TO: Ms Lizzie Blandthorn MP  
Chair, Scrutiny of Acts and Regulations Committee

I am incredulous that the Victorian government is considering making it mandatory for children enrolling in child care centres to be vaccinated. The science is not 'in' regarding the safety and efficacy of vaccines. People continue to be injured (sometimes fatally) by vaccines. And most people are not aware of this because it is rarely reported by mainstream media. Please DO NOT allow this Bill to pass!

“In spite of the widespread agreement that vaccines are largely safe and serious adverse complications are extremely rare, a close scrutiny of the scientific literature does not support this view”. So said Professor Chris Shaw and Dr Lucija Tomljenovic, senior post doctoral researchers in vaccine safety from the University of British Columbia. (1)

Four years after my own adverse neurological reaction to a vaccine required to commence a midwifery degree, I checked the Australian Database of Adverse Notifications (DAEN) maintained by the Therapeutic Goods Association of Australia (TGA) to confirm that my adverse reaction had been reported. Medical staff at the hospital I attended assured me that it would be. The TGA have written to me confirming that no report was made. I have heard similar stories from other vaccine injured people and their families in Australia.

The DAEN states that 'adverse event reports from consumers and health professionals to the TGA are voluntary, so there is under-reporting by these groups of adverse events related to therapeutic goods in Australia. This is the same around the world'. (2)

Tetyana Obukhanych who holds a PhD in Immunology from Rockefeller University In New York, did postdoctoral training at Harvard Medical School and Stanford University. She says "It is often stated that vaccination rarely leads to serious adverse effects. Unfortunately, this statement is not supported by science. A recent Study in Ontario, Canada, established that vaccination actually leads to an emergency room visit for 1 in 168 children following their 12 month vaccination appointment and for 1 in 730 children following their 18 month vaccination appointment. (3) When the risk of an adverse event requiring an ER visit after well-baby vaccinations is demonstrably so high, vaccinations must remain a choice for parents, who may understandably be unwilling to assume this immediate risk in order to protect their children from diseases that are generally considered mild or that their children may never be exposed to."

Obukhanych’s open letter to legislators currently considering vaccination legislation contains the following passage: "1. Due to the properties of modern vaccines, non-vaccinated individuals pose no greater risk of transmission of polio, diphtheria, pertussis, and numerous non-type b H.influenza strains than vaccinated individuals do, non-vaccinated individuals pose virtually no danger of transmission of hepatitis B in a school setting, and tetanus is not transmissible at all. 2. There is a significantly elevated risk of emergency room visits after childhood vaccination appointments attesting that vaccination is not risk-free. 3. Outbreaks of measles cannot be entirely prevented even if we had nearly perfect vaccination compliance
and 4. An effective method of preventing measles and other viral diseases in vaccine-ineligible infants and the immunocompromised, immunoglobulin, is available for those who may be exposed to these diseases. Taken together, these four facts make it clear that discrimination in a public school setting against children who are not vaccinated for reasons of conscience is completely unwarranted as the status of conscientious objectors poses no undue public health risk." (4)

From 2016 the Federal government in Australia plans to make it impossible for families to receive Family Tax Benefit Supplement and the entire raft of Child Care benefits unless their children are vaccinated fully according to government schedule. If families need the money, they have no choice. The option for conscientious objection to the procedure will be abolished. Recently in Australia vaccination has been made mandatory for many health care professionals and students in health care professions. As an enrolled student in the health professions in NSW I was going to be one of them. As a result of the mandatory vaccination policy of NSW and other Australian state's health departments I never will be.

While corporate science conducted on the safety and efficacy of vaccines may seem to be supportive, the independent science is usually quite critical, and as a result of the All Trials movement - an initiative of organisations such as the British Medical Journal and the Cochrane Collaboration that is endorsed by the World Health Organisation - we now know that the medical evidence base has been largely corrupted by pharmaceutical marketing (5). When a person cannot make uncoerced choices about a prophylactic medical procedure and scientists and health professionals cannot ask questions about it’s safety or efficacy without being labelled heretics, it is a disturbing state of affairs.


(5) http://www.alltrials.net/