April 25, 2016

Karen Moichanow

**Executive Director Dept of Education** 

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Dear Director Moichanow,

We write this letter as concerned grandparents who have endured the loss of our oldest child due to cumulative vaccination injuries. His immune system became more compromised with each vaccination starting with ADHD at age 2, Learning Disabilities in grades 1-4 and progressing to Type 1 Diabetes at age 10 shortly after the chicken pox vaccination (vaccination was recalled later). He then developed Leukemia after receiving the Hepatitis B vaccine at age 14. We now have a grandson age 23 months who had reactions to the DpT and rotovirus vaccinations at age 2 months. The most long term reaction was that he stopped rolling over for 2 months which demonstrates neurological brain inflammation. He also has had to continue to date to take probiotics and digestive enzymes in order to digest food without diarrhea. He also presented with high fever, screaming and blank staring for the first week after he received the vaccines. Thank goodness we have the religious/philosophical exemption here in Pennsylvania as we do not want to have our grandson's health deteriorate as his uncle, our first sons' did.

Any laws requiring additional pressure on parents to vaccinate their children, without the parent also receiving notice of their right of religious/philosophical exemption, is favorable toward the pharmacological manufacturers who profit immensely from the sales of vaccinations while jeopardizing healthy futures of many children. Little known is that In 1986, Congress passed the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act in response to calls by the spharmaceutical industry, American Academy of Pediatrics and other medical trade groups to shield drug companies and doctors from civil product liability and malpractice lawsuits for injuries and deaths caused by federally recommended and state mandated vaccines. The law, which acknowledged that vaccines can cause harm, created a federal vaccine injury compensation program. Nearly \$3 billion dollars in federal compensation had been paid by 2013 and this number continues to increase even though one of every three applicants are denied compensation.

The U.S. Supreme Court in a 2011 ruled that vaccines are "unavoidably unsafe" and effectively gave drug companies selling vaccines in the U.S. complete product liability protection from lawsuits when vaccines licensed and recommended by the federal government cause an injury or death." CDC recommended vaccinations have increase from 23 in 1983 to 74 in 2015.

As vaccinations are increasing so are the childhood chronic diseases of allergies, learning disabled, asthma, autism, diabetes, and cancer.

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The Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System (VAERS) was set up also in 1986 by the government to monitor vaccine safety by requiring pediatricians and other vaccine providers to report serious health problems following vaccinations, provide written vaccine risk/benefit information to parents/patients before vaccines are given and record vaccine-related adverse events in the permanent medical records. It is estimated that only 10% of all serious health problems, hospitalizations, injuries and deaths that occur after vaccinations given to children or adults are ever reported. Vaccine Safety Provisions are being ignored....there are no legal sanctions for pediatricians or other vaccine providers who fail to obey the federal law. The federal law passed in 1986, states that parents are to be informed of possible injury or death from vaccinations, however, this law is being ignored due to the "liability immunity" that manufacturers and doctors have been granted by the U.S. government.

The following quotations from the NVIC web site found under the "Informed Consent" page to further emphasize the questionable safety of vaccinations.

## Informed Consent: An Ethical Principle

The National Vaccine Information Center (NVIC) has not advocated for the abolishment of vaccination laws as other groups have proposed. However, we have always endorsed the right to informed consent as an overarching ethical principle in the practice of medicine for which vaccination should be no exception. We maintain this is a responsible and ethically justifiable position to take in light of the fact that vaccination is a medical intervention performed on a healthy person that has the inherent ability to result in the injury or death of that healthy person. § 7 § 9 In consideration of:

- the fact that there can be no guarantee that the deliberate introduction of killed or live microorganisms into the body of a healthy person will not compromise the health or cause the death of that person either immediately or in the future; <sup>10</sup> and
- with very few predictors having been identified by medical science to give advance warning that injury or death may occur; <sup>11</sup> <sup>12</sup> <sup>13</sup> <sup>14</sup> and
- with no guarantee that the vaccine will indeed protect the person from contracting a disease; <sup>15</sup> <sup>16</sup> <sup>17</sup> <sup>18</sup> and
- in the absence of adequate scientific knowledge of the way vaccines singly or in combination act in the human body at the cellular and molecular level, 19 20 21
- vaccination is a medical procedure that could reasonably be termed as experimental each time it is performed on a healthy individual.

Further, the FDA, CDC and vaccine makers openly state that often the number of human subjects used in pre-licensing studies are too small to detect rarer adverse events, <sup>22</sup> making post-marketing surveillance of new vaccines a de facto scientific experiment. In this regard, the ethical principle of informed consent to vaccination attains even greater importance.

The Nuremberg Code: The Rights of Individuals Must Come First

The Nuremberg Code, which speaks most specifically to the use of human beings in medical research but also has been viewed by bioethicists and U.S. courts as the basis for the right to informed consent to medical procedures carrying a risk of injury or death, was followed by the passage in 1964 of the Helsinki Declarations by the World Medical Association. Like the Nuremberg Code, the Helsinki Declarations emphasized the human right to voluntary, informed consent to participation in medical research that may or may not benefit the individual patient, science or humanity. 45

My husband, Craig & I, urge you to continue to educate yourself of the following facts....

- 1. Chicken pox, measles, and mumps are childhood diseases that help train natural immunity which is the strongest. Parent's immunity is strengthened, as well, as they care for their children when they have these childhood diseases which acts as a bolster shot to the parents immune system.
- 2. Many diseases of the past have disappeared, not due to vaccinations, but to increased sanitation, hand washing, and community isolation of the sick.
- 3. The CDC and top doctors are verifying the lack of efficacy and the early waning of any immunity provided by the pertussis vaccine and that current outbreaks of pertussis are among fully vaccinated populations.

Increasing vaccination requirements is not helping our children be healthier. Good nutrition, good sanitation, good family support, and increased safety are making children healthier. Some physicians recognize the healthiest children are those not vaccinated. We urge you not to increase regulations for vaccination for Pennsylvania students in grades K-12, cyber schools and traditional homeschoolers.

We strongly support the comments the Pennsylvania Coalition on Informed Consent (PCIC) have presented you as well on the proposed regulations to 28 PA Code Ch.23: #3147 from the PA Department of Health, #3146 from the PA Department of Health.

Sincerely,

Margie & Cray Schaffer Margie & Craig Schaeffer

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(The references for this 1997 statement were expanded and updated in 2015.)

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