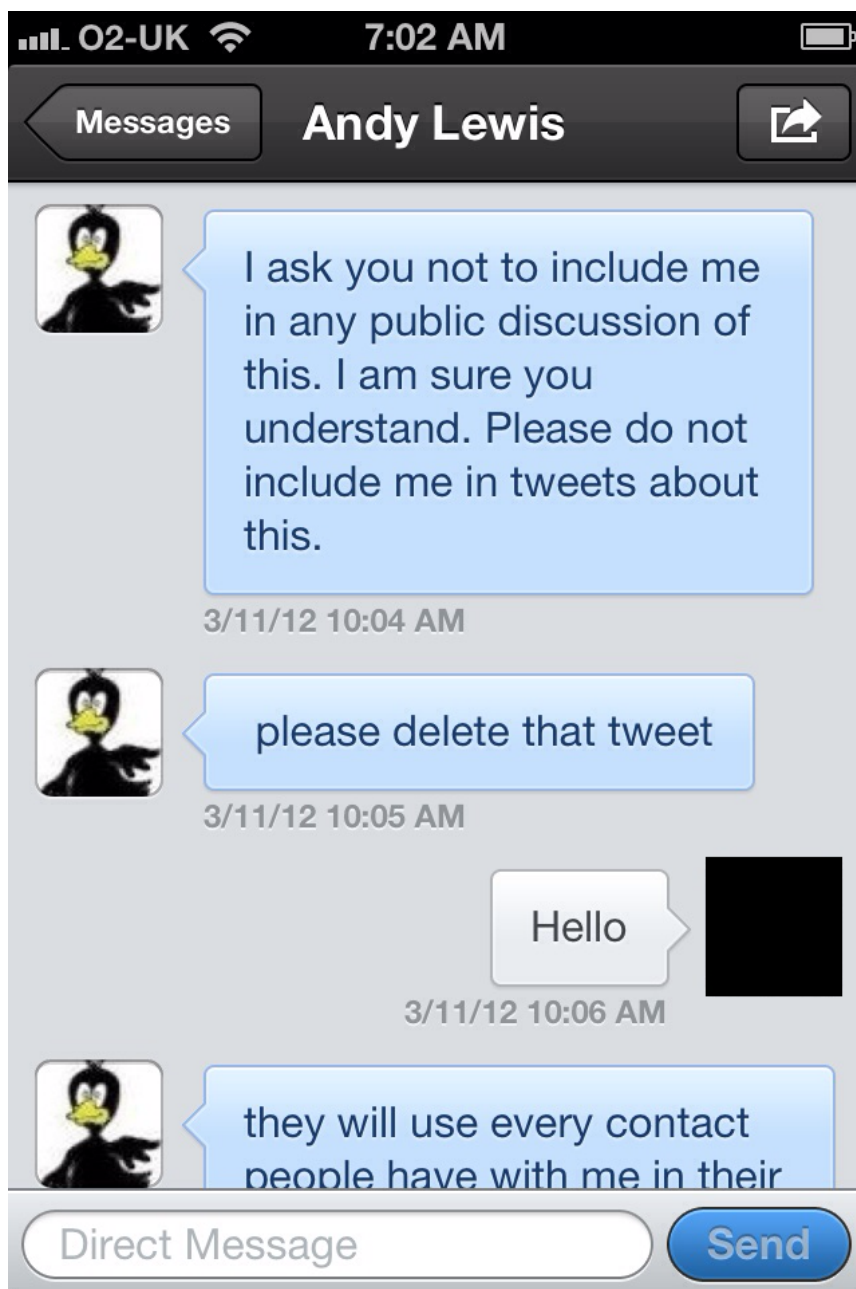
@noodlemaz if I dm'd u my email address, could u at least tell me what they've told u? Wouldn't ask anything more. Just concerned.

**Dr Marianne** @noodlemaz · 3 Nov 2012

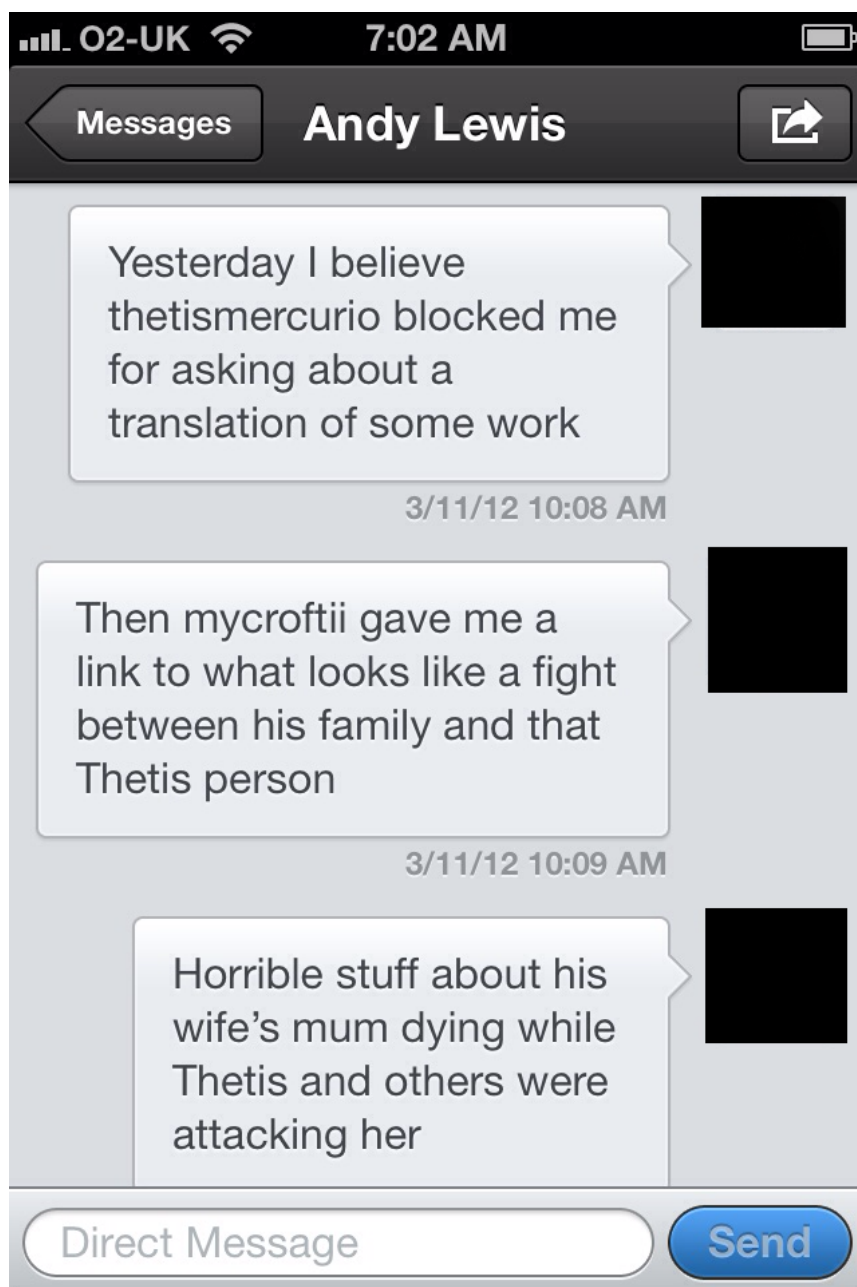
@sjparis I'd rather not, I'm not doing anything with it, I'd just rather not communicate - again, good luck with everything.

