

Transcript	Commentary on the transcript
<p><u>Intro</u> You're with Steve Austin on ABC radio Brisbane.</p>	
<p><u>Steve Austin</u> Wednesday the 16<sup>th</sup> of May. Lovely to have you along. You remember I brought you the story yesterday of a lady in Brisbane who is doing a one-person protest outside the Australian Veterinarian's Conference?</p>	
<p><u>Maria Kuljanik</u> So, we need to get this. We need to get our animals eating fresh food, that's raw meaty bones.</p>	
<p><u>Steve Austin</u> Maria is her name. She's there again today and she made a number of interesting observations in the interview with me yesterday and as we had such a reaction to that story and as I promised you, we're pursuing that in just a few moments when I will speak with a vet who is very concerned about commercially produced pet food available here and around the world.</p> <p>His name is Dr Tom Lonsdale. We will be hearing from him soon. I will also be hearing from the Australia Veterinarian's Association. They're calling for the health standard or regulation of pet food health to be made mandatory.</p> <p>I was surprised to learn that currently it's a voluntary code, at the moment, for pet food health manufactured by these big global conglomerates. The AVA, the representative body of veterinarians of Australia is calling for that food standard to be made mandatory. So, you'll be hearing from the AVA in a very short period of time as well.</p> <p>Lovely to have you along, 1300 222 612 is the phone number. You can give me a call, on the issue of pet food and health of your pet or send a text 0467 922 612 anytime. It's 22 at Brisbane, Bayside 21, Logan 22, Ipswich 23, the Gold Coast 20 and the Sunshine Coast 22 degrees.</p>	<p>AVA represents the establishment vets in alliance with the junk pet-food industry.</p> <p>Many years ago Breck Muir and Tom Lonsdale opposed the AVA collusion with the mass pet poisoners <a href="#">in annual AVA elections</a>.</p> <p>The AVA expelled Tom Lonsdale. Mr Paul Lynch MP described their actions: <a href="#">'This is the action of a kangaroo court. It is a disgrace.'</a></p>

<p>So, consider the uproar if dental schools received funding from soft drink corporations, in order to push the consumption of sugary drinks. What would happen to medical institutions or the medical schools if they educated their students on the issue of obesity using textbooks sponsored by fast food companies? These ideas may seem like an outrageous conflict of interest.</p> <p>Yet my next guest has been arguing for decades that our veterinary institutions are essentially doing just that. Now let me replay you a brief excerpt from the interview I brought you yesterday with Maria Kuljanik. Her cat sadly died, this is just a brief reminder of some of her story yesterday.</p>	
<p><u>Maria Kuljanik</u> My cat got fat eating pet food. So, I was buying pet food from Coles and Woolies. Just the standard Snappy Tom and Whiskas and unbeknown to me I didn't know the contents of that food.</p>	
<p><u>Steve Austin</u> You took your cat to the vet?</p>	
<p><u>Maria Kuljanik</u> Yeah, so I took my cat to the vet with obesity and the vet said you need to go, you need to put your cat on Royal Canin weight loss management sachets. So, I did that, and the cat actually got fatter.</p>	
<p><u>Steve Austin</u> This continued and sadly your cat died.</p>	
<p><u>Maria Kuljanik</u> Eventually, it ended up with \$15,000 out of pocket expense and a fat diabetic cat, no teeth with a feeding tube in it and eventually it died.</p>	<p>See the junk pet food/vet debacle here: <a href="http://www.rawmeatybones.com/junkpetfoodoutrage.php">http://www.rawmeatybones.com/junkpetfoodoutrage.php</a></p>
<p><u>Steve Austin</u> That's just a brief reminder of yesterday's story. Now we've put in calls to Royal Canin. I must say,</p>	

they were extremely difficult to get hold of. I've never seen anything were we had to go through the organisation, Vision Australia, the sight representative body of visually impaired people who also are the umbrella responsibilities for Guide Dogs Australia. Who apparently have some sort of relationship with the pet food company. Eventually we got onto the pet food company. We've requested an interview from them.

Now many pet foods are being sold at veterinary practices across Australia as prescription pet foods. But my guest Dr Tom Lonsdale argues that not only are these foods not beneficial to your pet, but they may be actively harming them. Now Dr Tom Lonsdale is a member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and is the principal vet at the Bligh Park Pet Health Centre in New South Wales.

Dr Tom Lonsdale, Good afternoon to you.

