Mr. Don Kilburn of Pearson Education,

First of all, if I wrote this statement, found on your website- on the “Our Story” section no less-,

“The origins of Pearson go back as far as 1724 when Thomas Longman founded Longman. Pearson was actually founded in 1844 by Samuel Pearson as S. Pearson and Son, a small building firm in Yorkshire in the North of England,”

on an essay, my teacher would hopefully ask for the connection between the two sentences. And frankly, I find it concerning that the people in charge of creating our standardized tests have such a massive glaring error *on their own website.* As far as I can tell, you acquired a different company that began in 1724 and now want to use their founding date to make you seem more creditable.

Students of all levels use Pearson Education services. The majority of our textbooks, any student who uses MyLab, the STEM program, etc. You guys are hiding everywhere throughout education.

However, the really upsetting thing is the amount of money you spend lobbying our politicians to maintain this stronghold over the education. Apart from the $8 million you officially spent lobbying from 2009 to 2013, there was also numerous luxury school trips for school officials funded by a supposedly “charitable” foundation.

You’ve had multiple complaints regarding your websites failing or your tests being unpassable and illogical, yet you still control a major portion of the education sector. Why? Because you have made money more important than the students. And because politicians and school administrators are catering to your whims, you can get away with anything. And who would stop you? There’s no one to replace the services you offer because you have monopolized it.

Pearson, your website says “The learner is at the center of everything we do.” If only that showed in the numbers. The worlds students deserve better. And as the “worlds leading learning company,” it is your job to make sure they get it. Not that you get money from it.

Sincerely,

Colleen Donahue