

13 April 2015

### **Discrimination in Welfare Benefits on Vaccination Status**

To the Honourable Health Minister Sussan Ley and the Social Services Minister Scott Morrison,

I am writing to you about the removal of our human right to informed consent for all medical interventions which is breached by the current Australian vaccination policies. The government's recent announcement to discriminate against the less wealthy members of the community by removing their right to welfare benefits if they choose not to vaccinate, breaches the right to informed consent in the Good Medical Practice guidelines for Australian practitioners.

The issue of vaccines as a cause of autism has not been fully explored and the IOM has not disproven this theory. You'll note in the statement from the IOM that they 'favour' the rejection of the theory on the basis the mechanism has not been determined. They do not say that the theory has been disproven <http://www.iom.edu/Reports/2004/Immunization-Safety-Review-Vaccines-and-Autism.aspx>

Medical interventions need to be promoted on informed consent and scientific evidence, not financial bribes that target the less wealthy in the community. Australia's policies that link vaccination to welfare benefits and a doctor's signature to refuse this medical intervention breach all international codes for human rights. The government data also shows that it is the educated, wealthy members of the community that are choosing not to vaccinate so why is the government implementing policies that discriminate against the less wealthy members of the community?

The Institute of Medicine (IOM) has not disproven the link between vaccines and autism. By stating they 'favour' a rejection they do not claim to have disproven the theory and they have not fully explored the theory. Public health is at risk with the removal of free and informed consent for this medical practice. Damage from vaccines is not disputed but the question of how much damage *is* disputed.

Please read the information in this newsletter that illustrates that the link between vaccines and autism has not been fully explored or disproven <http://us8.campaign-archive1.com/?u=f20605fde3732e41929f4a3f2&id=f3ac91013e&e=fec8337d3c>

Kind regards,

Judy Wilyman

PhD Candidate

[www.vaccinationdecisions.net](http://www.vaccinationdecisions.net)