Mars Inc, the world's biggest junk pet-food maker and thus the world's worst pet poisoner seldom agrees to interviews.

No, the vet co-conspirators and organisations such as Guide Dogs for the Blind and RSPCA provide innocence by association for the mass pet poisoners.

Dr Tom Lonsdale  
Hi Steve.

Steve Austin  
And I believe for many years, nearly over three decades you were here in Brisbane. Is that right?

Dr Tom Lonsdale  
That's right, Jupiter's, well actually Jupiter's Casino, wherever that is up there, and yeah, we brought an AGM motion before the Australian Veterinary Association saying the whole thing was an absolute disgrace and something should be done about it.

Steve Austin  
Alright, let me just go back, I want to go through this step by step. Is there an obesity crisis in Australian pets today?

Dr Tom Lonsdale  
Oh, absolutely, yes. There is a health crisis right across the board because they're all fed junk food

<p>and so therefore they can't be well. Impossible.</p>	
<p><u>Steve Austin</u> Is there any credible evidence or independent research that links the issue of their obesity to commercially produced pet food?</p>	
<p><u>Dr Tom Lonsdale</u> Credible evidence, credible research?</p>	
<p><u>Steve Austin</u> Independent research that the obesity crisis is linked to commercially produced pet food.</p>	
<p><u>Dr Tom Lonsdale</u> Well, look they're fed commercial food and therefore there's a ready assumption that, that's where it comes from. So, we can make that assumption straight out. It comes from the food. You don't need double-blind crossover studies to confirm that.</p>	<p>See Dr Richard Malik's excellent article: <a href="#">The convenience food industry making our pets fat</a></p>
<p><u>Steve Austin</u> The pet food company Royal Canin, earlier this year, released a media release looking at the potential reasons behind what they say is a pet obesity crisis and they point to the owners of the pets. That the owners hold the key to healthy weight by ignoring, begging and monitoring food quantity and I'm quoting from this pet food company's actual press release. 'Is there the possibility that pet owners themselves are responding to begging from animals and are creating the obesity problem in their own pets?'</p>	
<p><u>Dr Tom Lonsdale</u> They're holding the victims responsible for their own victimisation is not appropriate. Absolutely not. The pet owner has no option other than to take in what's conveyed to them in their living room through the TV tube and what they see in the vet surgery.</p>	<p>150 years of cultural conditioning commencing with <a href="#">Jack Spratt</a> and <a href="#">Charles Cruft's confidence trickery</a>.</p>

<p><u>Steve Austin</u> Well hang on Tom, they do. They can make their own choices. Human beings are creatures with their own brain. They make rational choices, hopefully, and if their pets getting heavier they can say 'well you don't need much food because you're getting too big'.</p>	
<p><u>Dr Tom Lonsdale</u> Well, Oh Steve, it doesn't just come down to that. I mean this isn't just an obesity issue. There is a whole host of other things wrong with the junk food that the poor animals are being caused to consume.</p> <p>So, shifting the discussion over onto — well look it's the owner's fault — when the owner is given no other option, then to walk down the so-called pet-food aisle and there's no option but the canned junk that's doing the harm. Then they really don't have a ready supply of information — and don't forget of course we blew the whistle back in 1991 and effectively have been silenced ever since.</p>	<p>What 'rational' choices can pet owners make as they wander down the supermarket pet food aisle, visit the vet or watch the TV commercials?</p> <p>The pressure to conform is a vital part of human psychology, expertly manipulated by the multi-national pet food giants.</p>
<p><u>Steve Austin</u> Now what did you blow the whistle on back in 1991 Dr Tom Lonsdale?</p>	
<p><u>Dr Tom Lonsdale</u> Ok, the profession being in bed with the junk pet-food industry. There was at that time a massive epidemic, and still is, of rotten mouths in all these animals. The stinking dog breath that we're all so familiar with is all to do with these animals being deprived of their opportunity, their birthright, to rip and tear and chew at their natural food.</p> <p>Instead, they're required to consume this starch-laden junk out of a can and packet — and let me say that in the natural state . . . the wolves and desert predators, the cats, have <i>no</i> starch in their food, like zero, none.</p> <p>So, what happens with starch in the carnivore's digestive tract? It gets converted into glucose, right that's what the body does. It absorbs the starch, turns it into glucose. The body says 'Oh, woops, I'm overwhelmed with glucose, I don't need any of this'.</p>	<p>See December <a href="#">1991 whistleblowing by Drs Muir and Lonsdale.</a></p> <p>See academic article: <a href="#">The carnivore connection to nutrition in cats</a></p>