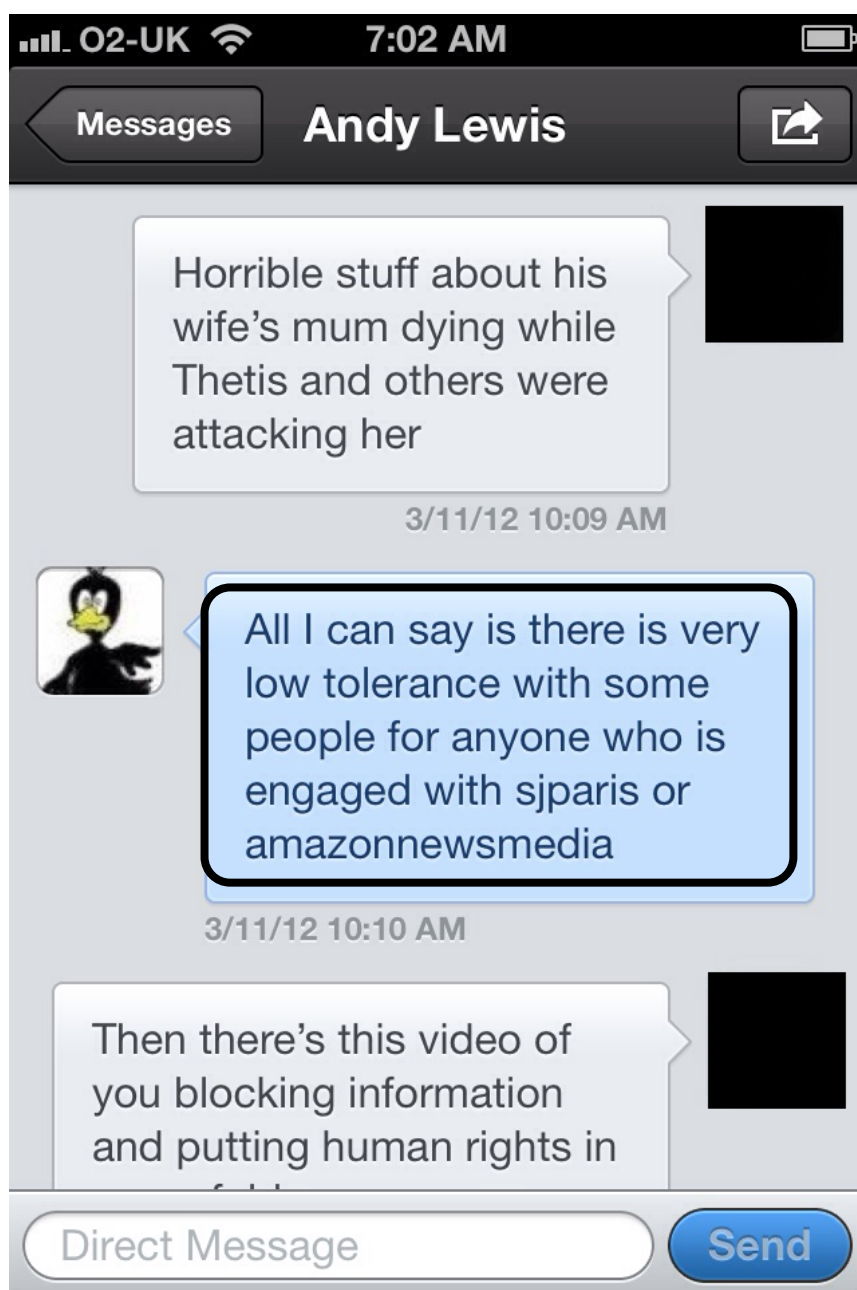


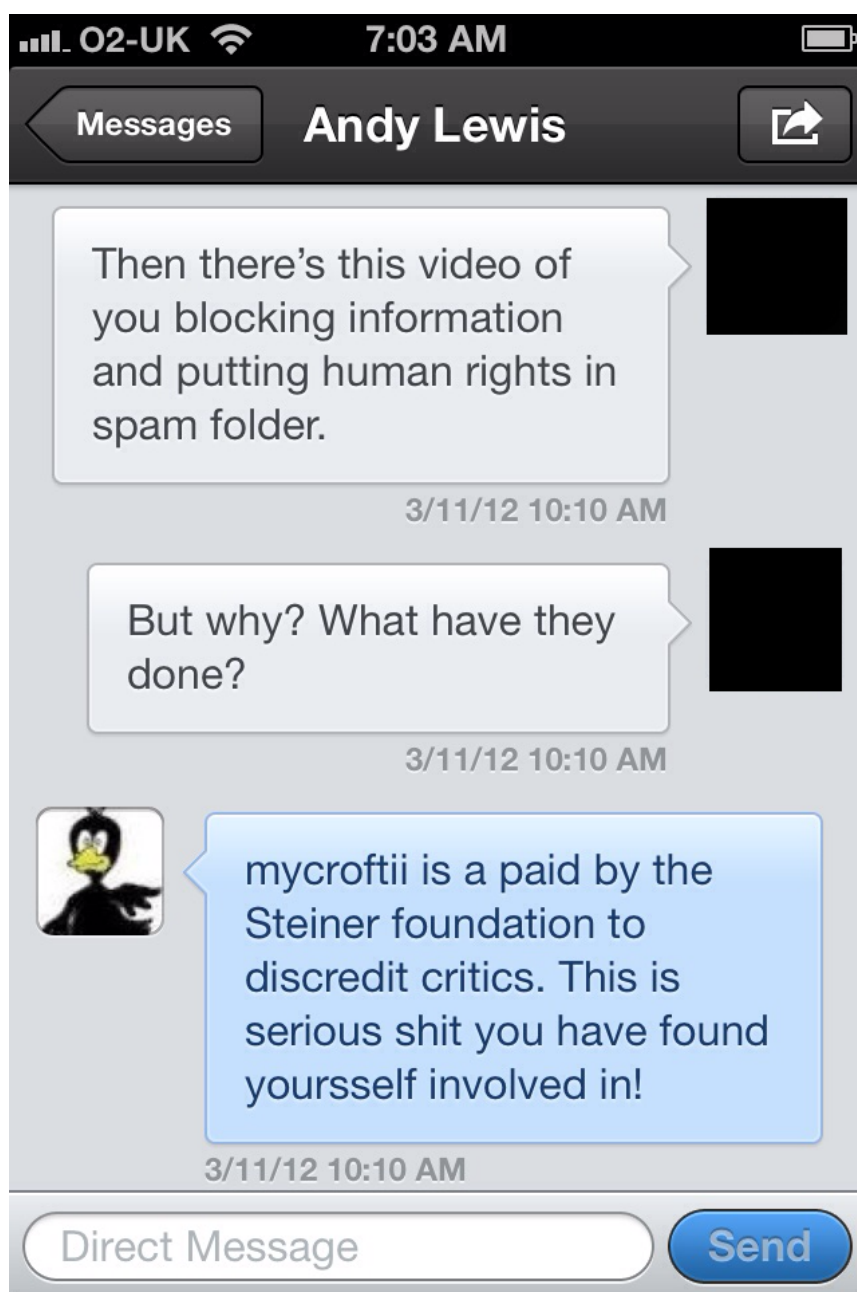


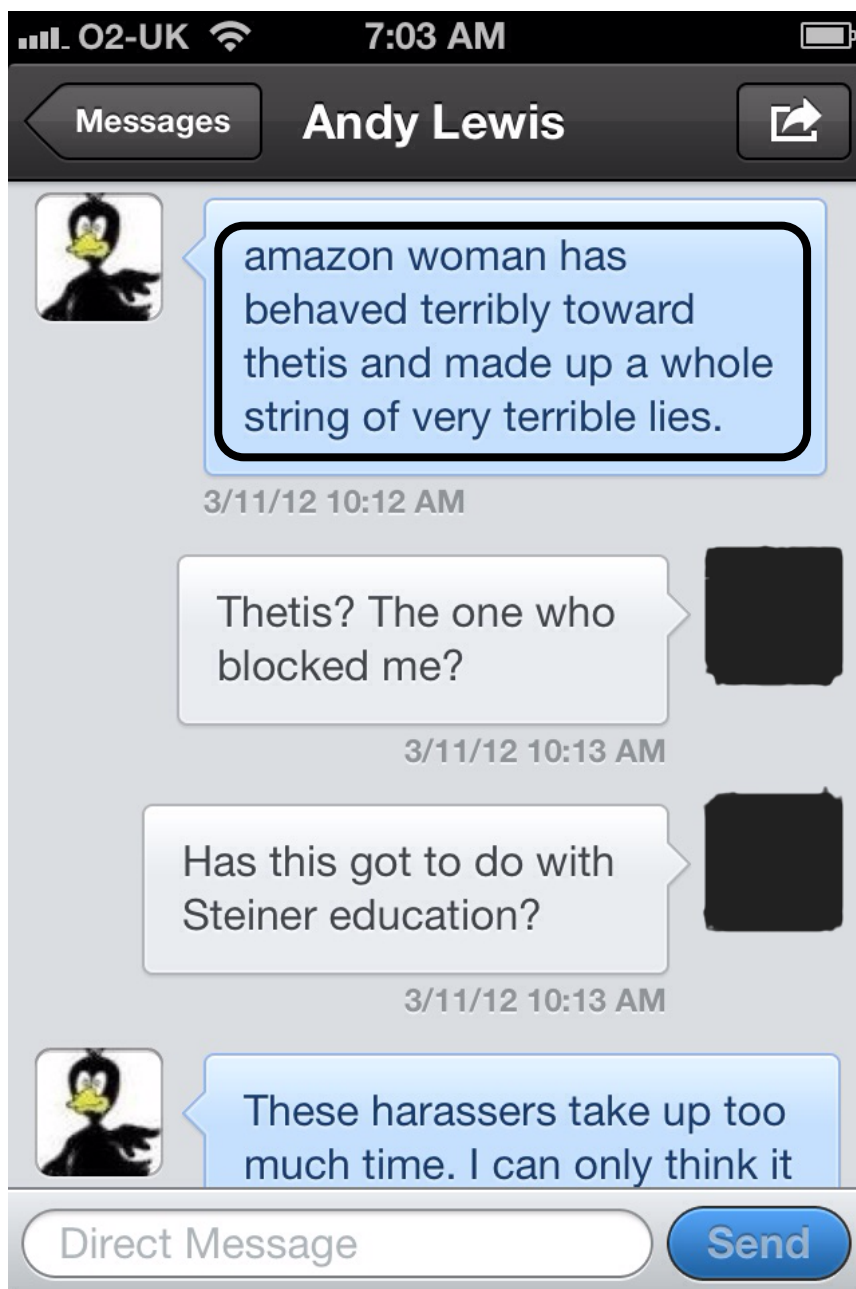




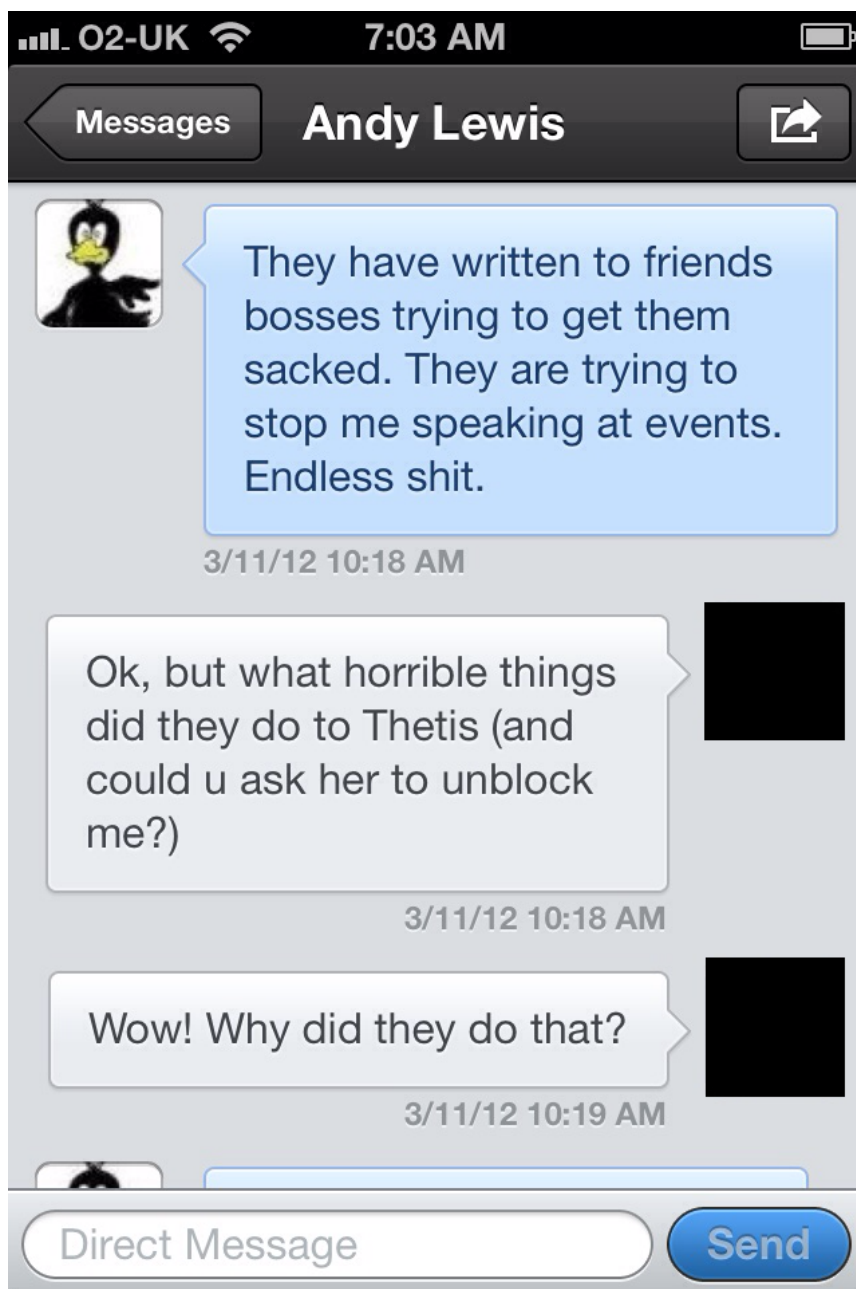


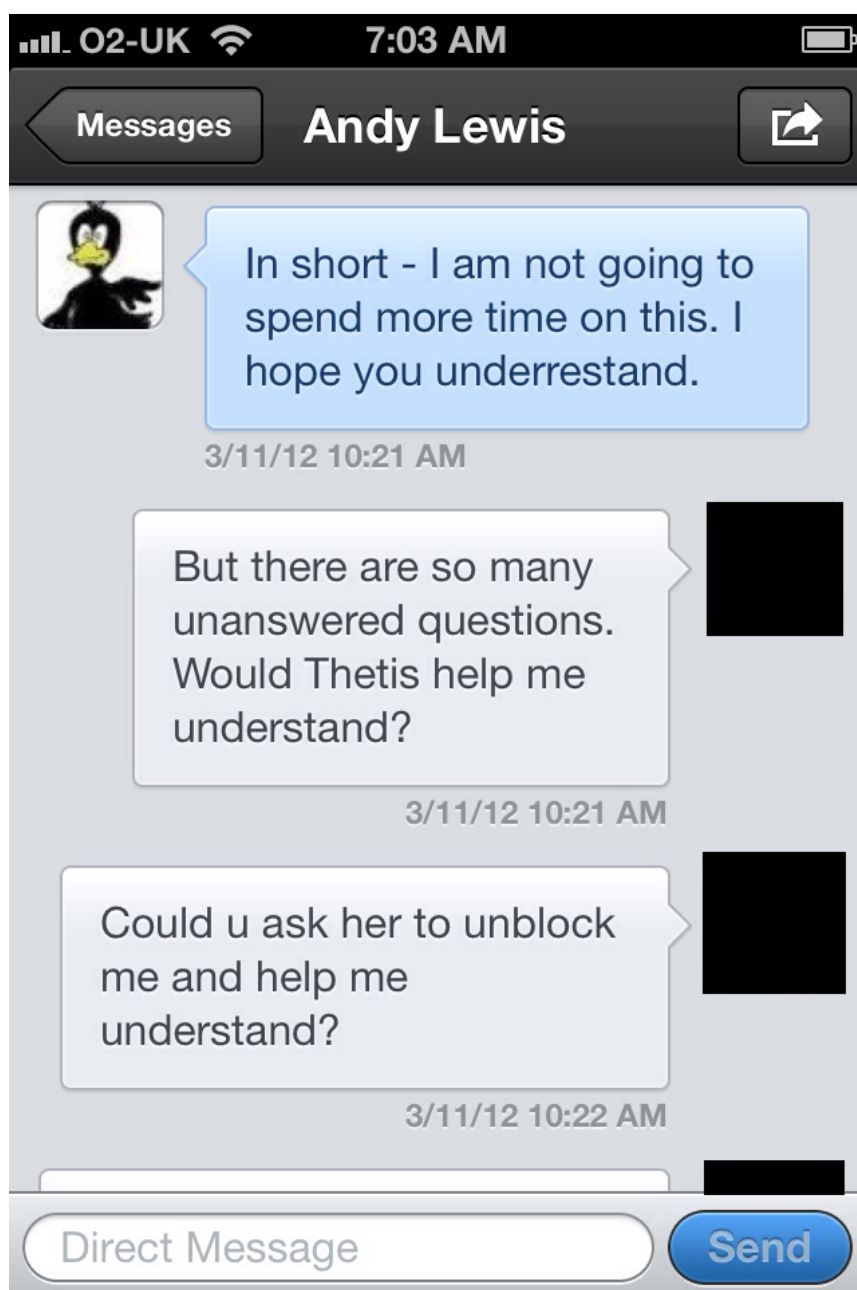


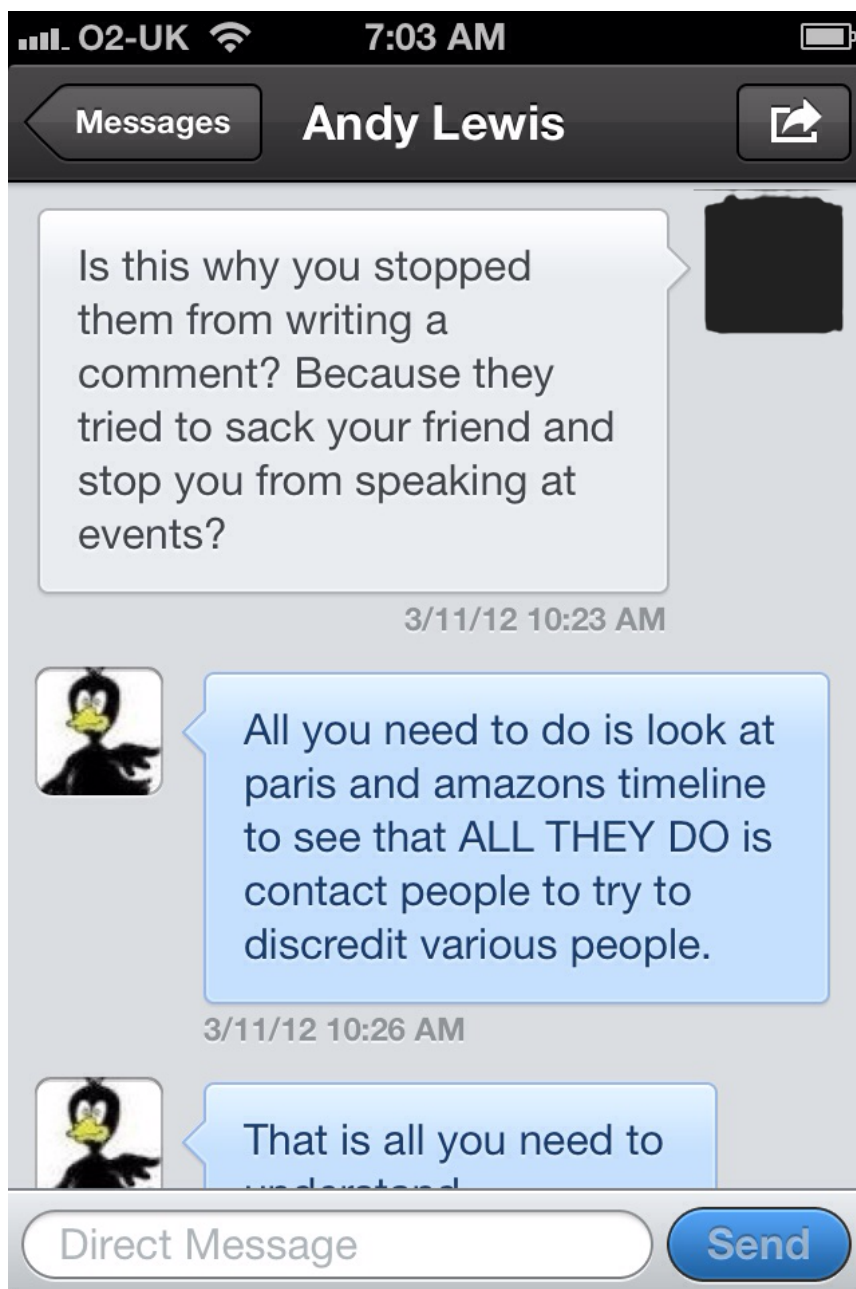


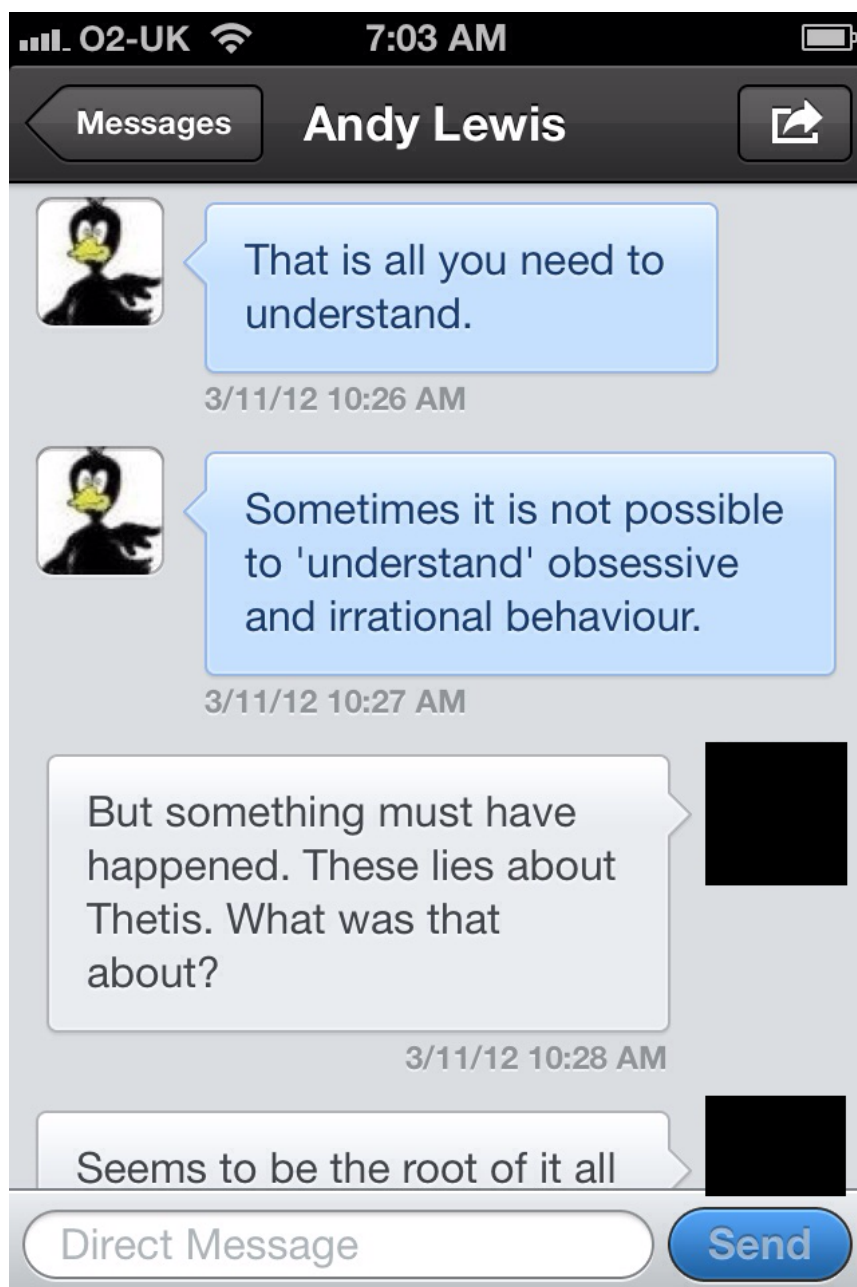




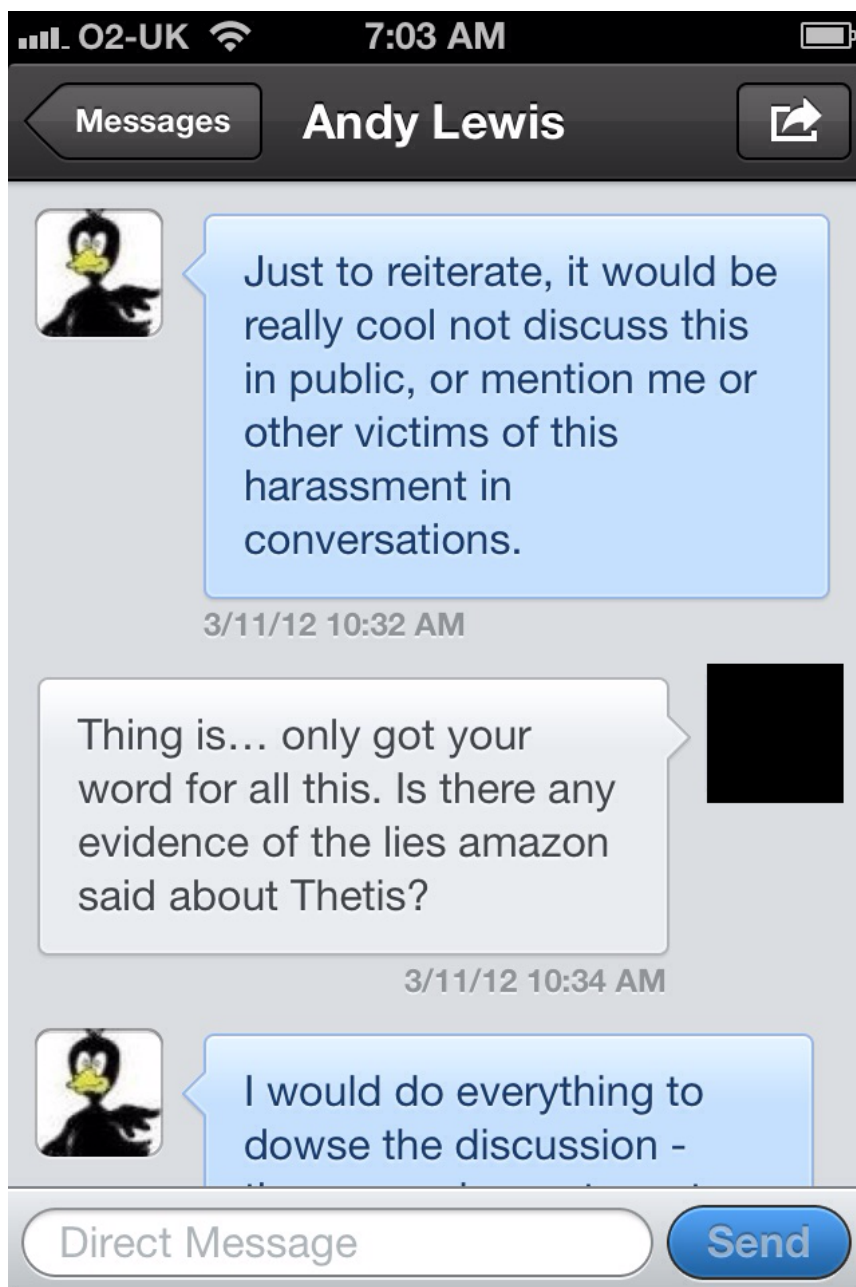


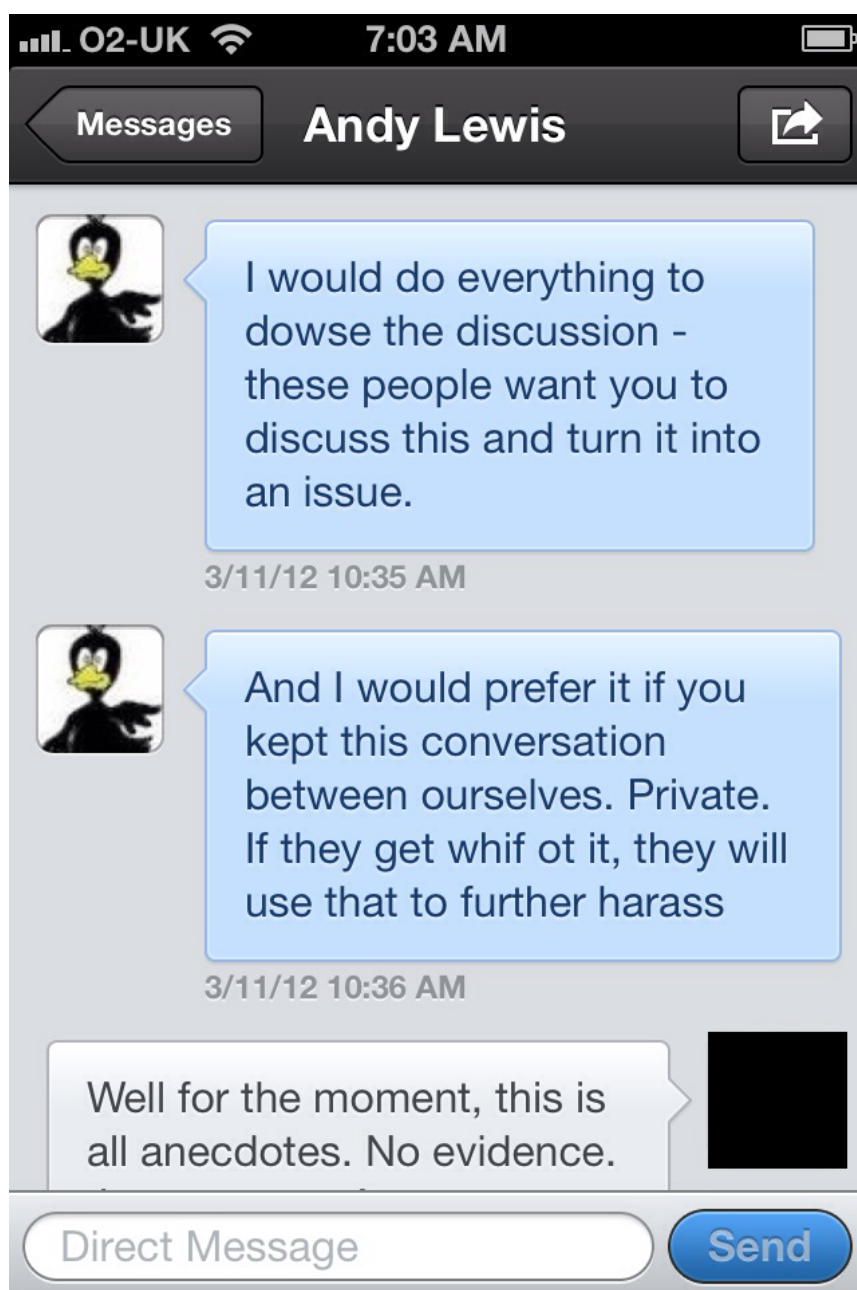


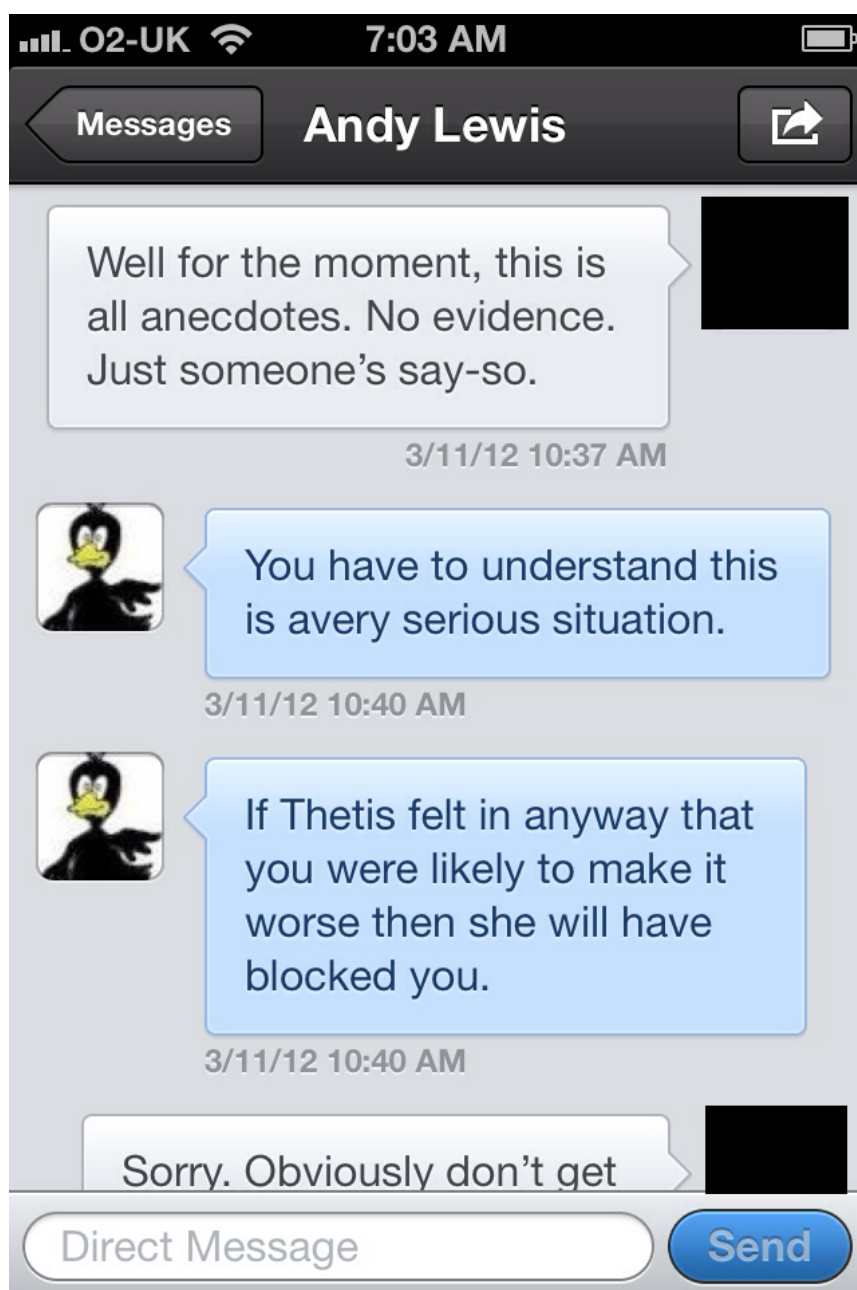


