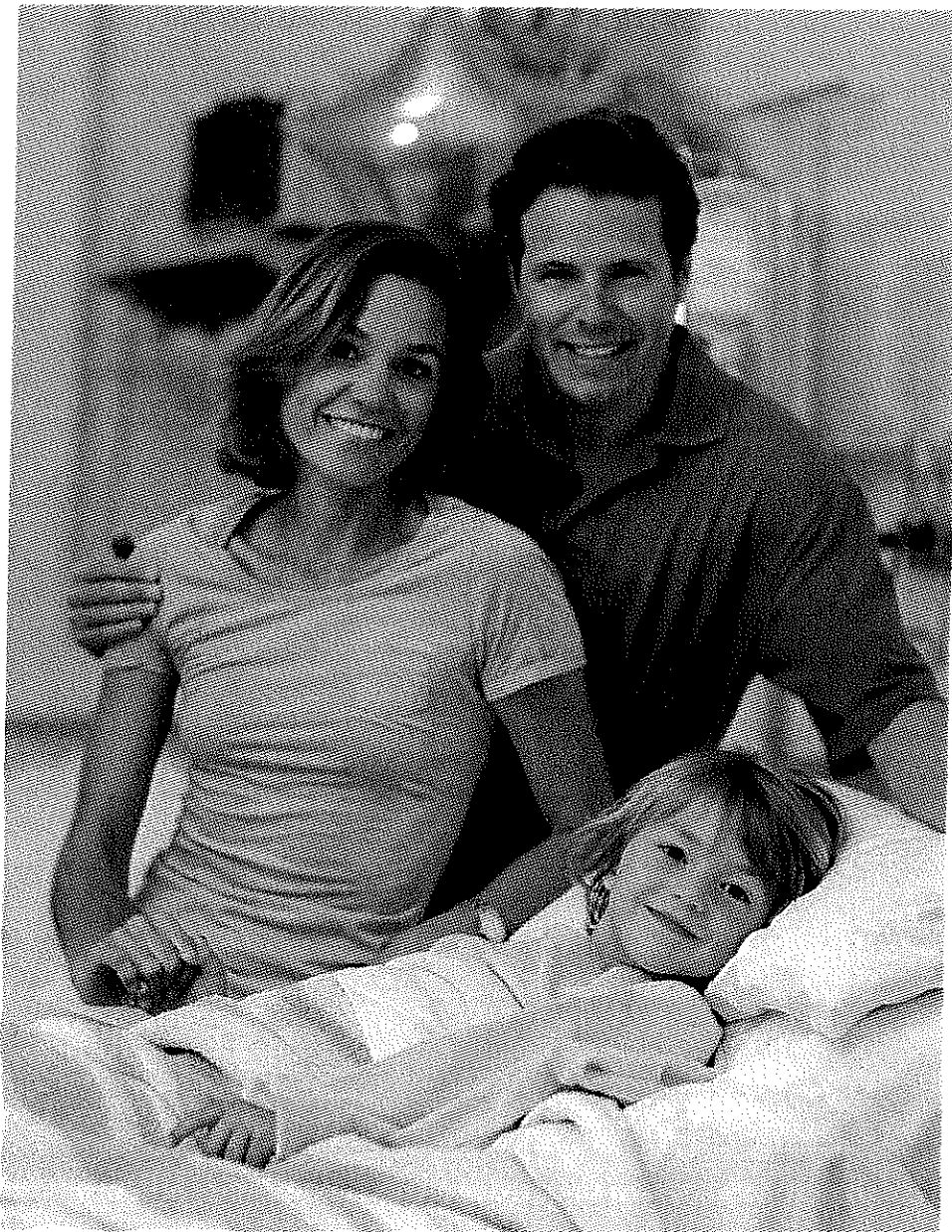


Maine Goes on the Offensive to Expand Vaccine-Choice Rights and Protect Children From Vaccine Injury

In the United States, it is accepted practice to lie to parents about vaccine safety and coerce them into vaccinating. Even when lies and coercion lead to the serious injury or death of a child, there is no accountability. In Maine, we have decided to fight to make it harder for those who lie and use coercion to get away with it, and we will use the Federal Government's own information to do so. We hope that all other States will introduce similar legislation to protect their citizens.



BY GINGER TAYLOR, M.S.