<p>So, we then find that the cells turn that into fat and lay it down in fat deposits throughout the body. Simultaneously, putting a huge drain on the pancreas which is having to deal with this flood of glucose through the body and therefore again explaining why you've got an epidemic of diabetes in cats.</p> <p>So, all of these things are linked back to putting effectively poisonous junk through our domestic carnivores. Completely unlike what they would be fed if they were in the zoo.</p>	
<p><u>Steve Austin</u> So, you are part of the movement that is, that says, that pets need to have more natural, more natural meat and bones for their own dietary health, essentially?</p>	
<p><u>Dr Tom Lonsdale</u> Well that's right, but if you like that's half the story because we've labelled this stuff food.</p> <p>You know a deer racing through the woods pursued by a pack of wolves doesn't have food written on it anywhere. Neither does it have medicine written on it. But, in truth that's why the wolf is chasing that deer, because they need the food and medicine on a pretty regular basis.</p> <p>What do I mean by the medicine? Well the ripping and tearing and chewing because of the tough chewy texture then, straight away cleans the teeth. Vitally important — and massages the gums. Simultaneously, it stimulates the brain chemicals which then in turn stimulate the immune system. Simultaneously, and I'm talking the medicinal aspect of eating the proper food.</p>	<p>See: <a href="#">Raw meaty bones essentials University of Sydney, Centre for Veterinary Education, Control &amp; Therapy Series - Number 5682, Issue 291 June 2018</a></p>
<p><u>Steve Austin</u> My guest Dr Tom Lonsdale, a member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. This is ABC Radio Brisbane. Sorry, I cut you off Tom Lonsdale.</p>	
<p><u>Dr Tom Lonsdale</u> You're alright, that's fine. Look, this is a huge subject and we're really got to go right back to basics and understand that because we tend to label things in the hope of understanding them better. Actually, sometimes we wrong foot ourselves. We confound ourselves with our oversimplification.</p>	

The proper food and medicine for your carnivore, ideally should come fur wrapped, feather wrapped, or with fins. Fur, feathers and fins should characterise the natural food of our carnivores. Whether they be wild, or in the zoo, or modified and domesticated. They all have the same needs.

Steve Austin

Well that's going to be difficult in a very urbanised place like Australia or Brisbane. So, let me just move on and get some answers from a couple of points.

The Australian Veterinarian Association is calling for the mandatory regulation of pet food health standards. At the moment apparently, I was surprised to hear this, but it's a voluntary code. So the commercial producers of pet food, which are owned by the two big food conglomerates of the world — Mars Incorporated is one and Colgate Palmolive is one of the other major ones. I think there is a third one but let's just stick with these two majors. At the moment, the commercially supplied or for sale pet food in Australia is a voluntary code. The AVA, the Veterinarian Representative Association, is calling for mandatory regulation of pet food health standards. Would that be a good move?

The AVA is in damage control mode and seeking involvement in the framing of new legislation.

As per [Minister Littleproud's statement communicated to the Australian Senate](#), the Pet Food Industry Association of Australia and the AVA are accorded 'stakeholder' status in forthcoming investigations.

Dr Tom Lonsdale

No.

Steve Austin

Why not?

Dr Tom Lonsdale

Because this junk shouldn't be sold at all, period.

This idea that you just shift the goal post and talk about something else and therefore say right we've wrapped our arms around this and we're now taking care of this. So all of you folks, you mushrooms, go back to sleep. No, no, no, this is completely inappropriate.

Steve, you did say of course that my gold star standard fur, feathers and fins would be hard to replicate in the urban environment, but actually something not far removed from that can be done

