To Whom Shall I Send My Daughter?

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Fig. 1. The purpose of this article is to call your attention to a very typical participant in congresses such as these. I am referring to the fellow who attends conferences but who seldom pays much attention, namely, the eminent, narcissistic, other side of our personality: Dr. Zachary Foxx. This all-too-real comedy is dedicated to the fact that there are some things in life that are such a pity that it is better to present them in jest.

My family and I live in Bogotá but our daughter lives in Paris. While travelling in a car there, she was in an accident in which her right cheek was cut transversally by a piece of flying glass, disfiguring her face.

Fig. 2. As you know, the distance between Colombia and Europe is very great: eight hours by plane or three months if you swim.

Fig. 3. I asked myself, To whom could I turn? Throughout life I had thought of every eventuality except that one day I would be in need of the services of a fellow plastic surgeon.
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Fig. 4. After having received treatment, and not in the best possible manner, my daughter was told the all too familiar statement: “Things did not turn out as we had hoped.” Later it was necessary to perform corrective surgery in Colombia.

Fig. 5. How many of us has this happened to? And to how many more of us will it occur? In Spanish there is a saying that if it can happen to your neighbor then you could be next, or “If they make your neighbor shave then you better lather your beard”.

Fig. 6. Prospective patients looking for a plastic surgeon sometimes turn to the yellow pages, their friends, a general practitioner, the nearest clinic, or the largest advertisement available at the moment.

Fig. 7. Since I didn’t have the Paris yellow pages, I wondered how could I find the right plastic surgeon: by friendship, from empirical knowledge, information in a scientific magazine, or rather a former fellow participant or director of some organization?

Fig. 8(A,B) Let’s take a look at a few interesting points for the benefit of our younger colleagues. However, any similarity to reality is purely coincidental. In Spanish there is a saying for every occasion, such as “If the shoe fits wear it”.