The Problem

In 1986, after a four-year campaign by the pharmaceutical industry, Congress passed the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act. It gave liability protection to vaccine makers, medical professionals, and government agencies – anyone involved in vaccination – for any death or injury that resulted from a vaccine. At that time, the Center for Disease (CDC) vaccine schedule had recommended 24 doses of vaccines for children starting at 2 months of age to 18 years of age. From 1963-1988, the schedule remained at either 24 or 25 doses, and vaccine industry revenues at the time were about \$750 million per year.

Suddenly Pharma had a product line for which they could not be sued, and that governments marketed for them via school mandates. So, as any smart business would do, they began pouring research and development dollars into new, less necessary and more risky vaccines. Almost thirty years later, after adding just a few doses to the schedule every year, the CDC's childhood vaccine schedule has grown from 24 doses to 70 doses (at a minimum). If I had a baby today, and vaccinated her according to the current schedule, that baby would receive more doses of vaccine by the time she was six months old than I did by the time I went to college.

There is no safety testing of the vaccine schedule as a whole. Vaccine profits have gone from \$750 million per year in 1986 to \$33 billion per year in 2014 and 54.1% of American chil-

dren are chronically ill, developmentally delayed, and/or obese.

This trend continues unabated and unchecked, because despite the fact that now most applicable research shows that vaccines can cause autism¹ (and other serious adverse health outcomes), no one can get into a courtroom in the U.S. to prove it and force policy change in this bloated billion-dollar program. In 2011, the Supreme Court sided with Wyeth over families who were trying to get the issue back into a Civil Court, ruling that even if a vaccine was defectively designed, they still could not sue the vaccine maker for death or injury. This closed the courthouse doors to vaccine-injured families permanently.

The greatest irony in all this is that the government has not only admitted that vaccines can cause autism, they actually list the symptoms of autism as known adverse outcomes for both pertussis and measles vaccines. They have paid at least 83 autism cases from the Federal Vaccine Injury Compensation Program put in place by the 1986 Act to compensate vaccine injury victims.²

The HHS guidelines for vaccine-induced brain damage were the exact symptoms that my son, and thousands of children with an "autism" diagnosis, exhibited following vaccination:

- A significant change in mental status that is not medication related; specifically a confused state, or a delirium, or a psychosis;
- A significantly decreased level of consciousness, which is independent of a seizure and cannot be attributed to the effects of medication, as indicated by the presence of at least one of the following clinical signs for at least 24 hours or greater: (1) Decreased or absent response to environment (responds, if at all, only to loud voice or painful stimuli); (2) Decreased or absent eye contact (does not fix gaze upon family members or other individuals); or (3) Inconsistent or absent responses to external stimuli (does not recognize familiar people or things).³

The vaccine/autism link has been hidden in plain sight for 27 years.

The problem is that doctors and parents do not know that vaccine encephalopathy exists, or what it looks like. Few doctors have ever read the VICP Table of injuries that outline this adverse reaction, so when parents walk into their doctor's office with a child experi-

encing this injury, doctors have been trained to call it "autism." When parents then tell their doctor that they believe a previous vaccine caused it, the doctor has been trained to say, "Vaccines do not cause autism."

The typical outcome is that the child is then never properly evaluated according to Federal guidelines, never treated for the reaction, and can suffer a lifetime of medical neglect. States, local school districts, and families are left to pay for the care of an injured child whose care is the moral responsibility of the pharmaceutical company that harmed them, and the legal responsibility of the Federal government that removed Pharma's liability.

Add to this the fact that the U.S. General Accounting Office,⁴ the Associated Press, *The New York Times*,⁵ and Fox News⁶ all agree that the Vaccine Injury Compensation Program has been hidden from the public and is failing to care for the injury victims and their families as it was designed to. You can see why families like ours tell people on a regular basis, "Once you have a vaccine-injured child, you are on your own."

The system hurt our children, betrayed our families, and then abandoned us.

But word gets around. Despite the massive Government and media push since 1999 to convince the public that the vaccine program is safe, parents are not dummies. The CDC vaccine schedule has become a victim of serious attrition, starting with educated parents.⁷ People have clued in to the scam that has been perpetrated on families, and the revelations of fraud in the CDC's vaccine safety research over the last year have only upped the ante.

While the fraud has been obvious to those paying close attention to vaccine safety research for many years, the indictment of CDC vaccine/autism Danish researcher Poul Thorsen on 22 counts of fraud and money laundering⁸ ripped away the facade that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services was taking vaccine safety research seriously by only engaging the most earnest scientists. Scandals have continued to unfold at a faster pace, as Merck is now being sued by its own scientists for faking efficacy data of their mumps vaccine to win FDA re-approval for the MMR vaccine,⁹ and CDC senior vaccine safety scientist Dr. William Thompson has turned Federal whistleblower, admitting he and his colleagues hid vaccine/autism links from the public. Thompson will be tes-

tifying before Congress against his colleagues, which include the head of the CDC's vaccine safety office, Frank DeStefano, and the head of the CDC's National Center of Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities, Colleen Boyle.¹⁰ Things are unraveling for the CDC and Pharma. So, that's why this year they have hit back hard.