<p>really very simple indeed.</p> <p>Whole chicken frames, after the meat has been cut off for human consumption, kangaroo tails, lamb shanks, that sort of thing. Whole fish, fish trimmings, so on. The animals don't need to suffer. They can get the necessary teeth cleaning and the right nutrients completely <i>without</i> the starch and the carbohydrates.</p>	<p><a href="#">Diet Guide</a></p>
<p><u>Steve Austin</u> So simply like pet owners essentially going to a butcher to buy off cuts from a butcher essentially, in most cases.</p>	
<p><u>Dr Tom Lonsdale</u> Yeah, absolutely, yeah. Go to my website and all the information's there — easy-peasy — and all my clients do this and of course they don't come back with sick animals so that's a bit of a problem from a commercial point of view. But never mind, we're gratified to know that our patients are healthy.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.rawmeatybones.com">www.rawmeatybones.com</a></p>
<p><u>Steve Austin</u> Alright, now you've been a big critic of the relationship in commercial business and veterinary schools in Australia, so let me ask you a couple of questions. I just want to make sure we don't unfairly name anyone or defame anyone here. But is it true that major pet-food suppliers are also the providers of special dietary pet foods that are described as the solution to the dietary problems in pets by vets in Australia? In other words, they supply the commercial food, then they supply the pharmaceutical or medicinal food — for want of a better term.</p>	<p><a href="#">Sydney University on the take, brainwashing vets with junk pet-food propaganda</a></p>
<p><u>Dr Tom Lonsdale</u> Yeah, yeah, yeah. It's a fraud, upon a fraud, upon a fraud. Yes. This should not happen in the first instance. I mean look, we now have warning labels on the sides of cigarette packets. This junk on supermarket shelves requires the same. Feed this to your pet, and it's going to have a shortened life and be effectively tortured everyday of its miserable existence.</p>	<p><a href="#">Conspiracy to defraud pet owners: USA vet clinics, Mars Inc, Nestlé and Colgate in court</a></p>
<p><u>Steve Austin</u></p>	



<p>Is it true that many pet owners are being told by vets to purchase certain brands or types of pet foods?</p>	
<p><u>Dr Tom Lonsdale</u>  Yes, absolutely. Ok, it starts out, you see what happened, originally animals weren't fed any of this stuff at all. But then the veterinary profession, sleepy veterinary profession, woke up a little bit. Said, Ok, well maybe it's acceptable to feed this stuff. Then they next moved to say, it's not only acceptable it's beneficial, and then they went to the next stage and said it's not only beneficial it's the best.</p> <p>Simultaneously, they were disparaging and denigrating the natural alternatives. So that's that background to this and then they say right we've got coast clear and we now, because we're the authority in this area can now prescribe all this stuff. So, you go to the average vet and there's an array of different medicinal, so-called medicinal food products all of which are hugely harmful.</p>	
<p><u>Steve Austin</u>  Can I get you to stay on the line? Would that be ok?</p>	
<p><u>Dr Tom Lonsdale</u>  Sure.</p>	
<p><u>Steve Austin</u>  Just stay on the line. So, I just want to speak with my next guest who we managed to get a hold of. Someone who is very, very busy and I want to speak with her and not miss the opportunity to talk with her.</p> <p>So that's Dr Tom Lonsdale. Tom Lonsdale is a member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and is a principal vet at the Bligh Park Pet Health Centre in New South Wales.</p> <p>Let's go to Dr Paula Parker. She's President of the Australian Veterinarian Association.</p> <p>Paula Parker, the AVA is calling for the mandatory regulation of pet food health standards in</p>	

<p>Australia. Why is that?</p>	
<p><u>Dr Paula Parker</u>  Good afternoon. So one of the things that we discussed as part of our policy is that all pet food in Australia. We want consumers to have confidence that pet food is of a high standard. So, at the moment, in Australia compliance with the Australian standard is voluntary and we would like to see everybody in Australia comply with that minimum standard.</p>	
<p><u>Steve Austin</u>  Why do you want to change? What's the problem?</p>	
<p><u>Dr Paula Parker</u>  I guess when we look forward into the future, at this stage we've got a lot of responsible companies who do voluntarily comply. But there's no...</p>	
<p><u>Steve Austin</u>  How do you know, if no one is monitoring it?</p>	
<p><u>Dr Paula Parker</u>  There's a system through the Pet Food Industry Association where people can certify that they're complying and there's an audit process through the Pet Food Industry Association to which they say people are complying. So, there's a burden of proof that's required through the Industry Association.</p>	
<p><u>Steve Austin</u>  So, it's self-monitoring essentially Dr Parker?</p>	
<p><u>Dr Paula Parker</u>  Yeah, there's a level of self-monitoring in the industry and that we encourage the people that do invest to do that. But there are, because there are low barriers to be able to sell food in Australia</p>	

that's marketed as pet food. There are more people who don't comply with the standard and what's important for consumers to understand is what quality food and nutrition is for their pet.

