

Submission to the Scrutiny of Acts and Regulations Committee (SARC)
regarding "NO JAB NO PLAY" bill

To Whom It May Concern:

I write to you in regard to the proposed "NO JAB NO PLAY" bill to be introduced in Victoria, which would prohibit children who are not up to date with their vaccinations from enrolling in childcare or kindergarten from 1 January 2016.

I am a mother of 3 children, 2 of whom are mostly up to date according to the vaccination schedule. I have accessed occasional childcare and kindergarten for both of these children, and they are currently in grade 5 and grade 2 respectively. I did not follow the timeline outlined by the schedule concerning when the vaccinations were to be given, but deliberately delayed their administration due to my concerns regarding the number of vaccinations that are given at each scheduled visit to a vaccination administrator.

My third child is currently 7 months and is unvaccinated. He is the first child that my second husband I have had together, and is genetically at risk of developing autism or a similar neurological disorder. [REDACTED]

Already we are seeing signs of a possible condition in our son, although he is too young at this stage for diagnosis. My fear as a parent is that the toxins that are present in the vaccinations could exacerbate any condition that he might have or be vulnerable to. My son will be 10 months old on 1 January 2016 and I am dismayed that **the proposed introduction of a bill such as this one will mean that he may not have the same educational opportunities (childcare and kindergarten) that my older children have benefited from.** My job as a parent is to protect all my children at all costs and I do not want to put my son's health at risk by vaccinating him for the benefits of "herd immunity".

I do not believe that his attendance at childcare and kindergarten will put any other children at risk; if he does contract one of the common childhood illnesses such as chicken pox or measles my husband and I will use common sense and keep him at home for the required length of time. Both of my older children contracted chicken pox whilst my daughter was at kindergarten; even though my eldest had received the chicken pox vaccination, he still contracted the harmless disease. This demonstrates that vaccinated children can still contract these diseases and pass them on to others.

Excluding my youngest child from childcare and kindergarten because he hasn't received the required vaccinations would be discrimination against us as parents, and him.

My hope is that this proposed legislation will not be able to become law because it is discriminatory, and conflicts with parents freedom to choose without coercion. It also conflicts with certain children's rights to the same educational opportunities as everyone else.

Thank you for reviewing this submission, and for your careful consideration of the implications of the proposed "NO JAB NO PLAY" legislation.

Yours Sincerely,

Nerissa Draper