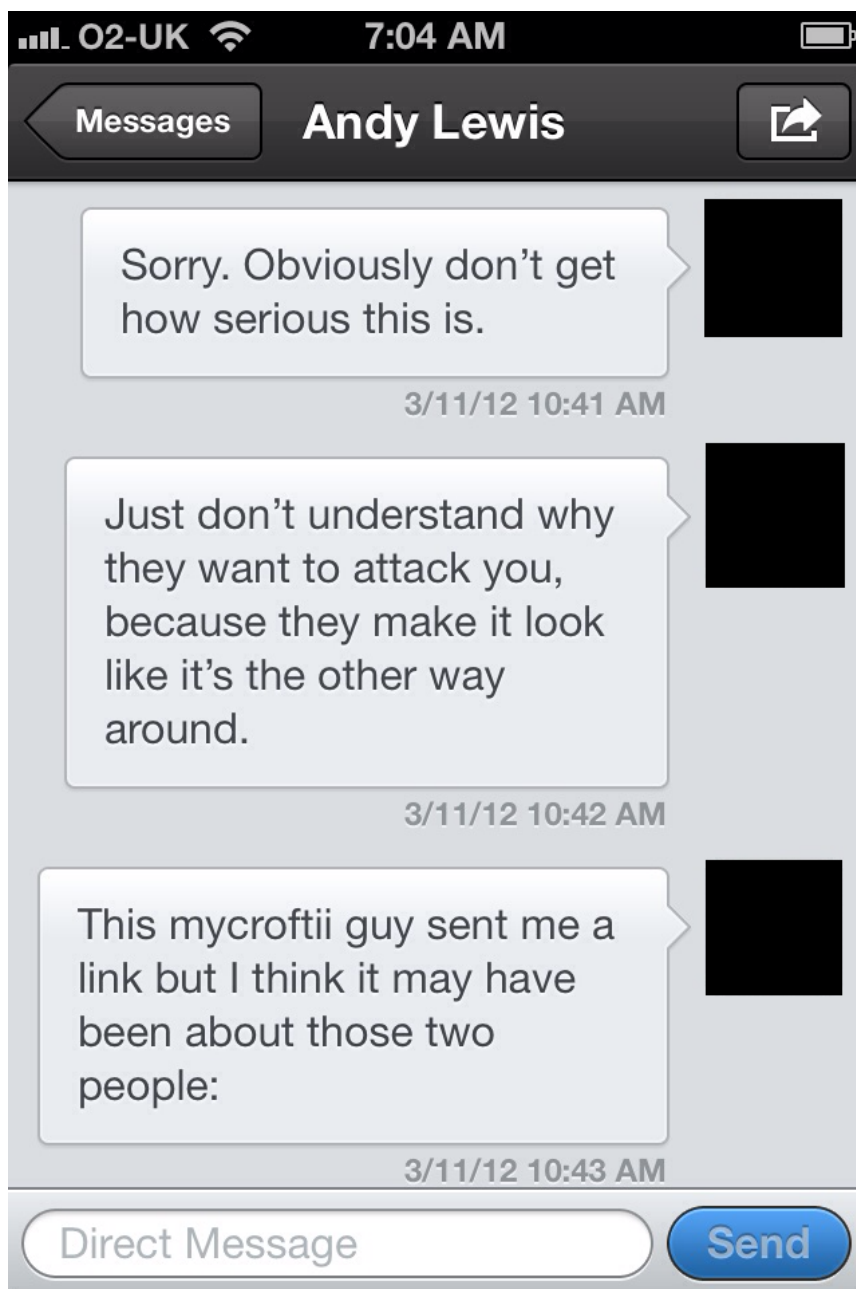


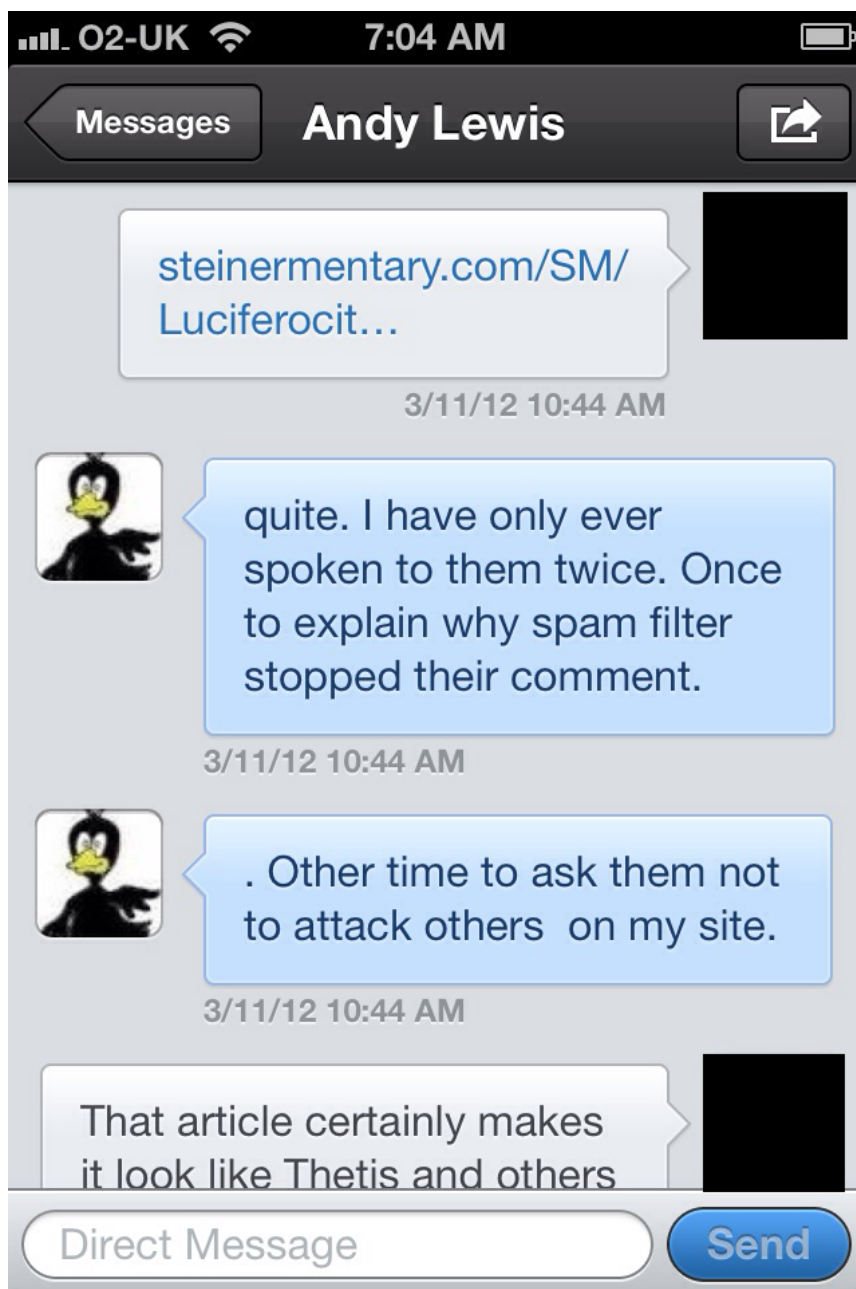




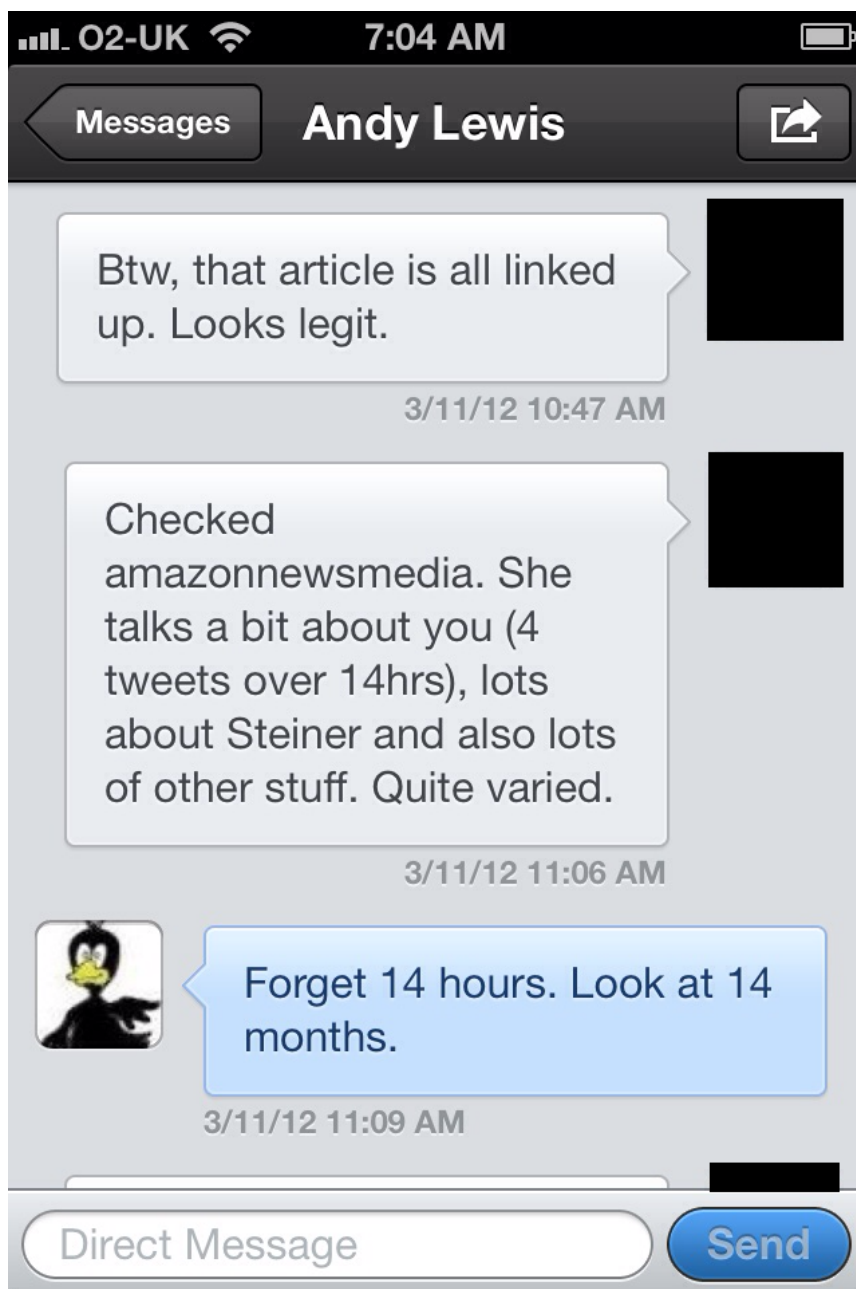


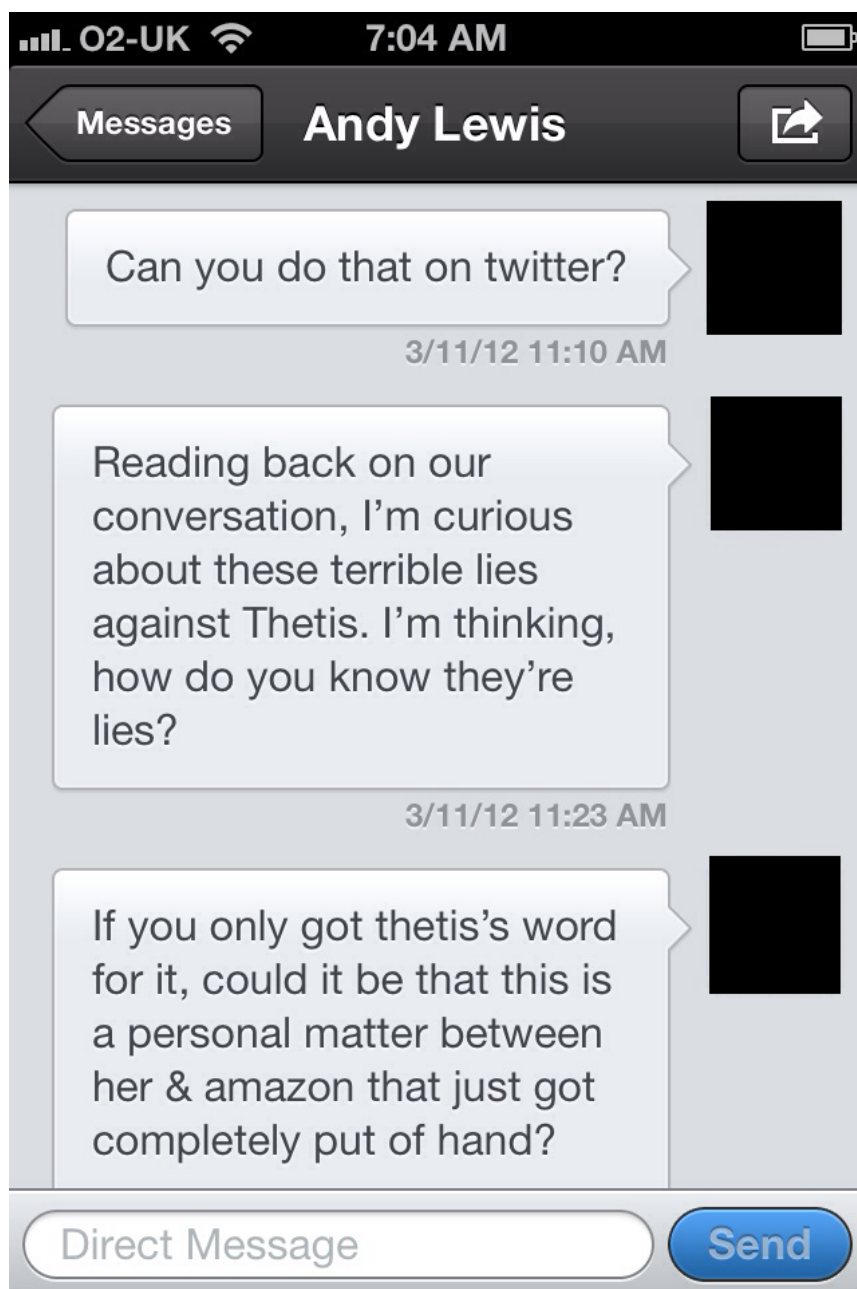


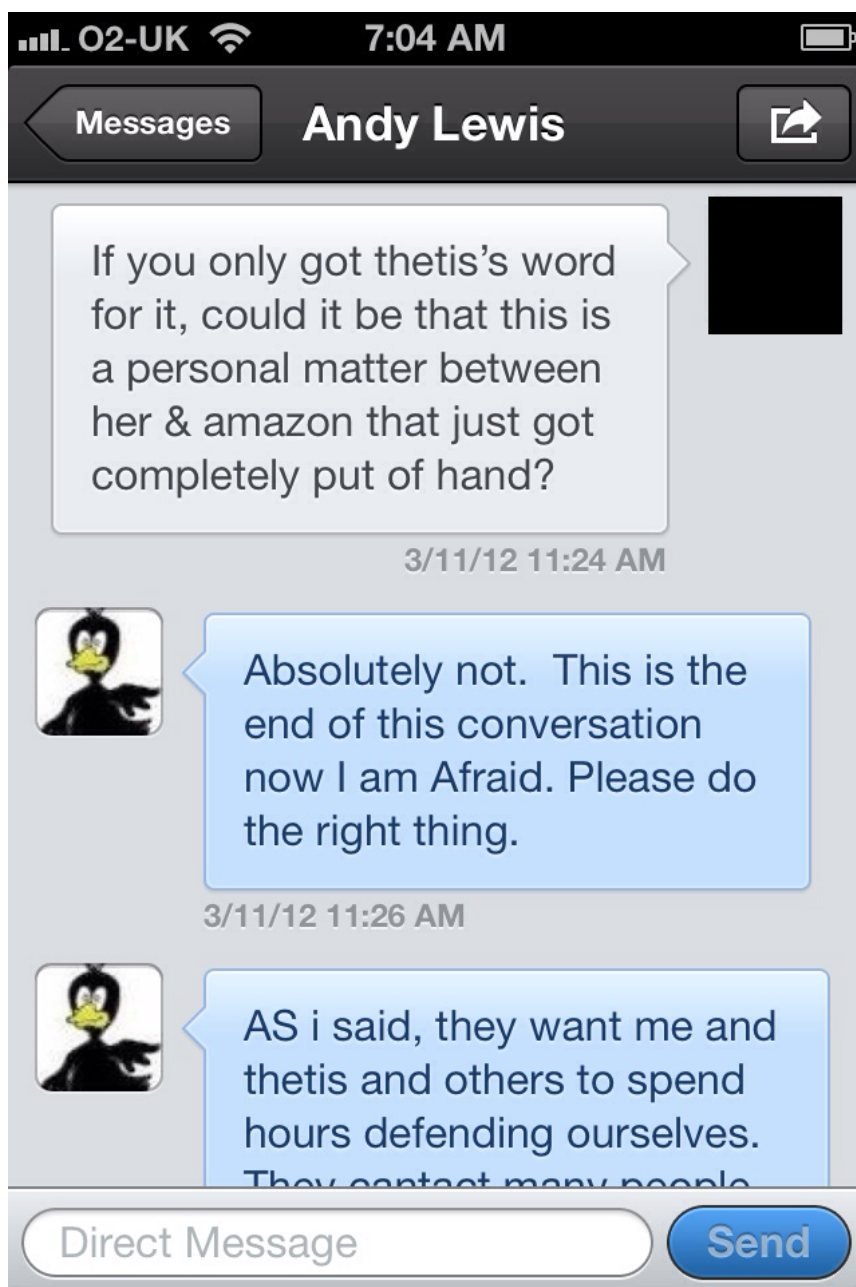


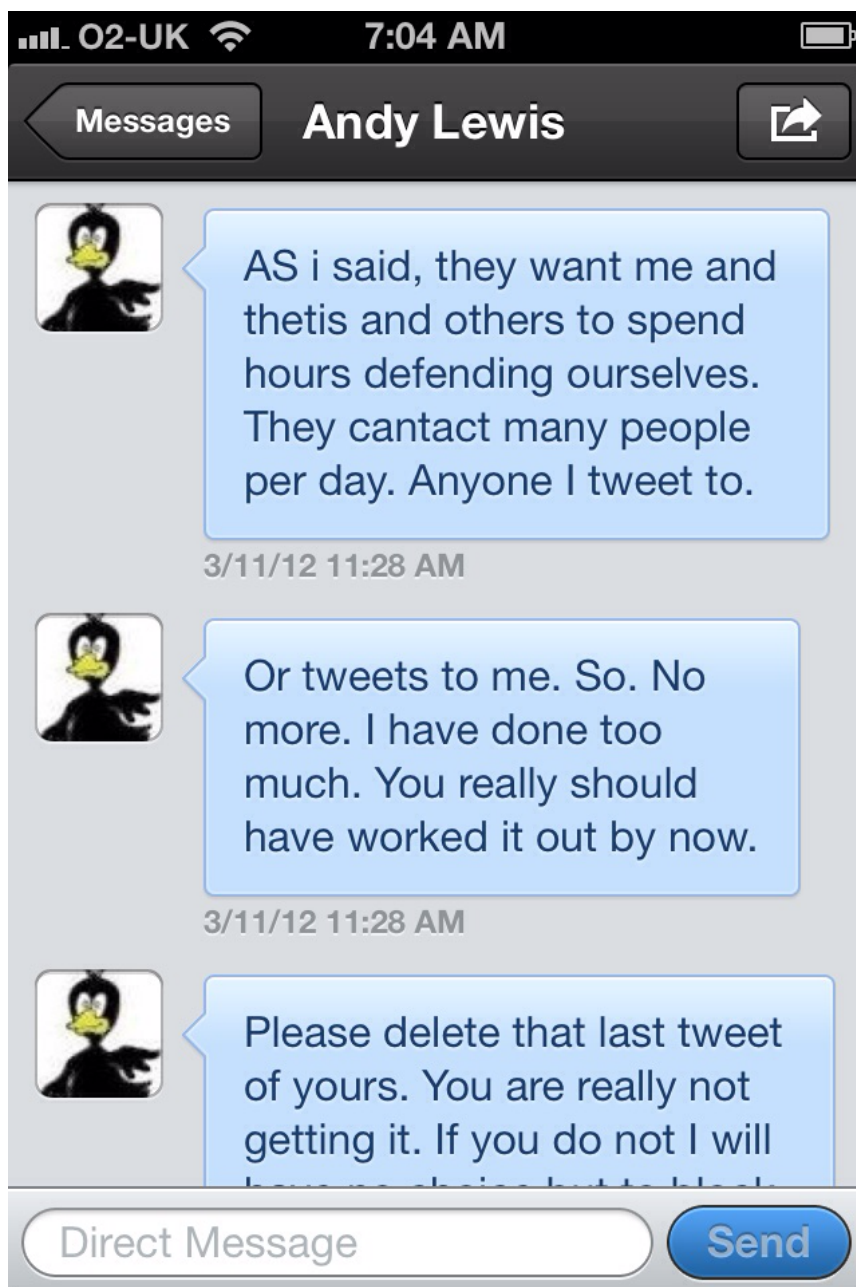


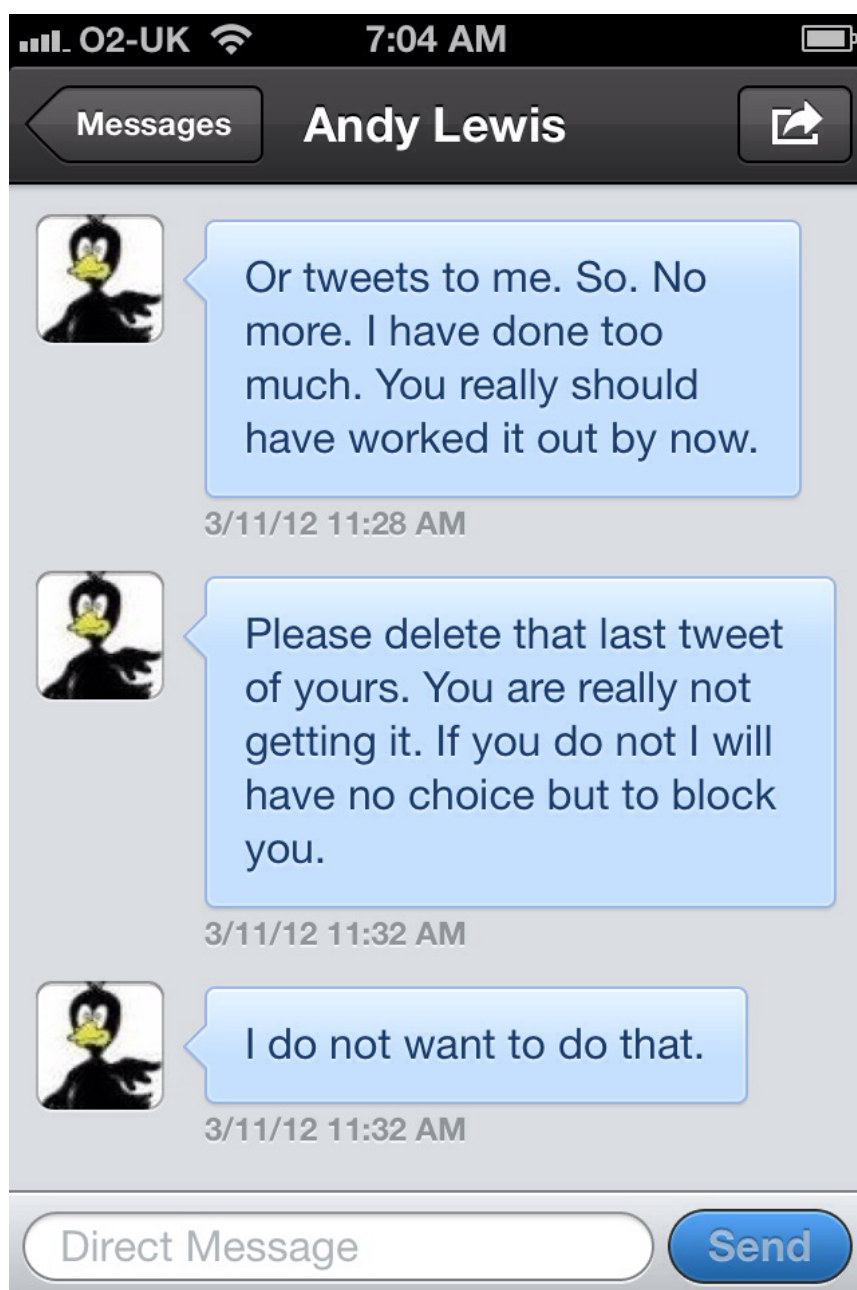












Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>
To: Sid Rodrigues <sidrodrigues@gmail.com>

3 November 2012 01:55

Hi Sid

"Andy has colluded in some atrocious cyber-bullying"

I have communicated with Angel precisely twice - both time by email. Once to explain why her comment had been held up in my moderation queue for 2 hours after she had accused me of blocking her. I was at lunch or something. A second time to explain I did not want her using my blog to attack other people.

