

This response was submitted to the consultation held by the Nuffield Council on Bioethics on *Public Health: ethical issues* between May and September 2006. The views expressed are solely those of the respondent(s) and not those of the Council.

Mrs Kate Boulton

**QUESTIONS ANSWERED:**

**Question 9 Ethical issues**

**ANSWER:**

We are amazed that anyone who claims to have an interest in ethics is prepared to advocate enforced mass medication via our water supplies. The York Review did not recommend it or make claims for its safety. The Report says that there is no certainty that it is of benefit to teeth, but recent peer reviewed research has shown a definite link with bone cancer. Fluoride compounds are now so widespread in the environment that they are found in the tissues of all living creatures. As they are bio-accumulative, many experts think they are a greater threat to life than global warming. What is your understanding of ethics? Derek and Kate Boulton