From: Cherie

Sent: Friday, 25 September 2015 9:35 AM

To:

**Subject:** Submission regarding No Jab No Play Bill

As a loving mother of two young children (my youngest due to attend kindergarten in 2016), I must voice my concern regarding the No Jab, No Play legislation that may be forthcoming to the state of Victoria.

I was concerned enough from my research around vaccines to delay vaccinating for both my children (now aged 4 and 5), and to only selectively vaccinate. My biggest worry as babies was whooping cough and unfortunately you cannot access single vaccines in Australia. So, at six months of age my son received a single dose of Infanrix Hexa. Following the vaccine he slept far longer than usual, had twitching limbs and had a sporadic cry that was unlike anything I'd heard before (or have since). My heart told me that vaccines were not for him and he has never received another shot, and nor did my partially vaccinated older daughter (of whom I was also harboring misgivings).

After an aggressive bout of eczema that occurred at around one year of age, and the onset of night terrors and nocturnal seizures in my partially vaccinated daughter, I looked to more natural means to maintain and support their health and immune systems, with the help of natural therapists and a bio-medical doctor. The removal of additives and processed foods, low sugar, more wholefoods, organic fruit and vegetables, the introduction of fermented foods to improve gut health, and bone broth to heal their gut have all helped tremendously and I now have two robust, healthy, bright, happy children - my son's eczema has gone, and my daughter no longer suffers from night terrors or nocturnal seizures.

My point in telling you this, is that it is my firm belief that a parent must have the right to decide how best to raise their child in a healthy manner, that vaccinations are a medical intervention that a parent must be able to choose, without coercion or manipulated into submission by the state. Vaccinations DO NOT come without risk (<a href="http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vac-gen/side-effects.htm">http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vac-gen/side-effects.htm</a>) so it must be up to a parent to weigh up the risks and benefits and make their decision accordingly, as with many other aspects of parenting.

Furthermore, in taking full responsibility for the health of my children - in choosing to put the work and effort into creating a healthy environment of clean, low-toxic food, and low toxic products around the home, vaccines do not fit into this ethos. Vaccines contain a vast number of toxic ingredients, including MSG (which is a trigger for my daughters seizures).

(http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/pinkbook/downloads/appendices/B/excipient-table-2.pdf).

If I don't allow my children to eat these chemicals, how on earth could I, in good conscience allow those chemicals to be injected into their bodies?

This legislation is an attack on my personal freedom, on my personal beliefs, and is completely discriminatory to my child as it threatens to remove his right to the same educational opportunity that his sister is currently enjoying at kindergarten. And further, The removal of Conscientious Objection is a removal of right to personal and philosophical belief, and will result in discrimination against children who have a right to an education.

Where there is a risk, there must be the freedom to choose.

Cherie Gaskin

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