For this, I have been hounded by her and her partner with tweets and videos being made, emails sent to people - constant harassment. I am not the only one. She has tried to get a friend of mine sacked by writing to his boss.

For this reason, I would strongly advise you not to engage in anyway with her, Steve Paris or any of her sock puppets - which are pretty obvious. She consistently falls out with people, gets angry at the slightest hint she is being disrespected and then never lets it go. I know of one person who reported her to the police. And I too, with a few others are considering options. Fortunately, she is in New Zealand right now, but has also lived recently both in France (near where my wife is from) and in Bristol (near us now). So, I do consider her an actual threat.

I am sure you will understand.

A

[Quoted text hidden]

Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>
To: Sid Rodrigues <sidrodrigues@gmail.com>

5 November 2012 22:37

Hi Sid,

Not sure what to make of our twitter exchange but it does look like there is something that needs sorting out.

Firstly, let me assure you that this email has not been forwarded or discussed online. The only person I have discussed this with is a psychiatrist friend in a face to face situation. This person is not on twitter.

The situation with angel and her husband is complex, nasty and is causing problems. It is likely that she does indeed suffer from a personality disorder and is paranoid too. She is playing games with many people in an attempt to discredit not just myself but a number of people who she believes have slighted her. She will not let go. One thing she will do is assume that there is a conspiracy between people to keep her silent. She is both driven by this and uses it to intimidate.

The people affected are considering what to do. There are children involved too - directly. The police is an option, but Angel, at the moment is in New Zealand. She will come back to the UK and has made threats to 'sort people out' when she gets here.

Your email was useful in that it provides extra evidence of her constant harassment, should it come to the point when authorities need to be involved.

Hope all is well and she is not causing you too much trouble. As I said, the best way to avoid her attention -



Andy Lewis <andy.scali-lewis@gmail.com>

Sid now has this

7 messages

Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

6 November 2012 09:10

To: Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>

Twitter / SITP: @Amazonnewsmedia thanks! Have ...

which relates to a message Pete posted on the WC list: [waldorf-critics](#) : Message: Touted schoolbus cuts raise safety fears

In which you are now implicated because of your latest post.

This is similar to her writing to the Dean to tell him R is implicated in something Shane in NZ wrote on Alicia's blog by virtue of being married to me, even though I had nothing to do with Shane's accusation (which was anyway swiftly deleted by Alicia months before the Dean got his delightful email).

Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

6 November 2012 09:18

To: Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>

I should add that Steve Paris was hassling @noodlemaz for not 'looking at his evidence' in the course of which he tweeted:

Twitter / noodlemaz: @sjparis well it wasn't that ...

this is the first I've heard of it, although they may have been telling people I'm accusing them of something similar since they seemed obsessed with references to abuse. Remember they accused me of 'grooming their daughter'. I've always been terrified they'll accuse Joe of something.

[Quoted text hidden]

Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>

6 November 2012 10:24

To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

Had a very angry sic dm last night accusing me of publishing Angel's emails he had sent me. Obviously not true, but I would guess Angel was playing mind games with him. Calmed Sid down. Will try to get her latest accusations off him.

Yes Noodlemaz is cool. No worries with her.

Problem was with both of them is that they continued to engage with Angel. I advised both of them to not engage, but Sid was 'but she is so polite'. Hard to tell someone straight up that it is the politeness of the psychopath.

[Quoted text hidden]

Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

6 November 2012 10:38

To: Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>

do you want me to write to him? He can't really be taken in by her?

I certainly didn't say anything about your email exchange to anyone (apart from Alicia) and of course I hadn't seen it, so I couldn't have sent it to anyone. I've had no dms with anyone about it - or about them for a while. You clearly hadn't published them or other people would have commented. Can he see now that she's not what she seems?

[Quoted text hidden]



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- [reading](#)
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standing up, falling down

November 20, 2012 · by [alicia hamberg](#) · in [annat](#)

The obnoxious couple in New Zealand is still going strong. Although, I suppose, in this context the word ‘going’ must be considered an affront. Like everything else. Like my existence. (Dear Dog, that horrid person from the north is still alive? Despite not having blogged for over a week? I needed a rest.)

Since [last time](#) I mentioned their efforts, they have invented some stunning new technology, with which they present their equally stunning ‘evidence’ (rarely have I seen such a wobbly use of that concept, by the way). The rest of us might think the ‘new technology’ looks like a not so novel way of making collections of pretty pointless internet screenshots, but that delusion is probably testament to our general ignorance. Upset again that they are not acknowledged as the pioneers they perceive themselves to be, they are at present complaining that their amateur youtube videos of screenshots of tweets by various skeptics and footage of a certain Tititrangi Steiner headmaster, passing the camera without saying much of substance at all, are not hailed as the first professional journalistic efforts to bring criticism of Steiner education to the general television public. (Youtube is not television, you say. Amateur video is not the BBC, you also object. Well, how petty of you. They even have the technology to make screenshots!)

(I’ve studied the facial expression of that headmaster, Mark Thornton, as he delivers the trespass notice. My clairvoyant eye tells me it his is inner desire to whack the camera from the cameraman’s grip, but he’s too polite to do so. Perhaps, also, too frightened. Who wouldn’t be, confronted by flaming ogres with recording equipment.)

Don’t laugh. They’ll threaten to sue you for finding their spectacle comical. Actually, they’ll threaten to sue you over anything. Last week they speculated about the possibility for someone to sue twitter, because apparently one of their accounts was suspended. Good luck. So don’t laugh. You have to like them and not find them ridiculous, otherwise they’ll say they’ll sue you. Like they once threatened to sue that Steiner school, for getting rid of them. Nothing came of it (as they said when I didn’t fulfill obligations they fantasized I had towards them but which I had declined long before). Instead they initiated a bizarre ‘human rights’ mediation. Probably because it was free of charge and they risked no consequences. I don’t know, and explain to me why I should care? This ‘human rights’ institution might be a court of fools, ready to make a mockery out of human rights. Or it might already (and wisely) have tossed the couple out long ago — like they’ve been tossed out of one school and barred from commenting on blogs all over the internet — but I’m sure the two won’t advertise such a major defeat on twitter. And the school, it appears, tries to imitate a clam.

It’s ‘anti-bullying week’ again, according to the belligerent queen herself. She’s standing up. Well, good, I hope her foot won’t let her down.

I notice that #disability didn’t gain her enough support on twitter so she moved on to abuse other topics, like feminism and genital mutilation, for her own benefit. She accuses people of not being on the political left, as if it were an insult not to be politically left. I’m utterly unpolitical, especially on the internet, but it’s true, I was never a ‘lefty’; if somebody accused me of being left, I’d feel slightly disturbed (if I were anything like the NZ couple, I’d threaten to sue, but I’m not that trigger-happy). Not that they know anything about swedish politics. It must be funny when you think you deserve to be at the centre of attention all the time. All the topics of the world are there only to suit you and your personal battles, animosities and vendettas — somebody disagrees with you on your contributions to the Steiner debate, oops, she’s an anti-feminist. Because you’re a woman. Somebody disagrees with you and you have a foot injury — oops, she’s anti-disabled people! Because you suffer from a limp. Of course, no reason to observe that perhaps the other person doesn’t care what gender you are or what physical ailments you suffer. Perhaps the other person cares (if at all) about the argument you’re making (or failing to make, in this case).

Somebody stands up for a friend and against vicious thuggery — oops, that someone is evil embodied. What on earth did you expect?

Anti-bullying week is supposedly — if you believe the two of them — a campaign aimed at telling people like me we are not to be allowed to choose whom we interact with online. It's meant to force us to interact with and support people we can't agree with, lest we be accused of 'bullying' them. Would you know it — I regularly avoid idiots. I don't follow them on twitter, I don't retweet their tweets, I don't care about them at all; I'd be happy to take the same approach to these two, had they not pestered me for over a year. If someone tries to sell me something I don't want, I feel entirely justified in ignoring them. Which is usually fine, *unless* that someone happens to think their story should be the [centre of the discussion](#) at all times.

Unless that someone is a raving nut — or, to put it more affectionately, although it is an affront to another respectable commodity, 'mad as cheese' —, who might consider suing Death for being ignored by him.

(By the way, [do read the letter](#) sent to Andy. There's hardly any reason for anyone to say anything more. They have effectively put the final nail into their own coffin.)

'The universe has wronged us!' could be their battle cry. 'We are now putting you on notice that this mendacity must stop.' Hear the shrill voice, echoing all the way to the heavens. Ringing in the ears of archangels and all the other beings of the elusive spiritual hierarchies.

And all the celestial bodies remain silent. What an ultimate insult.

Compared to the universe I, of course, am nothing but a humble 'low down lying barsteward'. [Sic.] I'm not trying to change the world.

But, believe me, I'm not in any 'gang' out there to victimize the two of them for any reason whatsoever. I simply reserve my right to dislike them and what they do. It's a consequence of human freedom — we all choose whom and what we like. And I *do not* like them. I'm sensing that the universe is agreeing with me. The stars nod in approval, silently, so that only I can see. Now, there's a conspiracy to ponder. One of grand proportions. I'm sending out a DM to all our neighbouring galaxies. It reads: I don't agree with the two of them. I don't even like them. Try sue cosmos for disseminating that message! You might need new technology to intercept the communications and make screenshots. Dramatized, with hideous and unharmonious music playing in the background, I expect to see these screenshots on youtube very soon.



← [lantern festival \(st martins\)](#)
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SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

BETWEEN STEVE PARIS AND ANGEL GARDEN
AND TITIRANGI RUDOLPH STEINER SCHOOL

Steve Paris and Angel Garden complained ("the complaint") to the Human Rights Commission ("the Commission") alleging that in June 2009, Titirangi Rudolph Steiner School (TRSS) unlawfully discriminated against their daughters [REDACTED] by excluding them from TRSS because of their family status.

Mr Paris and Ms Garden and TRSS now wish to settle the issues arising from the complaint on the following terms:

1. The parties will sign the attached statement about the matter. This statement may be made publicly available.
2. TRSS will make a payment of \$9,000 to the Paris/Garden children. \$1,000 is to be paid by direct credit on 14 December 2012. The remaining \$8,000 is to be paid by direct credit no later than 21 January 2013. The funds are to be paid into the following account:



3. Mr Paris and Ms Garden will put the following statement on their websites:

"Our Human Rights Act complaint against Titirangi Rudolph Steiner School has now been resolved by agreement between the parties."

4. Mr Paris, Ms Garden and their children agree not to bring any Human Rights Act proceedings against TRSS concerning the matters which are the subject of the complaint.

SIGNED by Steve Paris this 18th day of December 2012:




STEVE PARIS


SIGNED by Angel Garden this ~~14th~~ day of December 2012:



ANGEL GARDEN

SIGNED by _____ on behalf of Titirangi Rudolph Steiner School
this ~~13th~~ day of December 2012: 



(An authorised representative of Titirangi Rudolph Steiner School) 

STATEMENT

Titirangi Rudolph Steiner School (TRSS) accepts that the Paris Garden's eldest child's accounts were honest and that her actions in reporting bullying were fully commensurate with the school policy which emphasises the importance of telling both teachers and parents.

The class was a mixed-age class of 17 boys and 5 girls. There were many boys in the class who were nearly two years older than the Paris Garden's daughter.

TRSS acknowledges that some children in the class displayed bullying behaviour.

The Paris Garden's middle child was very happy in the kindergarten right up until her place was withdrawn in response to her parents' actions. The middle child had been happy in the kindy for over a year with no problems whatsoever and was settled with her teacher and her friends.

The Paris Garden's youngest daughter was happy in the play group and registered to begin nursery in 2010.

In retrospect, TRSS regrets not going through with the meeting scheduled for Monday 8 June 2009, and acknowledges that the Paris Gardens had invited a parent representative to that meeting who was knowledgeable about socially inclusive ways of addressing bullying.

TRSS acknowledges that Steve and Angel's words and actions (behaviour) in continuing to try and address the issues of bullying with TRSS, as they were advised and encouraged to do in all conversations with all TRSS staff, arose out of their natural and dutiful concern as parents for the safety of their child and concern for the wellbeing of other children in the class.



STEVE PARIS

Date: 14/12/12



ANGEL GARDEN

Date: 14/12/12

MARK THORNTON, for TRSS

Date:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Thornton', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

~~21~~. 13.12.12

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Melanie Byng** <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

Date: Fri, May 31, 2013 at 1:48 PM

Subject: Re: comment

To: "alicia h." <zzzooney@gmail.com>

Exactly....

Friday, May 31, 2013, alicia h. wrote:
haha!! For some canineosophical reason, I see 'Elena' as a white poodle who cohabitates with your local gnomes.

On 31 May 2013 13:49, Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com> wrote:

> ... I said it was a spammer

>

>

> On Friday, May 31, 2013, Melanie Byng wrote:

>>

>> R had some odd emails from 'Elena' so this explains it !

>>

>> On Friday, May 31, 2013, alicia h. wrote:

>>>

>>> I'm happy to hear you're giggling!!

>>>

>>> On 31 May 2013 13:32, Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com> wrote:

>>> > R and I are giggling over this now and I ll tweet later...

>>> >

>>> >

>>> > On Friday, May 31, 2013, alicia h. wrote:

>>> >>

>>> >> I don't understand how they have the money to buy their kids ipads.

>>> >> Must be that Yams movie making lots of money. I'm hesitant about

>>> >> potentially ruining your day now that you're on the way to Yorkshire

>>> >> (mr Dog wags his tail, Yorkshire is a fine place, he says).The more I

>>> >> think about it, the more it seems like they're desperate to get at you

>>> >> -- some way or other. But I'll forward it, and you decide when to open

>>> >> it. I think you should have a nice day and not let these idiots take

>>> >> away your attention for one moment. I can't see how anyone but them

>>> >> would have chosen to leave such a comment through my blog.

>>> >>>

>>> >>> On 31 May 2013 12:38, Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com> wrote:

>>> >>> > I know their children had new iPads. They were in Bristol (we're in

>>> >>> > Bristol

[Quoted text hidden]

alicia h. <zzzoey@gmail.com>
 To: Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>
 Cc: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

5 July 2013 23:34

Amazing! 'forensic video documentary' -- that's the 'citizen journalism' youtube video, I presume.. I hope they showed it to their audience.

I'm sure Angel managed to remain centered in her own reality -- everything indicates a stunning ability not to take in any other 'reality' than her own.

[Quoted text hidden]

Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
 To: "alicia h." <zzzoey@gmail.com>
 Cc: Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>

6 July 2013 08:20

she will be very convincing, and everyone will be impressed (snort)

All because a 17 yr old boy didn't want to be used as a sciwy.

