

Bullying and Discrimination

Bullying

Today, if anyone dares to question vaccine policy or safety, they are immediately labeled as “*anti-vaccine*” or “*anti-science*”. These labels are repeated by the media, our public health officials, and even those in government. We have anti-bullying campaigns in our schools and laws against hate speech directed at minorities, and yet it has become socially acceptable to discriminate and verbally attack anyone who questions vaccines, including the families and individuals who consented to vaccination and were ultimately harmed by these products.

In recent years, articles in the media have included calls to hunt down,^{1 2} lock up,³ or snuff out⁴ people who choose alternative ways to maintain health and do not wish to receive one or more liability-free vaccine products.

Discrimination

Across the country, state legislatures are passing laws that discriminate against the children of parents who oppose one or more vaccine products based on their personal, conscientious or religious beliefs.⁵ ⁶They are doing this by removing their right to a public education and segregating them from their peers and from their communities. Some states have gone so far as to override a physician’s diagnosis and denied vaccine injured children the right to an education by refusing to accept medical exemptions to vaccination.^{7 8}

Medical professionals are refusing to treat the children of parents who decide to decline, delay, or selectively vaccinate.⁹ In fact, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) states that it is an “acceptable option for pediatric care clinicians to dismiss families who refuse vaccines.”¹⁰

Individuals who speak up and voice concerns over vaccine safety and policy have nothing to gain and everything to lose.

¹ Smith PJ, Chu SY, Barker LE. [Children Who Have Received No Vaccines: Who Are They and Where Do They Live?](https://tinyurl.com/s848izy) *Pediatrics* 2004; 114(1): 187-195. (<https://tinyurl.com/s848izy>)

² Sharav V A Witch Hunt ... Against Parents of Unvaccinated Children *The Liberty Beacon* Mar. 14, 2019 (<https://tinyurl.com/s2bnmwx>)

³ Fentiman LC. When it comes to vaccines, rich parents get away with child neglect. *Washington Post* May 10, 2017. (<https://tinyurl.com/vhxt342>)

⁴ Hotez PJ. Will An American Led Anti-Vaccine Movement Subvert Global Health? *Scientific American* Mar. 3, 2016. (<https://tinyurl.com/jnxuosr>)

⁵ Office of NY Governor Mario Cuomo. Press Release: Governor Cuomo Signs Legislation Removing Non-Medical Exemptions from School Vaccination Requirements. June 13, 2019. (<https://tinyurl.com/t7zjm4>)

⁶ [Gov. Mills kicks off flip-flop season killing religious vaccine exemption, names CDC head with troubles in Illinois](https://tinyurl.com/v3so48ku) *Maine Examiner* May 26, 2019 (<https://tinyurl.com/v3so48ku>)

⁷ Orient J Re: SB 276, the elimination of physicians’ right to determine medical exemptions for vaccines Association of American Physicians and Surgeons Mar. 27, 2019 (<https://tinyurl.com/vysfh6fv>)

⁸ Epps T. Blasdell boy stuck in vaccine debate. *WKBW Buffalo* Oct. 7, 2019. (<https://tinyurl.com/rsy7des>)

⁹ Haelle T As More Parents Refuse Vaccines, More Doctors Dismiss Them -- With AAP’s Blessing *Forbes* Aug. 29, 2016 (<https://tinyurl.com/vmxtfz3>)

¹⁰ Nelson R New AAP Policy on Patient Dismissal for Vaccine Refusal May “Erode Solidarity” Among Pediatricians *Infectious Disease Advisor* May 24, 2018 (<https://tinyurl.com/r8lo9n6>)