Steve Austin

My guest is Dr Paula Parker, she's President of the Australian Veterinarian Association. She's in Brisbane with thousands of other vets for the national conference is underway.

This is ABC Radio Brisbane and Steve Austin's my name.

So currently it's a voluntary code and you want it mandatory. So how would that be enforced? Would there be some sort of regulatory agency? Would the AVA be the body that says we will monitor this? Who would do that Paula Parker?

Dr Paula Parker

Yeah, there are a number of regulatory schemes in other countries and so they can vary between food being looked at as a part of food safety like human food is looked at, or as part of the agricultural sector. And in Australia several years ago, the chief veterinarians who provide advice to the agricultural minister looked at the regulation of pet food in Australia and their conclusion was that the industry is self-regulating and that the Australian standards are of a high standard and they didn't recommend regulation at that point in time based on their assessment of the industry.

But certainly, things have changed in that period of time. There are more players that have come into the market and there are low barriers for entry into the market. So, the Agricultural Minister, Minister Littleproud has requested that group of veterinarians who are the Chief Veterinary Officers across Australia, to have a look at the regulatory framework and re-examine that decision and seek consultation with industry bodies and members of the public to provide a recommendation to the Minister as to whether the regulatory environment of pet food should change in Australia.

If Mars, Nestlé and Colgate-Palmolive together with their vet co-conspirators can regulate the market, they can keep the small operators out.

Small operators likely won't have the resources to pay for increased regulation.

Small operators don't pay sponsorship hush money to the AVA. But the big junk food makers do.

Steve Austin

What is the AVA's, the Veterinarian's Association's, position on the global obesity problem with pets currently? What's the AVA's position?

<p><u>Dr Paula Parker</u>          Certainly, we're seeing as individual veterinarians and what we hear from our members is that more and more pets are suffering from obesity and one of the things that we know both from our personal experience and when we're in clinical practice, but also from evidence-based studies is that obesity contributes to so many diseases and makes so many diseases worse for our pets.</p>	<p>Three things largely contribute to the ill health of the nation's pets:          1.) Junk food ingredient linked inflammation          2.) Junk food induced gum disease/inflammation          3.) Junk food induced obesity leading to inflammation</p>
<p><u>Steve Austin</u>          Where does your research come from to reach that position? As far as I understand, most of the research is done by the pet-food manufacturers themselves.</p>	
<p><u>Dr Paula Parker</u>          Yeah, a couple of the leading pet-food manufacturers invest heavily in research and development and so one of their key things that they bring is saying we want the veterinary profession to be able to recommend things that are evidence-based, cause as professionals that's really important for us.</p>	<p>The junk pet-food makers invest heavily in product improvement and marketing research. Simultaneously they and their vet mates suppress any real research into the deleterious effects of the junk food. <a href="#">See 1993 objective research banned by Hill's and University of Pennsylvania</a></p> <p>'Evidence base', is farrago of fanciful notions – <a href="#">a debating ploy designed to confound and confuse.</a></p>
<p><u>Steve Austin</u>          Yes.</p>	
<p><u>Dr Paula Parker</u>          So, they engage in a lot of their own research and development. And then there's research and development that happens out of the commercial companies so through the university system. And then there are people who as part of their master's study or their PhD study will review all of literature that's available currently in the market, make an assessment of that literature.</p> <p>One of the things that we have with all literature that is published is authors are required to declare their interest as part of the literature that's published and so when anyone's examining a paper they can look at those authors and say, ok where might these authors have come? Have they presented objective data? And are the conclusions that they've made on the basis of that data valid?</p>	<p>Universities study only what their junk pet-food paymasters allow them to study.</p> <p>Although of course, university researchers are generally, with the exception of Dr Richard Malik, a docile bunch and happy to oblige the junk pet-food paymasters.</p> <p>Self-censorship and blinkered thinking is the rule. It's a massive propaganda smokescreen to suggest that vets bother about the objectivity of the data. Vets, mostly, members of a worldwide band</p>

