From: steve chard

To: medboardconsultation
Subject: paragraph 2.1

Date: Wednesday, 1 August 2018 8:57:39 AM

I oppose changes to paragraph 12.2.

I fear proposed changes would be an undemocratic stifling of free speech.

Doctors have every right to express private opinions.

Every citizen, regardless of profession has the right to free speech, with the only possible inhibitor being a containment of hate speech.

One questionable phrase is 'generally accepted views.' Who adjudicates what is acceptable and what is unacceptable.

I would question the motives of the person or group who is advocating the changes. As a retired school principal, I have never experienced any quashing of my publicly expressed views from Educational authorities. Thus I do not believe any profession should be banned or punished for expressing personal viewpoints.

This is all very sinister.

I also strongly believe that good medical practice should ALWAYS take preference over cultural beliefs.

Stephen (and Jill) Chard.