

Plastic surgery



A study by Psychology Today magazine shows that many people are not satisfied with their looks: 60,000,000 do not like their noses; 30,000,000 do not like their chins; 6,000,000 do not like their ears and another 6,000,000 do not like their eyes. Unfortunately, with the help of cosmetic surgery, society tries to meet the perfect body image. But is it the universal remedy? Certainly not. To begin with, however small the operation might be, there is always a chance something goes wrong. The numbers are very alarming: in 20% of surgical operations, the patient has to recover from the damage experienced.

Although serious risks such as blindness and heavy lung problems are rather rare, less serious ones should not be neglected: chronic pain, allergic reaction, delayed or prolonged healing, ... In any case, cosmetic surgery is far from pain free. And what is more, a rather large number of surgeries have already failed. That is to say: the 'miracle worker' caused many people to die because of operations that were far from needed. Take the 36-year old housewife, Lorraine Batt, for instance. As a result of a surgery which was attempt to remove a scar caused by a caesarean section, she came to an untimely death.

Such tragic events are a strong warning that our society has to be less appearance-focused. In addition, effects of surgery will not last. The cosmetic surgery may make you younger for a few years, but life goes on and the wrinkles come back. It is as unnatural to try to possess eternal youth, as it is to oppose the ageing process. Moreover, silicone implants have to be replaced within fifteen years. Yet the fact that this implies a new surgery is

often forgotten. A common ground to go through this procedure is to make oneself more confident, comfortable and stronger than others.

There are, however, costs to such modifications. The notion that millions of pounds are spent on cosmetic surgery, while millions of people in developing countries need that money, is objectionable. Is it impossible in our modern world to realize this 'technical innovation' is in fact another example of our western selfishness and self-love? Furthermore, is it right to change the body you are given and transform it into 'something' you are not? Every single person is unique and that is what makes life so special. The outside appearance is the representation of the inner-self.

Therefore, drastically redesigning your looks causes strange effects, which was, for example, the case with Michael Jackson. If your personality is lacking, your appearance will suffer too. Consequently, cosmetic surgery does not make you a different person. As wonderful as this piece of modern medical technology may sound, cosmetic surgery is not all that advantageous and in most of all cases, it is not needed. There is no point in transforming a healthy body. That is why the idea of the perfect body image has to be forgotten, and it has to be recognized that everyone is a special human being.

nd May 2008 julielai: I suggest taking out the fourth paragraph all together. But make sure your essay is long enough for your assignment. Perhaps elaborating a bit more on the deaths? Cosmetic surgery: a miracle worker? A study by Psychology Today magazine shows that many people are not satisfied with their looks: 60, 000, 000 do not like their noses; 30, 000, 000 do not like their chins; 6, 000, 000 do not like their ears and another 6, 000, 000 do not like their eyes. Unfortunately, with the help of cosmetic

surgery, society tries (people, not society? to meet the perfect body image. But is it the universal remedy? Certainly not. To begin with, however small the operation might be, there is always a chance something goes wrong. The numbers are very alarming: in 20% of surgical operations, the patient has to recover from the damage experienced. (This kind of contradicts the the deaths you mention later): Typical side effects include chronic pain, allergic reaction, delayed or prolonged healing, not to mention the pain the patient will feel after the operation.

But the real risk lies in the possibility that the surgery may fail. That is to say: the 'miracle worker' caused many people to die because of operations that were far from needed. Take the 36-year old housewife, Lorraine Batt, for instance. As a result of a surgery to remove a scar caused by a caesarean section, she came to an untimely death. Such tragic events are a strong warning that our society has to be less appearance-focused. In addition, effects of surgery will not last.

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