This just means anyone can present anything, with no credentials. I must show Richard, who has just been bhangra dancing at a primary health care conf in Nottingham. Much more serious.

[Quoted text hidden]

Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
 To: "alicia h." <zzzoey@gmail.com>
 Cc: Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>

6 July 2013 08:29

Andy - how did you find out about this?

[Quoted text hidden]

alicia h. <zzzoey@gmail.com>
 To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
 Cc: Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>

6 July 2013 09:15

Hello -- I put the news about her participation at the conference on my facebook wall (not sharing it publicly though, only with 'friends'). An acquaintance -- psychologist and cult expert -- saw it, said he is at the conference and had spoken to her yesterday. He asked me for more information so I tried to sum up the past two years...

Anyway, the ICSA is making a fool of themselves when allowing this, which I also said.

[Quoted text hidden]

alicia h. <zzzoey@gmail.com>
 To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
 Cc: Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>

6 July 2013 09:24

He's going to talk to the ICSA people, he says.

[Quoted text hidden]

Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
 To: "alicia h." <zzzoey@gmail.com>

6 July 2013 09:49

Cc: Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>

Richard is happy to write to this org inclosing their email to the Dean of the Peninsula Medical School, and so on.

[Quoted text hidden]

alicia h. <zzzoey@gmail.com>

6 July 2013 09:54

To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

Cc: Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>

Brilliant. I did mention this incident actually – in the context of the 'mad as cheese' comment which I used as an example. Example of what a horrible bully might say after remaining silent throughout months of constant harrassment.

[Quoted text hidden]

Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

6 July 2013 10:08

To: "alicia h." <zzzoey@gmail.com>

Cc: Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>

how can anyone possibly take them seriously?

[Quoted text hidden]

alicia h. <zzzoey@gmail.com>

6 July 2013 10:09

To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

Cc: Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>

I have no idea...

[Quoted text hidden]

Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

6 July 2013 11:19

To: "alicia h." <zzzoey@gmail.com>

Cc: Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>

Alicia - is your friend going to listen to her? (2:00 onwards) We would like to know what she says, if she mentions us personally. It would be great to be able to communicate with the organisers.

[Quoted text hidden]

alicia h. <zzzoey@gmail.com>

6 July 2013 12:26

To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

Cc: Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>

No, I don't think so – he has other interests. I'm just guessing, but that's my impression. I'll tell him who you are and that you're willing to communicate with the organizers.

Did you see her description of herself?

http://icsahome.com/event_01speaker.asp?ID=941

It's a comedy.

[Quoted text hidden]

Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

6 July 2013 13:12

To: "alicia h." <zzzoey@gmail.com>

Cc: Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>

speechless. She told me no one liked her 'Florence Nightingale' one woman show, btw, so she seems to be contradicting her previous self analysis.

R says she certainly has constructed her own reality.

[Quoted text hidden]

alicia h. <zzzoey@gmail.com>

6 July 2013 13:19

To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

Cc: Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>

well, without being a 'mental health professional' I, too, can pretty much tell she's constructed her own reality...

[Quoted text hidden]

Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

6 July 2013 13:55

To: "alicia h." <zzzoey@gmail.com>

Cc: Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>

I think he made that analysis in his spare time

[Quoted text hidden]

Andy Lewis <andy.scali.lewis@gmail.com>

6 July 2013 15:31

To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

Cc: "alicia h." <zzzoey@gmail.com>, Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>

I saw they were in Venice and wondered what they could be up to. I used to work in Venice and the paranoid part of me thought they might be fishing. Then saw they were in Trieste at a conference so looked up what on earth they could be doing at a conference.

They will undoubtedly be speaking to half a dozen people in one of the breakouts. So not worried about that. More concerning us if they get anything published in any proceedings. We might want to think about seeing if that might be worth stopping.

Sent from my iPhone

[Quoted text hidden]

alicia h. <zzzoey@gmail.com>

6 July 2013 15:47

To: Andy Lewis <andy.scali.lewis@gmail.com>

I have written a private message to the person I know who said he was present at the conference. I did explain things in more detail -- how I feel they are a risk for people who might trust them, for example. (Ironic title for their lecture, thinking about that aspect.) I also added that Melanie, I and probably you, Andy, would be available if folks from the ICSA want to contact us. And that there are others too who can testify to what we're saying. He does take it seriously and says he will talk to people. He also says that the organisation has little resources -- they can't investigate the participants.

[Quoted text hidden]

Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

6 July 2013 16:34

To: Andy Lewis <andy.scali.lewis@gmail.com>

Cc: "alicia h." <zzzoey@gmail.com>, Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>

exactly our thoughts. R is going to write (with his uni email) asking this very question.

[Quoted text hidden]

Andy Lewis <andy.scali.lewis@gmail.com>

6 July 2013 16:50

To: "alicia h." <zzzoey@gmail.com>, Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>

C11-4590



Andy Lewis <andy.scali.lewis@gmail.com>

SITP

3 messages

Jo Torres

16 July 2013 10:30

To: "andy.scali.lewis@gmail.com" <andy.scali.lewis@gmail.com>

Hi Andy!

Really looking forward to tonight, is there anything you need me to bring like a laptop? If so could you send me an attachment with any presentations so I can make sure my laptop isn't going to have a hissy fit about it?! Projector, mic etc are all sorted anyway.

What time are you getting into Plymouth? Are you driving or training, if training let me know when you get in and I'll come meet you at the station!

Cheers me dear, see you soon!

Jo

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Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>

16 July 2013 10:58

To: Jo Torres

Hi Jo

I have all I need - so see you there. Will be driving.

By the way, not sure if you were aware, but my Bath talk was disrupted by Angel Garden and Steve Paris. They have been harassing me for over a year and are as mad as cheese. I thought they lived in new zealand but showed up in Bath to 'serve papers on me'. Idiots. But. They may show up in Plymouth. They are now living in Bristol. Wanted to warn you. I do not want them allowed admittance and will not speak if they are there. Their behaviour is quite disturbing and they may try to film or record or disrupt in some way. I hope you understand.

Regards

Andy

[Quoted text hidden]

Jo Torres

16 July 2013 11:32

To: Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>

Hi Andy,

That's fab I'll see you there! I've been extensively briefed on Angel and Steve via Melanie, I'll do my best, but I don't know them so it might be a case of pointing them out if they show up and I can ask them to leave. You know the venue, so there's a good chance there will be people there just eating, hope you get what I mean. If it's any reassurance, Mike, my other half, was a bouncer for years so is well versed in efficient removal of crazies.

What were they serving you papers with/for? Mental...

Anyway, really looking forward to this evening, not sure if I mentioned we don't start proceedings until at least 7.30pm these days, less of a rush! See you later,

Anyway, what I wanted to say is that I went to my blog stats and checked if someone had visited my blog in some suspiciously fanatical manner. I found many page views (on pages that are relevant to A & S) from one IP-number (2.100.54.231), which my stats thingy says is visiting from Swansea. This may or may not be accurate as far as their actual location goes, but one can always hope that they're thinking of settling in Wales? At least it's not Devon.

-alicia

[Quoted text hidden]

Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
To: "alicia h." <zzzoey@gmail.com>
Cc: Andy Lewis <andy.scali.lewis@gmail.com>

21 July 2013 14:34

she's immobilised - and I imagine pretty bored. I was just looking too, oddly enough. The good thing is that no one but us has the faintest idea what she's talking about! And the chatting is for our benefit - I'm sure they know I search their names on twitter. R did get another call from the man who asks: 'Why would a man call another man?' and 'Do you know why I'm calling you?' to which his answer is always 'no, and stop calling me, goodbye'.

[Quoted text hidden]

alicia h. <zzzoey@gmail.com>
To: Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
Cc: Andy Lewis <andy.scali.lewis@gmail.com>

21 July 2013 14:40

What bizarre phone-call! Yeah, their conversation is quite impenetrable. Even I am not always sure who and what they're talking about. Certainly it of for our benefit -- it must frustrate them a lot when there's no reaction at all. They would be even more frustrated if they knew I haven't thought about them or looked at their feeds for days, perhaps a week! And only now read back a few hours. But, dear Dog, they are pathologically persistent...

[Quoted text hidden]

Melanie Byng <melanie.byng@gmail.com>
To: "alicia h." <zzzoey@gmail.com>
Cc: Andy Lewis <andy.scali.lewis@gmail.com>

21 July 2013 14:57

they're pathologically pathological.

[Quoted text hidden]

Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>
To: "alicia h." <zzzoey@gmail.com>

22 July 2013 10:53

They need to talk to each other to keep the issue alive. No one else is.

I am wondering if I have seen them mention South Wales before? If so, good news. Swansea is just far enough away to make physical presence a difficulty.

[Quoted text hidden]



Andy Lewis <andy.scali-lewis@gmail.com>

Angel's Intimidation

13 messages

Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>

16 October 2013 10:38

To: Richy Thompson

, Sara Passmore

, Stephen Law

CONFIDENTIAL

Thanks for dealing with this.

I think it best to respond to you (not her) about her allegations.

She is now tweeting that I am ignoring Human Rights issues etc, and that I have defamed her and put children at risk.

The truth is that I blocked her from commenting on my blog because of her hostile behaviour towards me and how she wanted to use her comments to attack other people. I have also refused to discuss her problems with the New Zealand school her children attended on my blog because a) she misrepresents what happened, b) it does not support my argument and c) her behaviour means I do not want to engage with her in any way.

One of the ways I blocked her from sock-puppeting and commenting on my blog was by putting a comment trigger of 'Human Rights' that automatically put comments containing these words in moderation. Her husband managed to work this out by repeatedly submitting comments with different word combinations. They now misconstrue this as me 'ignoring Human Rights'. Also because they undertook mediation with their school through the New Zealand human rights commission, they see me blocking them and 'ignoring human rights'. After 3 years of mediation the school finally bought them off with a modest payment but with no admission of significant wrong doing or an apology.

And by ignoring them and refusing to write about them and make their story the centre of my Steiner School articles, I am allegedly defaming them and putting children at risk.

Their harassment of me has been continuous for 18 months or more. They have been writing to any venue I speak at and of course are threatening to issue court proceedings against me with rambling, incoherent letters. They have complained to the BBC about me and continuously try to engage with people on twitter who may know me so that they can deliver one of their payloads of the blog posts and videos they have made about me. They track me around the web and if I comment on an article and then launch an attack on me.

By writing to you, they only have one intention: to cause me problems by intimidating me and those who I deal with.

I hope to bring my family to the talk in November. I do not want to expose my family to this monstrous behaviour. I do not want to give them more fuel for this misrepresentation by being present at my talk and having the opportunity to disrupt the meeting and its message.

You have been perfectly clear to Angel that she is not welcome because of the threats she has made to me. Anything further you write will be misconstrued and used to further her harassment.

I understand this is a difficult issue to deal with and I regret having to bring this baggage along. Unfortunately, the intensity of attacks has increased since agreeing to talk and I did not anticipate this would get this bad. I can only guess that this is the case because her demands for me to give her money to go away against the threat of a defamation case has failed.

I look forward to the event and hope Angel and Steve do not cause any trouble. I suspect they will not show up as like most bullies they like to know that they will win and will not risk humiliation. However, they may try

to film outside and picket and then produce one of their films. This is a risk that needs to be considered.

In the end, I hope that the decision about who can speak at your events is down to you and not down to disruptive forces. You are quite right to insist that your speakers, the audience and organisers are not subject to intimidation, harassment and abuse and reserve the right to refuse admission on that basis.

If you do feel you need to communicate with them again, I suggest you make it as short as possible and let them know you will not be engaging in further correspondence. They want to fight and will ratchet the accusations if you do engage.

Thanks for your understanding in this and I look forward to an interesting and lively (in a good way) event.

Andy

Sara Passmore

19 October 2013 11:40

To: Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>, Stephen Law

Thanks for this Andy! I am really sorry about all of this. We have had issues with this sort of thing before and I am pretty thick-skinned, so happy to not engage with them in any way.

We can do some things to minimise their impact should they attend. For example, get people to write their questions on paper and have Stephen read them out - that way they won't be able to get a microphone and use that as an opportunity to air their views. I will also want the police that there may be an issue with this - this is standard practice for us when we have controversial events, or speakers that have stalkers.

FYI - Steve Paris has booked two tickets to the event.

I am planning on contacting Angel in reply to her email where she says she will attend and that she is happy to replace you as a speaker - I will say that we will not be changing the programme and that we politely request they do not attend. We will refund the cost of a ticket.

Sara

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Sara Passmore

Head of Education, British Humanist Association
39 Moreland Street, London, EC1V 8BB | 020 7324 3070 | 07795 412765

www.humanism.org.uk | facebook.com/humanism | twitter.com/BHAhumanists | humanismforschools.org.uk

The BHA is a registered charity in England and Wales (no. 285987) and depends on donations and legacies from its members and supporters to carry out its work. You can join or donate or register for our free e-bulletin online.

Andy Lewis <andy@scali-lewis.net>

21 October 2013 18:11

To: Sara Passmore

Cc: Stephen Law

Many thanks for getting back to me Sara. Glad to see you are on top of it.

I would hate to see the way the event is run having to be changed in anyway because of their intimidation. But I recognise a few simple steps may protect ourselves.

I am getting pretty sick to death of them trying to interfere with my life and their threats to my family by threatening to sue. I am sure they have no case, but English law still allows them to start proceedings with all the associated pain and potential expense.

Thanks for trying to stop them. If you like, I am more than happy to cast an eye over anything you want to send. I am pretty good at spotting their triggers by now.



Andy Lewis @lecanardnoir · Apr 14

This story by @hannahfearn about Camphill troubles misses the occult foundations of this Anthroposophical community. qako.me/1J0Cmlg

2

View summary



Hannah Fearn @hannahfearn · Apr 14

@lecanardnoir Hi Andy, I wrote this earlier, longer piece which focused specifically on the community: theguardian.com/society/2014/j...

1

View summary



Andy Lewis

@lecanardnoir



+ Follow

@hannahfearn My own research on Steiner suggests *nothing* should be taken at face value when looking at Anthroposophical institutions.

8:44 PM - 14 Apr 2015



Reply to @lecanardnoir @hannahfearn

Trends

#ModiInUK #1DR1LiveLounge Missy Elliott #1DayTillPURPOSE Philthy Animal #AriAMAs
YouTube Music English Football League Uncle Drew Amber Rose

1861-2011 : 150 years of Rudolf Steiner

LUCIFEROCITY



@zzzooley
alicia hamberg

one of the greatest joys of blogging comes from being able to derail discussion threads without having to suffer from a bad conscience.

7 Oct via [TweetDeck](#)

An Open letter to all those identifying themselves as Steiner/Waldorf Critics.

Update

Since this letter was published, Thetis Mercurio has revealed herself to be Melanie Byng from Devon.

Update 2 (23-5-2014)

Through investigations conducted on the 28th of February 2014 as a result of proceedings between us and a number of different parties in relation to defamation, we have discovered that many of the links contained herein are to posts that had been taken down around that time. These links will remain broken and we will not make any attempt to re-link them until such time as these proceedings have concluded.



This letter to Steiner critics seeks answers to the following questions:

1. Do the critics generally approve of the aggressive behaviour of some critics towards people who've had negative experiences of the Steiner movement but whose methods may not be understood?

2. Do these people who apparently see themselves as gatekeepers of Steiner criticism actually represent the views of all critics?

We unfortunately have to report the fact that we have observed *and* experienced both passive aggression arising out of a self-protective "need" for anonymity which makes it

very hard to call someone to account, and active aggression, which seeks to destroy that which it says it does not understand, by means of public mobbing behaviour.

Either of these forces could have a very negative effect on anyone, but especially on families coming out of damaging scenarios at Steiner schools, where they experienced the schools' cultish, xenophobic, and often brutish behaviour. Finding such aggression among those apparently 'critical' of the awful behaviour of Steiner schools, could very well become a wounding force even worse than the original, due to the secondary nature of the wounding together with a reasonable expectation of finding, among those claiming to be critical of Steiner education, at least a fair hearing.

From a loose network of people supposedly dedicated to stopping abuse and indoctrination? We think so.

But in the Steiner critics, these Luciferocious tendencies are not even operating alone, but together. We are now in the unfortunate position of being able to attest to that effect, where Steiner critics have publicly mobbed a family because their friend, whether they knew it or not, needed to hide behind anonymity, having already duffed the family up in private.

It has been a shocking experience, to say the least, and resembles nothing more strikingly than the behaviour of the Steiner School our kids went to. The anonymous critic displayed the same seductive, grooming types of behaviour that we have had to document at the school and the public mobbing was full of the same xenophobic projections that the school dished out, not caring how weak the logic and only intending to eject the "irritant" who wouldn't simply toe the line. It has been a devastating combination.

