

**Misinformation provided by Dr. Rachael Dunlop**  
**(Vice - President of the Australian Skeptics)**

**Rachael Dunlop's Blog 1**

In October 2011 after the ABC presented my interview regarding the concerns surrounding HPV vaccines, Rachael Dunlop, posted a statement titled '**ABC don't need no stinking science**' on her blog which she called the ***Skeptics Book of Pooh Pooh***. In this post she published a false copy of my poster that I presented to health professionals at the National Health Promotion Conference in Perth in 2009. My poster is titled '*Mandatory and Coercive Immunisation: how ethical is this policy*' and the copy that Rachael Dunlop posted on her blog had false information superimposed over the top to discredit the poster information. She published this poster on her blog with the Murdoch University logo *without the permission of the university*.

Murdoch University sent her a letter asking her to remove this poster and she selectively published the university's letter to suggest that 'the poster should not be published on any website at any time'. This is untruthful and Murdoch University confirms this in the statement below:

2.4.12

*Dear Ms Wilyman*

*We refer to your emails of 15 and 30 March addressed to our client, Murdoch University. We have been instructed to respond as follows:*

*Murdoch supports freedom of speech and especially academic freedom.*

*The "Coercive and mandatory immunisation: how ethical is this policy" poster was presented at an academic conference by former PhD candidate Ms Judy Wilyman complete with the University's logo. This did not require specific permission to be obtained (as it was in accordance with University policy), but this does not mean that Murdoch either approves or does not approve of the poster's content.*

*When the poster was taken up in an advocacy campaign, out of context, Murdoch required that the logo be removed which indeed it was.*

*Murdoch's further involvement in relation to the use of the poster has been in relation to preventing unauthorised and inappropriate use of its logo and again does not reflect any official position as to whether Murdoch University supports or does not support its content.*

*Regards*

**Madeleen Rousseau**

*IP Consultant*

*Freehills*

## **Blog 2**

On February 15<sup>th</sup> 2012 Rachael Dunlop gave a talk titled 'Diagnosis by Dr. Google'. This talk was about the misinformation on health issues that can be found on some websites on the internet. In particular she used the example of vaccination to illustrate this point. This concerned me because of the misinformation she had posted on her own blog about vaccination. I wrote a letter to the Canberra Skeptics who were organizing the talk and Rachael Dunlop posted another blog regarding my letter that was titled '**A lesson in do your research.**'

In this blog Rachael Dunlop misrepresents my comments and makes false claims. She also ridicules academics, the university and the ABC for presenting this information. This prompted me to write a letter to the CEO of the Consumers Health Forum (CHF), Carol Bennett. I did not get a reply from Ms Bennett however my letter that was posted *only* to Carol Bennett at the CHF was published on Rachael Dunlop's Skeptic blog 2 days after I sent it. The Australian Consumer Health Forum (CHF) led by Carol Bennett did not investigate my concerns about the way lobby groups are disparaging academic's reputations in Australia when they speak about the health concerns associated with vaccines.

**Judy Wilyman**

**PhD Candidate**

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