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From: Yeshe Bellflower <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 2 October 2015 8:55 AM
To: SARC
Subject: No Jab No Play Senate Submission

RE: Public Health and Wellbeing Amendment (No Jab No Play) Bill 2015

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

We're writing in response to the proposed No Jab No Play bill. Our child received vaccinations when she was 9 weeks old. What followed was 10 nights of screaming and crying hell. One night her fever was so bad we rushed her to hospital. When we told the hospital staff she'd recently been vaccinated, they looked as scared as we felt. It was a freezing cold Tasmanian winter's night. Our baby was wearing nothing but a singlet and nappy as part of an effort to reduce her fever. All we could do was watch her tiny body, hooked up to the hospital monitoring devices, and wait for her screaming to stop. It was night after night after night, hours and hours of screaming. Then it was several months before the spark in her personality finally began to return.

Months later we requested a medical exemption from further vaccines. We were told that her previous reaction does not qualify her for a medical exemption.

There is a school we have had our heart set on sending our child to, in Victoria. This particular school means a great deal to us - so much so we would move interstate for our child to attend there. Now to learn that we would be denied that right due to our not wanting to risk further vaccine injury to our child is to feel deprived of our human rights.

There is a great deal of science on both sides of the vaccination debate and it is concerning that the government has been choosing only one side, whilst ignoring the compelling research that shows vaccines lack both the safety and effectiveness we have been promised.

Given that there is a risk at all in taking vaccinations, and you never know which children will experience adverse reactions, it should be entirely the parents' decision. It is the parents and not the government, and not the media or pharmaceutical companies - it's just the parents who will be in the hospital watching over their baby and hoping like all heck she survives.

Please do not punish those of us who are merely enforcing our right to choose. There is no sense in denying children a right to education just because parents have opted not to receive medical treatment that can be potentially very damaging. There is plenty of scientific research showing these injuries occur at a significant rate. Our family's personal experience gives us cause to be very wary of vaccines. Shame upon the government for ignoring this side of the debate, and threatening to deprive vaccine-injured children like ours of an education.

Sincerely

Yeshe Bellflower and Faden Wolf