	performing tricks for the global junk food makers.
<p><u>Steve Austin</u> I've learnt that, say that a couple of the really big pet-food manufactures like Hill's and Royal Canin who are both sponsors of your conference here in Brisbane at the moment I note, also have their advertisements actually in something like the Sydney University's Centre for Veterinary Education course notes. In other words, the advertising material from the pet-food companies is actually deep within the course notes of some veterinary education centres around Australia. Is that troubling to you? Does that surprise you?</p>	<p>Yes, junk food advertisements within the course notes and within the university lecture notes and in the lecture halls and at the conferences and emblazoned on the 'free' lab coats issued to students. <a href="http://www.rawmeatybones.com/foi.php">http://www.rawmeatybones.com/foi.php</a></p>
<p><u>Dr Paula Parker</u> One of the things that's really important for all veterinarians and veterinary students also is to be aware of all other products that are available on the market.</p>	<p>Agreed they should be aware of the harmful products and ways to neutralise their harmful effects. Instead it's inverted. Vets have no idea how damaging are the products and no idea how to counter the effects.</p>
<p><u>Steve Austin</u> Shouldn't they be aware of the science rather than the product?</p>	<p>That's the theory as presented to a credulous public. The reality is that objective science plays little or no part in the vet reasoning on diet and disease.</p>
<p><u>Dr Paula Parker</u> So, it's part of being aware of the science, so as part of your undergraduate education you're taught the basics in nutrients.</p> <p>So, you're taught about macro and micro nutrients, the different requirements for different species and different phases of growth depending on the age of the animal. So, for an example a puppy has a very different nutrient requirement to a dog that is 12 or 12 ½. So as part of your undergraduate teaching you do a nutrition subject where you learn about all the basics of nutrition. So, you learn nutrition physiology and what we call pathophysiology — so nutrition in diseased states where things have gone wrong.</p> <p>And then as part of your final clinical years where you're about to go into practice and you are going to recommend to people ok here is a problem, part of your job as a veterinarian is to explain what are all the possible remedies for that problem. And so it's important for new graduate veterinarians and graduated veterinarians to be aware of all the available options and so what we will do is assess</p>	<p>Yes, students are taught about the biochemistry and physiology, or leastways what humans know about these things. But students learn nothing about feeding as it occurs in the wild.</p> <p>There is zero recognition that food for carnivores has both <a href="#">nutritional and therapeutic importance</a>.</p> <p>Students are taught to be indifferent to the macabre and sinister</p>

<p>all of those available options.</p> <p>And the reason why we have a relationship with the pet-food companies is that they do provide therapeutic options to the veterinary market. And so our members want to be able to understand the research that the pet food companies bring, to be able to ask them questions on the basis of their research and hear their answers so that they can make an assessment what is the best thing for their client and their pet and their situation. And that recommendation will depend on the individual situation of the client and what they're able to accommodate and the diseased state of their pet.</p>	<p>activities of the junk pet food makers as described in this 2007 <a href="#">New York Times article</a>.</p>
<p><u>Steve Austin</u></p> <p>So, the company supplies the pet food, supplies the research, has their advertising buried in the university course notes that teaches the veterinarians and supplies and manufactures the pharmaceutical food products when the pets get sick as well.</p>	<p>Yes, all of those things and more besides.</p>
<p><u>Dr Paula Parker</u></p> <p>They supply material, they make the students aware of their products and they have big research and development arms of their organisations and that's something we encourage.</p> <p>We want all companies within our sector to be innovative and to base that innovation on research. But there's research that happens within the companies and then there's research that happens in other areas. So, research in universities for example and then as part of people who are undergoing further degree qualifications. Part of their further qualifications are to look at all of the available research and assess that research and then they publish what are essentially summary papers that state what is the status of all research, what are the strengths and weakest of these various papers so that people understand the basis of evidence that's out there.</p>	<p>See again, what for junk pet food companies is nutritional 'research'. <a href="#">It's about tricking carnivore digestive tracts into accepting pulverised junk</a>, just long enough that they don't need to crap on the carpet in the night.</p> <p>Although, of course, that's not the only research that the junk food companies conduct. They do market research and psychological and all other sorts of research to maintain their grip on the veterinary mind.</p> <p>Mars, the world's largest junk pet-food maker now owns veterinary clinics, specialist vet hospitals and vet pathology labs. <a href="#">They boast that they employ 50,000 vet professionals</a>.</p> <p>With their immense vertical integration between making and selling the junk and then treating the ailments arising from their poisonous junk and collating the epidemiological data from their vet pathology labs Mars are well placed to mine mountains of data.</p> <p>Mars can research every aspect of their evil empire with a few computer key strokes.</p>

