



WHY WE SUPPORT ORTHODONTIA

Experience teaches us to not judge a book by its cover, but research reminds us that nearly everyone does. Orthodontia intervention helps children thrive socially and academically, prevents disease, and bolsters self-confidence and self-esteem. In California, over 500,000 kids missed school for dental problems, but our poorest kids have little access to dental and orthodontic care due to underfunded implementation of Denti-Cal.¹

Straightening of Teeth Helps Prevent Cavities and Gum Disease²

Treatment of crooked teeth eases and improves dental hygiene, leading to fewer cavities and diseases of teeth and gums.

Dental Appearance Strongly Influences Perceptions of Social & Intellectual Ability³

Right or wrong, others perceive healthy smiles as evidence of social competence and intelligence.

Early Intervention Shortens Treatment Time and Severity⁴

Treatment is begun while the jaw bones are still soft. Because the bones are still pliable, corrective procedures such as braces work faster than they do for adults.

Poor Oral Health Affects Academic Performance⁵

Untreated students miss more school and experience frequent distracting toothaches and other ailments.

Whole Child Learning Environments promote nature-based learning, healthy habits, and essential life skills. The Audacious Foundation helps schools and local practitioners provide orthodontic care to children of low-income families.

Sources Include:

- 1 Coliver, Victoria: State Program Leaves Poorest Kids Short of Dental Care, SF Gate, December 11, 2014
- 2 American Dental Association: <http://www.mouthhealthy.org/en/az-topics/bl/braces>
- 3 Newton/Prabhu/Robinson: The Impact of Dental Appearance on the Appraisal of Personal Characteristics
- 4 American Association of Orthodontists: <https://www.aaoinfo.org/frequently-asked-questions>
- 5 Hazem, Seirawan, et al: The Impact of Oral Health on the Academic Performance of Disadvantaged Children; and Eli/Bar-Tat/Kostovetzki: At First Glance: Social Meanings of Dental Appearance

Audacious foundation

A Complete Learning Experience
for the Whole Child
Santa Barbara, California

www.AudaciousFoundation.org