After a massive media campaign to get the American public to perceive the 100 or so non-lethal measles cases from Disneyland as the second-coming of the bubonic plague, they have managed to get bills introduced into 14 States to either seriously compromise or completely remove a parent's right to a vaccine exemption in order to send their child to school. This despite the fact that there have been no measles deaths in the United States since 2003. Vaccine policymakers know that if they don't keep control of media messaging, and of parents' choices, that the \$33 billion per year vaccine bubble will continue to deflate with increasing speed, and vaccine profits will be cut in half (at least) when the vaccine program is finally reformed.

And of course there are those 300-plus vaccines currently in their development pipeline that suddenly will have little to no market when the American public comes to terms with the fact that their government has already massively over-vaccinated the U.S. population.

In response, State and national health-freedom and disability groups across the Country are organizing to fight back and preserve their rights. But, here in Maine, we have decided to fight back by putting the CDC vaccine program on the defensive. We are hoping other States will follow our lead and use this legal battle to expose the fraud in the vaccine program, the harm being done to families, and the horrible injustice being done to vaccine-injury families left out in the cold.

The Solution

We have proposed the Maine Vaccine Consumer Protection Act to remedy this injustice by countering the corruption, misinformation, and attacks on families' right to informed consent.

Families are the injured parties here, and the idea that they should be on the defensive at the moment is absurd. So, we have decided not to play into the insane idea that it is parents who need to change; we will stay focused on the fact that the medical es-

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establishment needs to change.

This bill, even in places where it is unlikely to pass, will allow us to have the conversation with legislators that we want in order to report on the corruption in the vaccine program, to tell the stories of our injured and neglected children, and to put the burden of proof back on the Federal Government and the vaccine industry where it belongs.

The proposed act would:

- Require doctors to be educated on the full VICP table and able to properly screen for and diagnose vaccine adverse events.
- Require doctors to evaluate patients for a vaccine injury according to Federal guidelines and vaccine package inserts if the patient or the patient's caregivers suspect a vaccine adverse reaction.
- Add the full, and soon to be revised, VICP vaccine injury table to the Maine Immunization Program's Provider Reference Manual.
- Advertise the VICP in Maine, per recommendation of the 11/14 GAO VICP report.
- Require a Maine State Vaccine Information Sheet that includes all known side effects be given to all patients according to the vaccine package insert, table, and VICP rulings, and remind patients of their right to opt out, and offer step-by-step instructions on what to do if a vaccine injury is suspected.
- Establish a vaccine injury office in Maine DHHS separate from the Immunization program, that will
- Act as an ombudsman for Maine vaccine injury families and clearinghouse for VICP case data.
- Evaluate vaccine injury claims.
- Provide guidance and a specific process for physicians to follow when a vaccine injury is suspected by their office, or by parents and caregivers.
- Provide referrals to doctors who will evaluate and treat.
- Provide referrals to attorneys who will file in the VICP.
- Recoup MaineCare funds that are spent on vaccine injury cases.
- Establish a complaint-and-review process for families to ask specific vaccine questions, challenge false vaccine safety and efficacy claims as well as coercion by vaccine providers, and require DHHS to respond and justify recommendations.

Parents who have known for years that the vaccine program is broken have had their position yet again confirmed by two different in-depth investigative reports into the Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, by both the U.S. General Accounting Office and by the Associated Press. Repeating, once you have a vaccine-injured child, you are on your own.

It is time to stop blaming parents for walking away from a broken vaccine program and instead to begin to fix the vaccine program. And we start in the State legislatures by helping the States understand that they have been scammed by the National Immunization Program, at the expense of our children.

Push your State to take vaccine injury seriously. 🇺🇸

Ginger Taylor is a founding member of the Canary Party, Media Director for HealthChoice.org, and a former Marriage and Family Therapist specializing in adolescent and family therapy, who holds a Master's degree in Clinical Counseling from Johns Hopkins University. She began her work on children's health and parental rights after her son Chandler regressed into autism following his 18-month vaccinations. Ginger is a co-author and contributing editor of the book Vaccine Epidemic, and was awarded the NHF Health Freedom Hero Award in 2014.

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