It is shocking to have to flag up such behaviours in the critics, but it gets worse because in mobbing us, Alicia Hamberg has clearly positioned herself as a protector of Steiner Critics generally, with significant influence and the apparent power to "endorse" projects. In banning us and professing the need to warn others about us; she has acted as a Gatekeeper.

Likewise the anonymous "Thetis Mercurio" has been happy to be a kind of public face of Steiner criticism, if that isn't a conundrum! Yet her syrupy welcoming of distressed newcomers, all conducted through a pseudonym, disguises the fact that *other things* are going on in the background. So abusive is this combination, not only to adults, but also to children, that we sincerely believe that the *only* value in our recent experience is that we can now flag it up to others as another 'hole in the road' for them to avoid.

The only thing we don't know is whether the other critics actually do buy into it, hence this letter. We are not prepared to take Alicia Hamberg's word for her power to speak for all critics and whether or not we classify any critics mentioned here as Gatekeepers will depend solely on the responses we get to this letter.

Alicia Hamberg is of the opinion, as she said to us on her blog, that we are totally failing in our criticism of Steiner education:

"Your methods would, if you actually got that movie of yours finished and watched by anyone, sabotage criticism of Steiner/waldorf education for years to come. You're handing the waldorf movement the opportunity to dismiss — to laugh at — criticism on a plate."

Really? From over here, it's blindingly obvious that Alicia Hamberg, "Thetis Mercurio", Diana Winters, Pete Karaiskos, Esther Fiddler, and "Falk", in their actions of mobbing people, are achieving that ridicule all by themselves.

We are confident that at least one person, possibly more, *must* have observed what a targeting has taken place here, have noticed the way that huge projections have been made, and that we have been publicly drubbed, apparently because we had the temerity to mention the fact that if people do not name individual schools, then others will not be able to recognise the dangers of them.

Why those critics who *have* noticed that have said nothing, is a disturbing mystery.

Our methodology, as we described in **Safe To Tell**, is that we started from one simple observation, that although our daughter followed the advertised school policy which said that if you are bullied the thing to do is to tell, that when she told about the well documented bullying and assault, it was proven to be very unsafe, and we have continued to tell to see how far we have to go before it does become safe.

It is an interesting story, and sadly nowhere much more so than on Alicia's blog, where it is claimed **that the critics are all about protecting children.**

Does Alicia not know then, about how "Thetis Mercurio" has demonstrated what can really only be described as grooming behaviour towards our child? How can we call it otherwise when "Thetis Mercurio" made so many advances towards her, with healing offers of help to re-engage her with school, even sending out her son to us with the message that he came really only to talk to our daughter about *his wonderful school*, in the country. All this at the same time as having asked Angel to write an article for the Local Schools Network, as she knew that this could be helpful since we'd succeeded in getting in front of the Human Rights Tribunal. "Thetis Mercurio" also acknowledged the potential relevance of the New Zealand educational landscape to the Free school issue in the UK - and the timeliness of the opportunity - which came at a time of major stress for us, but was too important not to do, as "Thetis" said it was a really important opportunity.

Instead of working through any of the situations which she herself had initiated, however, "Thetis Mercurio" apparently then used the inconvenience caused by her own son as a reason to dump our daughter suddenly, without giving any reason. Just at the point that she began to show some interest, "Thetis Mercurio" suddenly refused to communicate with anyone in the family, in spite of her promised help, including with the article.

She then just sat back and allowed us to get viciously mobbed on **the site of her friend Alicia**, not even correcting Alicia's and Diana's nasty slurs on Angel's motivation for writing the article in the first place, which she absolutely knew to be untrue.

Even the absolute refusal of the mobbers to allow that we were still trying to put some humour into the situation, could have been alleviated if "Thetis Mercurio" had chosen to speak up, as she had told us how much she adored our comedy work and liked how we always tried to see the funny side, however bad the circumstance.

Could this be the same women who had written to Jenn (a woman who had attacked Alicia Hamberg via private email):

“To use your children as a shield to hide behind when in reality you’ve acted hastily and unkindly is the worst aspect of your behaviour so far”?

That's why it made us feel sick to read “Thetis Mercurio's” ingratiating welcoming of people into the critics fold and her constant commenting and tweeting about honesty etc., She has chosen to keep quiet about her own personal experience, but to remain ‘objective’ behind a pseudonym, in which actions she is defended by critics.

How convenient. We felt we couldn't ‘out’ “Thetis Mercurio's” ‘unfriendly’ treatment of our daughter, or ourselves, because it would cause zealots to attack her, while all the while, her zealot friend was attacking us! We were getting hammered by Alicia Hamberg on the very platform that, in advocating full publicity and due process, we were failing to understand the necessity **for children not to have to lose any friends:**

“It might certainly be serious enough. But if it's your own child losing a friend... that's a different story, right? I would never think that's ok or worth it. And I don't even understand much about children — but I do understand that friends mean a lot to them.”

“Thetis Mercurio” may say that it's all about the children, but her actions give the lie to that. How is it protecting children to behave as “Thetis Mercurio” has and then simply refuse to communicate about it whatsoever, never answering texts, emails and hanging up the phone? This behaviour is towards a child who is still dealing with the legacy of the bullying she endured at a Steiner school - the professed reason for approaching our daughter at all.

After “Thetis Mercurio's” sudden about-face, we found an empty notebook with only the name of this school written by my daughter in small letters at the top of the first page - a tentative heading for a possible new beginning, now closed to her by a wall of silence from the gushing “Thetis Mercurio”.

This extreme reaction was all the more confusing for the fact that we were under the impression that any potential misunderstanding between our families had been resolved.

In writing to Jenn earlier, “Thetis” had cautioned her that: *“as a medical journalist with your own site dealing with ADHD and ADD – you will not want to be seen throwing around insults related to mental health.”*

But what about the fact that “Thetis Mercurio's” husband also works in mental health? Why has he had nothing to say about the worrying grooming element in setting up an 11 year old child with all kinds of promises, or the likely effects of then just completely dumping her, with no explanation whatsoever?

“Thetis Mercurio's” behaviour has been reprehensible but due to her protected anonymity; she's actually had zero accountability. Less avatar, more scimitar.

Nevertheless it does look as though these critics act as and are treated as Gatekeepers by others as illustrated by Pete Karaiskos: *“For the dim wits at Steinermentary Project – DECEIT is what Waldorf Critics are fighting AGAINST! If we needed to lie in order to make our point... there wouldn't BE a point.”*

His total acceptance of Alicia and Diana's 'conclusions' about us, and his agreement that we need to be 'exposed' and 'distanced from' makes it clear that he treats them as such. What deceit is he talking about?

So we must now find out whether the Steiner critics have anything to say about such behaviour. Certainly we find "Thetis Mercurio" occupies an exalted position, especially on Alicia Hamberg's blog but of course, we can't ask people there, because we've been censored.

The question of whether Alicia Hamberg and "Thetis Mercurio", Diana Winters and the rest represent all is exactly the same as the one we had to ask the New Zealand Steiner schools about the behaviour of the Titirangi Steiner School, writing to all those schools to flag up Mark Thornton's promotion within **The Federation of Rudolf Steiner Waldorf Schools in New Zealand** after his actions in expelling three children whose parents had had to flag up bullying, including assault. The responses of the schools, and their lack thereof, when given the facts, led us to put up a flag about the Federation, where Mark Thornton now holds more 'portfolios' than anyone else.

So it's highly ironic that we now find ourselves in this position vis à vis the critics. Because aren't Steiner critics the people who are trying to stop the abuses and cult behaviour of the Steiner movement? We certainly thought so.

What caused this punishment, with Alicia writing a blog post about us to announce our banning? We must be a threat if she's got to do that! After all, as she said herself, she's never "had to" ban any pro-Steiner person from her site.

Our only crime was to talk about the value of standing up and bringing difficult matters up for discussion.

Yes, we had the gall to mention the fact that Jo Sawfoot has just made the Norfolk Steiner school have to face up to its shame, subject which Alicia didn't find very interesting. As of yesterday, the 11th October 2011 however, it's good to see that maybe because of the very difficult whistleblowing actions Jo Sawfoot took against the school, the Norfolk Initiative Steiner School has not received State funding.

According to Alicia, though, she finds the philosophy of anthroposophy **far more interesting**. More than actually doing something about it? Well then, in that case, if Alicia Hamberg or "Thetis Mercurio" *are* representative of the Steiner critic movement, then its not all about protecting children is it?

Or perhaps it means all children *but* the child whose parents (and they weren't the only ones) thanked us for helping them realise that unless they took her out of the school, that she would be punched in the face again? Because **according to Alicia Hamberg**, they're not even real, just people we invented.

So what's the difference between the behaviour of these critics and the behaviour of Steiner Schools? Perhaps Steiner criticism itself has become a cult. Certainly if nobody is prepared to name what happened as a mobbing we would have to wonder...

In a November 2010 article, Alicia quoted Rudolf Steiner:

"No person is qualified to form a judgment on the contents of this work, who has not acquired — through

the School of Spiritual Science itself or in an equivalent manner recognized by the School of Spiritual Science — the requisite preliminary knowledge. Other opinions will be disregarded: the authors decline to take them as a basis for discussion.”

And she commented: *“The result is that anthroposophists always have an excuse for disregarding valid arguments from outsiders. And they do so, more often than not.”*

But that's *Alicia's* excuse for disregarding valid arguments from outsiders! According to Alicia Hamberg and Diana Winters our very response to the experience of being attacked by a Steiner school is abnormal. The normal response, **according to Diana**, is to “get on with your life” in order to avoid your children getting further victimised. So, because we stood up, therefore alerting our children to the existence of and necessity for justice, we're now apparently out of touch with ‘normal’ parents and therefore lack some ‘requisite preliminary knowledge’: *“There's a sense coming from you that your own project became more important than the children's wellbeing, at some point maybe you stopped being able to relate to these other ordinary parents whose main concern was helping their own children move on.”* And that's why our ‘opinions will be disregarded’.

Not only that, Alicia of course went so far as to say that it was all our fault (another classic mobbing technique) and that she would have **chucked us out too** if she was head of a school herself. But what can have provoked her to say such an extreme thing about people that “Thetis Mercurio” had referred to as ‘funny’ and ‘brave’ because of the stance we took? It's a very extreme position, even if you don't understand someone's methods, **as Alicia claimed she didn't**.

The question of what we are to do when it becomes so difficult to speak about hidden and violent matters, is certainly not exclusive to the Steiner movement. The internet is awash with the issues that face whistleblowers in all walks of life. It is the very reason we felt it was worth mentioning the option of standing up! It was also exactly the point of contention between our position and that of Alicia Hamberg and Diana Winters, that led to the public mobbing.

Not one Steiner critic has come forward to object to this aggressive, censoring behaviour which sounds, and feels, exactly the same as what happens if you're ‘not a good fit’ at a Steiner School.

Which means that it needs to be tested, because we've often asked ourselves, how *does* the Steiner movement manage to create such a feeling of being vulnerable to misunderstanding from an unfeeling world? It makes it very hard to speak out, as Alicia Hamberg was at pains to point out to us, many people don't feel they have a choice: **here**, and **here**.

How much more difficult is it to ‘out’ behaviour of people who, not only publicly oppose themselves specifically to such cultish brutality, but who are actually anonymous themselves, with only a pseudonym for a public profile?

Apart from the clear danger to ourselves of continuing to dare to speak in such a hostile environment, surely we run the danger, by exposing weaknesses or corruption among Steiner critics, of giving the Steiner movement ammunition, and therefore being accused of being traitors, even to our own cause, but certainly to the cause of bringing injustices in the Steiner movement to light? Exactly the same problem for people needing to speak out

about schools!

But we know what has happened to us at the hands of soi-disant “Steiner critics”, and regardless of what mobbing critics might think, we know that a Steiner criticism that practises the same abuses that the movement itself does, is really quite useless and will never be able to vanquish the anti-values it claims to abhor.

Plus, if we do what Alicia Hamberg told us to do and “*shut the fuck up*”, walking away instead of publicising this, to avoid any damage to the movement of Steiner critics, we will be colluding in our own abusive treatment, another neat trick cults always manage to pull off.

We think this admirably illustrates why standing up in the first place is such a good idea, because the behaviour of those critics who “argued” against standing up, projecting *their* guilt-tripping behaviour onto us, is so clearly corrupt.

All this is information that must be made available to newcomers, because just as with the schools, if people are not warned then they cannot know.

Perhaps the critics will tell us that there is no collective obligation to the general public and that all critics are independent - again that’s exactly what Steiner schools say.

Although it is unpleasant to have to revisit the excoriation of us performed publicly by Alicia Hamberg and Diana Winters, it is not hard to find within it all the silencing methods so frequently used against families by the Steiner movement, which are also classic mobbing techniques, e.g. that we brought it upon ourselves, that we made it up, that we are mentally unstable. All these tactics are flagged up again and again on Alicia’s own blog! Why does nobody appear to have noticed that they have been used to try and get rid of us?

It is almost too dangerous to be personal in this regard, as it does feel dangerous now to speak up, when so much damage has already been done. The actions of “Thetis Mercurio”, specifically, have been very hard to understand, as she has chosen to behave in an extremely aggressive manner at a supremely difficult time in our lives, which was her stated reason for getting involved in the first place. This is not the place to explore those circumstances, but **they are written about here**.

It was Thetis who asked Angel to **write the article on LSN** which caused the mobbing. By the time it was published, Thetis was absolutely refusing to speak to us, or to our 11 year old daughter, to whom she had made substantial advances. She obviously does not feel that she has done anything wrong in this and that is why when we now see her gushing to others about honesty and children’s safety, we see a disgusting display of hypocrisy and an abuse of her anonymous status which other critics are at such pains to protect and defend.

That’s why Alicia Hamberg banned us from her blog, because it made us feel so sick to read “Thetis Mercurio’s” over-unctuous welcoming of people into the critics fold, whilst simultaneously drawling on that “*you couldn’t have known what you were getting into*”. that we were provoked into commenting anonymously; we were always drubbed otherwise by that point if we wrote anything as ourselves, so we thought we’d give anonymity a go.

Yet Alicia Hamberg's behaviour immediately following the publication of the article Thetis had asked Angel to write, came on top of what "Thetis Mercurio" herself had dished out, while Thetis herself did nothing to stop her "friend" from trying to completely destroy us, our work, our reputation. All the same circumstances were still going on in the background at this point, and we had no reason to assume that Thetis was not communicating privately with Alicia, in spite of the fact that she did not speak up publicly.

It will be interesting to see whether some Steiner critics are tempted to try to minimise the possible effects of this experience on a family who has worked so hard to get their case in front of the Human Rights Tribunal.

Alicia Hamberg's sole point was that we were guilt-tripping people: *"I'm saying that you're appealing to feelings of guilt"*, and that they can't be expected to stand up:

"After having had to leave waldorf — and taking care of all the other bad effects of steiner education and all the child's already been through —, actually going around barking publicly is perhaps not something most parents have the emotional energy to deal with. And, again, it's about what you want to put your own children through, after what they've already gone through."

But of course Diana's comment that our *"project became more important than the children's wellbeing"* and Alicia's mention of *"what you want to put your children through"*, aren't acknowledged as a huge guilt trip. The exact same tactic was used against us by the Steiner School.

Alicia denied trying to make us feel guilty for standing up to the school, and in doing so, she used the ultimate dehumanising tactic of assuming that we aren't the same as other people and therefore we don't feel bad when mobbed:

"You're supposedly professional documentary film makers — maybe you can more easily handle that stuff than others."

A comforting thought, while she put the boot in perhaps...

We found a sixteen point test and if anybody wishes to argue with the fact that it was a mobbing, we will go back and show in detail the whole ugly scenario which we would rather not have to do since it was very unpleasant the first time round. If anyone does try and argue that this was not a serious attack, we will find it hard to believe that they have actually read it perhaps just skimming through the crib notes from Alicia Hamberg, like Diana, or Pete Karaiskos, whose *"sad"* comment and name calling makes a mockery of his own extremely tough experience, since he appears willing to dish it out to others whilst being completely uninformed. As Diana herself put it: *"thanks for your summaries (this way I don't have to read it all)."*

Mobbing behaviour always only seeks to undermine, not to understand.

For instance, Alicia Hamberg accused us of "targeting people" by mentioning the fact that *if people don't finger particular schools then no-one will know about the particular dangers of them*. Not only that, but in using the word "target", Alicia (who has a law degree) was being deliberately provocative, since it appeared in the judgement in the Jo Sawfoot vs Norfolk Steiner school court case, which had been quoted in the LSN article. When picked up on it, Alicia backed off and claimed that she had meant 'target' in the sense that we

were not trying to attract **train-spotters** or **sky-divers** - i.e. it was not a serious point, just a bullying tactic during a mobbing.

