

Outline:

Article:

<https://www.today.com/health/concussion-doctor-warns-against-contact-sports-kids-t115938>

- Author uses pathos
  - Opening sentence puts concussions in perspective:
    - “You wouldn’t let your child drink a glass of cognac or smoke a cigarette, so why would you send him out on a football field to risk brain damage?”
  - The doctor is very bold in his statements and uses real world examples.
    - “Which is more dangerous: a cigarette or a concussion of the brain? A concussion of the brain, of course. If that is not the definition of child abuse, what is it?”
    - “I’ve not met any parent who disagrees. Some parents will say, ‘Don’t put it like that; that makes me feel bad.’”
  - Talk about his own son
    - “ My son is almost 8 years old and he’ll be the first to tell you that football is not good for your brain.”
- Audience:
  - The author’s primary audience is parents of young kids
  - The reporter only uses one person's perspective which could turn off some readers
- Sources:
  - The one author that the writer interviews is a credible source because he is a forensic pathologist which is someone who identifies reasons of death by examining corpses.
  - However, it is the only source he quotes
  - There is no acknowledgment to the opposing side, saying it’s fine for kids under 18 to play contact sports
- Important quotes/info
  - “The big six are: American football, ice hockey, mixed martial arts, boxing, wrestling and rugby. Blows to the head are intrinsic to the game. That truth could be inconvenient, painful and difficult, but we should not deny it.”
  - “The non-contact sports: swimming, track and field, volleyball, basketball, table tennis, lawn tennis, badminton — there are so many of them. There is still a risk of accidental injury. You have to play safe.”
  - “The fundamental definition of child abuse is the intentional exposure of a child to the risk of injury. That injury does not have to occur.”
- Suggestions:
  - “Soccer as it’s played today should be played by only children who are above the age of 12-14. Children younger than that should play a modified form of

soccer, whereby there's less contact. Maybe we make the balls bigger and lighter so that there's less accidental injury."