

Lavelle J (Jill)

From: Dr John Forrester [REDACTED]
Sent: 03 December 2011 18:30
To: Lavelle J (Jill)
Subject: My evidence to the Penrose Inquiry
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Dear Jill

While giving my evidence to the Inquiry, I did not fully grasp why my use of the word "benign" on a minute at page 26 and especially at page 30 of my evidence to the Penrose Inquiry was discussed. But I believe I follow the thought now. If you find that the following adds a so far missing element, kindly convey it to the Inquiry.

Among the meanings of the word "benign" there are two that I believe apply. The first is that in medical and medico-scientific circles, if one form of a fatal disease takes much longer to prove fatal, and does so in fewer cases than another, it is usually termed "benign" in comparison. The minute was directed at such circles. But in ordinary discourse, and especially if oneself or one's relations are involved, no form of a disease that may prove fatal or disabling can be called "benign".

With thanks for your help

John Forrester

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