So how does Alicia Hamberg herself react should someone unreasonably attack her? In May this year she helpfully provided a useful control example when the aforementioned Jenn, who she describes as a “bliss-ninny”, wrote her an aggressive private email. Alicia’s response was robust, thorough and provides useful information as to her opinion on the **ethics of attacking others and of censorship**: *“When people don’t enjoy what you write to them — threaten them! They think they’re allowed to do exactly what they please behind closed doors, as it were, and get away with it? That other people should just put up with it, unable to respond, prevented from protesting against it?”*

She was clear that Jenn could not expect her to keep quiet about such an out and out attack on her and at the time, we felt Alicia's response to such personal attack was entirely justified because we did not know how hypocritical it would look from here.

In contrast, finding Keith Thompson's article (who according to Alicia Hamberg **doesn't exist**) on our developing news site Amazon News Media, which is admittedly as yet fairly unformed, but nevertheless where we chose to publish our experiences about her treatment, Alicia Hamberg refused to link to it, telling her readers that it was all *“filled with lies”*. Diana Winters then neatly fudged the issue for her by misleading readers, mentioning that anyone could Google Steinermentary and find the offending article. This neatly avoided people seeing the interview describing the vicious behaviour of the Steiner critics since it wasn't on that site at all, as Diana knew perfectly well if she'd read the article herself. If she hadn't, then Alicia has dishonestly allowed Diana to mislead others in order to avoid having them read our version of the mobbing she performed.

Regarding using another website to publish this interview, Alicia has written that we are ‘boosting ourselves’ by pretending to be someone else. Really? I don't think there is any single person who has made themselves so visible in this regard on so many websites as Angel Garden.

Of course, and isn't Alicia's other complaint that it's **‘all about us’** another feature of the mobbing that is eerily similar to the Steiner school's attitude, and which we've read about numerous times as a hated Steiner tactic, on Alicia's blog and elsewhere? It is also a classic, if not *the* classic, mobbing technique.

Alicia has even tried to use the fact that we have more than one web-site as evidence that there is something wrong with us. Based on what? The fact that she has one blog? It's our way of filing the information we gather. It may not be the way others want to organise their work, but that is all that can reasonably be said about it. We did not ask Alicia Hamberg's permission to go to a Steiner School and we do not need her permission to decide how to respond to its abusive behaviour, or hers.

Angel's image is all over our work, making it extremely public, and that is what makes it different from others. Finding Amazon News Media, and then using the fact that we had published our point of view there, Alicia deliberately censored us, which she doesn't even do to Sune Nordwall, who presents himself anonymously all over the place, including publishing entirely fake interviews with her. Perhaps that's why she overreacted to the suggestion that her mobbing behaviour might find its way into video with her part in it being reconstructed, which led to cries of that being “unethical”.

In regard to Sune Nordwall, Alicia has more than once been clear that communicating in private, and hiding behind the internet was unethical, and that people deserve a right to respond. Here's what she said about Sune Nordwall's actions on Mumsnet:

"I don't think I (and my mental health) should be the topic in a thread on Mumsnet, when I am not allowed to post there. He knows I can't respond to anything written on Mumsnet, he had me banned from there (twice)"

Really? These freedoms are selectively awarded and certainly not extended to us. Incidentally, based on this comment, it'll be interesting to see if this letter gets discussed online in places unknown to us or where we've been banned, again this is what happened at the school.

In our case Alicia Hamberg has given neither us, nor "Thetis Mercurio" the chance to respond since she deleted both the comment we made about "Thetis", and Alicia's own comments about it, and instantly banned us. It's pretty obvious that "Thetis Mercurio" doesn't really want the opportunity to respond, preferring that others should remain as ignorant of her part in things, and of who she really is. And Alicia, being a good friend, has obliged by wiping any record of anything to do with it, or that it concerned "Thetis Mercurio" at all. Very cloak and dagger.

It probably wasn't the wisest thing to do, to post an anonymous comment, but hell, these are the people who had slammed us both for encouraging people to stand up, and for actively helping other people to remain anonymous at their own request! And the person we made the comment about was also anonymous, which is fine for them, apparently. Others, of course, have Avatars and virtuous anonymity, whereas if we ourselves use pseudonyms, they're *"fake identities"*.

Jenn had written to Alicia in private, and speculated that Alicia Hamberg *"might fit in with a group of really maladjusted people (that being the Waldorf critics)"*.

Alicia Hamberg responded...

"Well, were it true, it still seems much preferable to the Waldorf paradise you're depicting. Because at least our world is somewhat closer to real. At least we don't feed ourselves on illusion."

Yet Alicia and Diana have seen fit to tell us that as we have used properly signed off (i.e. broadcast-legal) and clearly labelled 'reconstruction' of parents testimony in a video, that this means that we should *"call it fiction"*, which then quickly morphed into meaning that since we hadn't pixelated or blurred the images of those actual parents, but instead hired actors to speak their words, at their own request, thereby perfectly protecting their identities, that we made it all up. Alicia Hamberg and Diana did not stop short of declaring that we were *"interviewing actors"*.

How is this not feeding on illusion? Even the BBC, even on the *radio* (no fuzzy pictures possible there), will use reconstruction (i.e., actors) to hide someone's identity. I guess that makes them *"demented fuckwits"* too, as Alicia Hamberg has called us on her site where others were allowed to make comment about us after we were banned as Falk did, waiting until then before joining in which does show remarkable courage!

All this faff about reconstructed video footage, so aggressively put to us, was coming from

people who admitted themselves that their expertise is in the written word and nothing else, as Alicia says: *"I don't get what the medium is about. I don't experience the benefits, because I don't see the point."*

Yet although Diana and Alicia admit that the old methods may not cut it any more, as Diana said, *"I know we're dinosaurs over on critics, talking mainly to each other because it's unlikely many Waldorf parents are actually reading that list"*, our efforts to work through the difficulties involved in developing a methodology for making video material about **a cult**, which is an extremely complicated, sensitive and now obviously dangerous business, have been completely dismissed.

It is impossible to view the icy behaviour of Alicia Hamberg and Diana Winters towards us, our work, our ethics, our evidence our motivation, our honesty, our experience, as being prompted by any real concerns about any of it. This cannot be seen as any kind of an attempt to engage with us. The point of a mobbing is always simply to mob. It's not hard to imagine that mobbing situations generally do tend to have hidden murky circumstances in the background and that is certainly the case here.

Another classic mobbing technique is to pretend that the victim has 'blotted their copy book', and therefore must lose the previous goodwill that the aggressor claims to have had. Alicia Hamberg's assertion that she had been positive about our Steinermentary site, in late November 2010 when she discovered it is not especially true. She thought we were apologists for Steiner, as others did also, and that we were off the mark, even then. No attempt was made to find out, no clicks on the 'contact us' button, even when "Thetis Mercurio" informed people that it was us - the site wasn't launched at this point, that happened on the 27th of February with our poster campaign - Rudolf Steiner's 150th birthday present from us.

Following that, we have found a post from around the launch date of the Steinermentary site. Alicia and Diana bemoaned the unreadiness of either Steiner criticism, or Alicia Hamberg, to engage with new media, including an acknowledgement that although reconstructions of actual interviews are not the first choice, that we have been transparent, both from Diana; *"there's nothing really wrong with it, since they're clear and upfront that it's staged, so it's not like it's deceptive"* or from Alicia *"I can't really object to it, since there's no deception going on"*.

Yet they had no problem in attacking our methods as if they were highly knowledgeable and of accusing us of dishonesty.

Alicia Hamberg's previous opinions can really only look vaguely positive against her recent assassination attempts including her current updates which she warned would be sloppy due to not giving a shit e.g.:

"Update on September 22, 2011. I would very much like to warn people to get involved with the pair behind the Steinermentary project. I don't have the time to write more about it right now (see discussion threads), but I wish that nobody takes the post below as a sign of support for them or as a recommendation for people to get involved with them."

In writing this open letter to the critics we know that we are again opening ourselves to potential further abuse, but if we don't do it, then we cannot either defend ourselves or warn others. This is the position that Alicia Hamberg, Diana Winters and "Thetis Mercurio" have put us in. Again, it's all so familiar in the Steiner treatment, where people feel they

'have no choice' but to remain silent.

Of course, to justify such brutish behaviour, it had to look as if it is us that aren't up for discussion, and of course this is said many times in the mobbing. But go back to **the original article on LSN** where Alicia Hamberg first picked Angel up on her comments about us creating a platform for video, and you'll clearly see Angel apologise, and acknowledge that she had not come over correctly. Or **go here** and see how we felt constantly tripped up every time we tried to communicate. During the actual mobbing, of course, things looked different, but who can remain polite or even talk properly at all whilst others are trying to knock your teeth out?

The simple fact of the matter is that there *is* no "correct" way to respond to the experience of being hounded or mobbed by a group of people because you bring up things that they want hidden, whether that happens at a Steiner school, at the hands of an anonymous person, or on Alicia Hamberg's blog!

There is no law that says, 'when this happens, go to the fifth counter on the left', or something like that. We just do what we do and it makes sense to us and we'll explain it to anyone who asks politely.

The actual point of contention, which was the basis for the mobbing, that if people don't identify schools, then others will not know, is a clear and simple truth which all the mobbing in the world will never be able disguise and which neither Diana Winters nor Alicia Hamberg or anybody else, can or will ever be able to refute. And in fact, they did agree with it many times.

Then they ridiculed everything we were doing, and then Alicia Hamberg banned us.

The extremely aggressive behaviour of the Steiner critics have alerted us to two main tendencies:

1. the tendency for self-protective secrecy, combined with fawning insincerity and a lack of will to be open, honest or fair, as displayed by "Thetis Mercurio", whose syrup masks something altogether different with potential dangers, especially for those she is most enthusiastic about;
2. the tendency for aggression, actual public mobbing, and censorship, as displayed by Alicia Hamberg, Diana Winters, Esther Fiddler, Pete Karaiskos and "Falk". Meeting places, like Alicia Hamberg's blog could represent a danger to unsuspecting whistleblowers, who could be re-traumatised should someone suddenly decide to chew their heads off in an inspired moment of 'critical thinking'.

Do critics generally condone the behaviours described here of these critics, and do these critics, in their actions and inactions, and in their passive and active aggression towards us, act as Gatekeepers for Steiner criticism?

They now have the dubious honour of being the inspiration for a new addition to the Steinermentary project, The Luciferocity Meter, as a measurement of the manifestation of blind fury dressed up as something else, which seems so prevalent *throughout* the Steiner world, where awful acts are not only tolerated but justified by various dogmas, anti-democratic acts which are in reality motivated simply by self-protection, xenophobia, and

blind ambition, the desire to create a circle of covered wagons and simply shoot anyone who looks a bit different.

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9 NOV
2012

Angel Garden and Steve Paris

Writing about contentious issues and having a blog that is read widely will mean that I attract attention from quarters that can be annoying at times.

Steve and Angel are in dispute with a Steiner School in New Zealand. They claim their children were expelled because they were being bullied. I understand the school says it was because of the parents' behaviour.

They appear to be very angry with anyone on the web who is critical of Steiner Schools who do not make their story the centre of the discussion. They write blogs, make videos and tweet to followers of critics - continuously - about the injustice they are supposedly suffering from a gang of Steiner critics trying to silence them (for what reason, it is never made clear.)

I believe I have only contacted them twice, both times by email last February. The first time was to politely explain to them why a comment they had left on my blog had been held up in moderation (too many links, I had no internet access). In the few hours between them posting and me seeing the comment, they had been tweeting and blogging their anger at me for denying them a voice. The second time was to explain that they did not have an automatic right to use my blog as a platform for their own grievances and to attack others.

I am not the only person to [have told them this](#).

Since, February, I have ignored and filtered out their constant harassment by blog, tweet and video, both of myself and of others. I am told that they tweet at anyone who is mentioned in my tweets or tries to communicate with me by twitter. Their aim appears to be to discredit me by promulgating a partial account of events. They tweet under the names [@amazonnewsmedia](#), [@Steinermentary](#) and [@sjparis](#) (amongst others). This has been going on for months.

Yesterday, I received this threatening email. I thought it time to make this harassment public and to break my rule of not communicating with them. My response to them follows.

Dear Andy



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Obok

Following your recent actions in defaming, and blocking anybody who mentions, people who are providing the "hard evidence" of problems in Steiner that you are simultaneously announcing internationally to others is very "hard to get", we are now putting you on notice that this mendacity must stop.

We would like to offer you the opportunity to dialogue with us [sic] about the smear campaign that has been mounted against us by you and other skeptics, before we move on to legal action. So please respond swiftly if you would prefer to talk to us than to a lawyer.

What you are doing is beyond unethical, and you will not get away with it.

[redacted name] and [redacted name] have dropped all their "friends" in it by not being prepared to take responsibility for the failure of personal initiatives they themselves introduced to people who were in a very difficult situation. This is not a "very terrible lie". It is a fact which we can easily evidence. But such personal "stuff" is part of life. That was their mistake. Mistakes can always be forgiven, yes probably even people being really vicious to you while your mother is actually dying, depending on how sincere the wish to make amends is, obviously, because that is pretty low.

But allowing their own failure to then seep into the public sphere to try and destroy whistleblowers, including the evidence we have collected of a broad and active smear campaign in which you are playing a major part, takes the whole thing onto a different level of clear and well-evidenced public, personal and professional victimisation by a large gang, and provably fomented by you. On this level legal remedies are available.

Your actions, which have certainly negatively effected the campaign to stop state-funding of Steiner in the UK, are clearly and overtly designed to trash the work of people who actually have taken the trouble to hold a Steiner school to account. These actions define you as a quack in this matter. Ignoring hard-won evidence (that actually supports your own sorry arse in quacking about Steiner) undermines your credibility as someone speaking publicly about the subject and is just not a rational thing to do for any skeptic. When the 'leader' of any campaign has to privately smear whistleblowers to hide live evidence, that campaign has clearly failed.

It's time for you to put up or shut up. Either publicly state that our Human Rights initiative is not real, (yes you could write some more defamatory

material in a blog post for example, as you usually do), and that's why you must pretend parents are not speaking out, or provide evidence of the "terrible lies" that you allege we have been spreading about [redacted names].

It's transparent. If you had anything on us at all, you would have publicly denounced us already. Obviously we're so good at making it "look like" we're being attacked, that, if it was more public, people might actually believe us. It is time to stop pretending that our work doesn't exist, while secretly smearing us with abusive and false statements. This is hiding the abuse in full sight just like other current situations.

You've never been near one of these schools. What gives you the right to pontificate about stuff while silencing those that have done the work?

Answer - nothing, you do not have that right, and if you do not immediately begin to behave more reasonably, we will do whatever we have to to safeguard our reputation from your vicious secret distortions, and our advocacy work for children likewise.

You're a parent. Get real and stop thinking that we, whose children are still affected by the actions of that school, are going to let you ponce about like this without making sure people see what a load of hypocritical baloney it is.

We will make sure that others ask you the questions that will force you to state your position on whether our whole initiative with Human Rights is an elaborate lie, which will just be further defamation because it isn't, or account for why you have colluded in this campaign of covert victimisation against whistle blowers whilst overtly pretending to address Steiner issues.

It's up to you of course. You know what you've said about us. So now please produce the evidence for those statements, publicly retract the lot, or prepare to talk to your lawyer.

We are quite willing to discuss these issues with you, on the basis that you may have been subject to subterfuge yourself, but that in no way absolves you from promoting that subterfuge without verifying every allegation before passing judgement - ie some sort of skepticism.

Having said that, we will publish and otherwise disseminate this letter in 24 hours if we do not hear from you as frankly we will not know if you've

received it, due to your previous dishonesty in refusing to speak to us, again on the basis of defamatory hearsay. Therefore we will publish it as widely as necessary to make sure it gets to you.

Angel Garden and Steve Paris

My response,

Dear Angel and Steve,

*Some months ago I told you I would not communicate with you anymore as I had made myself perfectly clear to you about why your comment on my blog had been held up for a few hours and why I was unhappy about you using my blog for your own purposes, including the harassment of other individuals. As such, I will not be taking up your offer to talk. However, should your lawyers choose to contact me regarding this, please be kind enough to inform them that I have prepared myself to talk to them and my response will be to refer them to the reply given in *Arkell v. Pressdram* (1971).*

Regards

Andy

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