



Call for Stories

Little Teeth, Big Problems: Stories from Parents

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Narrative Inquiry in Bioethics will publish a **collection of personal stories from parents, detailing their children's access to dental care.** Oral illness can have a negative impact on children's overall health, self-perception, school performance, and social integration. Unfortunately, many families lack access to routine dental care for children and adolescents depending on health policies, income, and the disinterest of some dentists to provide dentistry to children covered by federal or state health insurance programs.

We seek stories from parents or legal caregivers about the ways oral illnesses and barriers to dental care have affected their children. We want true, personal stories in a form that is interesting and easy to read. Please share this invitation and guide sheet with appropriate individuals.

In writing your story, please consider these questions:

- How have your dental care providers reacted to the oral health problem of your children? What was good? What was bad?
- What obstacles or challenges have you faced regarding your children's oral health? Were there adequate resources for your family?
- What would you like to tell health care providers, and in particular dentists, about dental care for children?
- What should people who develop policies and laws understand about dental care?
- What can be done to better serve parents and their children as they interact with dental providers?

You do not need to address each of these questions—write on the issues that you think are most important to share with others about your children's experience. If you are not a writer, tell your story in your own words, and our editorial staff will help you.

If you are interested in submitting a story, we ask you first to submit a 300-word proposal— a short description of the story you want to tell. Inquiries or proposals should be sent to the editorial office via email: narrativebioethics@gmail.com. We will give preference to story proposals received by **Feb 28, 2019**. We plan to publish 12 stories (4 – 10 double-spaced pages or 800 – 2000 words) on this topic. Some additional stories may be published as online-only supplemental material. We also publish 2 – 4 commentary articles that discuss the stories that are published in the journal. To see a finished symposium, you may access Narrative Inquiry in Bioethics [6.1 for free on Project MUSE](#).

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