<p><u>Steve Austin</u> I really appreciate you coming on this afternoon, I know you're very busy with your conference. Thank you very much.</p>	
<p><u>Dr Paula Parker</u> No worries, thank you.</p>	
<p><u>Steve Austin</u> Dr Paula Parker, President of the Australian Veterinarian Association there, got their major conference in Brisbane at the moment. Dr Tom Lonsdale, are you still with me?</p>	
<p><u>Dr Tom Lonsdale</u> Well I've almost fallen off my chair, but yeah, I've picked myself up.</p>	
<p><u>Steve Austin</u> Well, let me get your reaction to that. . . . Well let me get your reaction to that as someone who says it's not good enough to call for mandatory research. We've just learnt that the pet-food companies make the pet food, supply the research, have their advertising products buried in the course notes where vets learn their trade and then supply the pharmaceutical product on the other side.</p>	
<p><u>Dr Tom Lonsdale</u> Yeah, exactly, it's just a huge brainwashing scam that is completely entrenched in the system.</p>	<p>The two con artists, <a href="#">Jack Spratt</a> and <a href="#">Charles Cruft</a> started the modern <a href="#">junk pet food industry back in the 1860s</a>.</p> <p>The media, government and vets been playing along ever since.</p>
<p><u>Steve Austin</u> So, what should the AVA as the governing body or the representative body of veterinarians in Australia, what should they be examining in this?</p>	

<p><u>Dr Tom Lonsdale</u> Well, first off, they should come clean and say, 'woops we made a mistake, sorry'. That's what I had to do back in the 1880's, not 1880s, 1980s, early 90's. Woke up and thought goodness gracious what I've been taught at the vet school in 1972 was completely bogus and wrong and that I'd been injuring my patients' health.</p> <p>That's what any vet with any integrity should be doing straight off. And that way that clears the slate and then you can somewhat, a little bit, forgive them for having past mistakes. And then say, right we want to atone and we want to make amends.</p> <p>Now back to Dr Paula Parker, now she's the current President of the AVA, but the President back in 1993 tried to resist what we were saying to the Association at Jupiter's Casino up there. But nevertheless, we got an AGM motion up before the assembled members, that said 'yeah, ok, we will look into the effects of diet and disease'. Right, so we're going to connect diet with disease and look at that...</p>	
<p><u>Steve Austin</u> Yep.</p>	
<p><u>Dr Tom Lonsdale</u> ... and have a research paper done. Well backroom wheeling and dealing followed on from that and then they reduced it down to diet and periodontal disease. In other words, mouth rot.</p>	
<p><u>Steve Austin</u> Yes.</p>	
<p><u>Dr Tom Lonsdale</u> Septic mouth that all these animals have, and we will look at that. They spent \$7,000 employing Dr David Watson at Sydney University to look into the whole thing. He came back with a finding. Woops, Lonsdale is actually right about this, and yes all the animals are horribly ill as a result of not ripping</p>	<p><a href="#">See the paper as submitted for publication.</a> The research effort was also aided by vet dentist Stephen Coles and Mars 'consultant' Dr Barbara Fougere. And it needs to be born in mind they did no original research into the allegations, but simply raked over old misdirected research papers.</p>



<p>and tearing and chewing at their proper food...</p>	<p>Despite the severe limitations, they found substantially in favour of the need for feeding raw meaty bones.</p>
<p><u>Steve Austin</u> Right.</p>	
<p><u>Dr Tom Lonsdale</u> ...because the periodontal disease, like the obesity that Dr Paula Parker alluded to, creates all sorts of other problems within the body. So, but what did they do? Did they then say, ah right, ok we as a responsible body, the Australian Veterinary Association will look into this?</p> <p>No, they shelved the report. But, the report is there, it's on my website. Everyone can go look at it. If they're tipped the wink.</p>	
<p><u>Steve Austin</u> Alright, look, I will continue this discussion at another occasion. It's absolutely fascinating to me and quite a revelation. Dr Tom Lonsdale thank you very much for your time. I'd love to speak with you again. I appreciate you coming on this afternoon.</p>	
<p><u>Dr Tom Lonsdale</u> Thank you, all the best.</p>	
<p><u>Steve Austin</u> Dr Tom Lonsdale, he's a member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and is a principal vet at the Bligh Park Pet Health Centre in New South Wales. Prior to that we spoke with the current President of the Australian Veterinarian Association Dr Paula Parker. The AVA is currently holding their national conference here in Brisbane.</p>	