

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

Via email sarc@parliament.vic.gov.au

Katya McCubbing



4th October 2015

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

Dear Ms Blandthorn

I am the mother of three beautiful little girls. My Eldest daughter is fully vaccinated. My middle daughter was born with Down syndrome. When she was born I entered a whole new world of learning and I came to the conclusion that I was unable to feel confident enough that vaccination was in fact the right thing to do for her.

In Victoria there are many families with children with disabilities, facing many different battles. Currently we are entitled to free 4 year old kinder for our daughter, as she has a Health Care Card, and it seems this will have to end for families who feel the same way as I do. That vaccination, although a wonderful thing for many, might not be so for their particular children. I feel this new policy is a breach of the Human Rights of these families to decide what is best for their children's individual circumstances.

We battled internally for a long time before coming to our decision, and my husband and I still do not say this is the decision forever. But I would not vaccinate her just to get a place in a preschool and I am sure other families with potentially vulnerable children will feel the same way too.

In case you are interested, here is some further information from my naturopath about why I feel that vaccination is not right for my daughter.

NB: The numbers referenced below are relating to the references at the bottom of this letter.

Research shows that excess gene expression found in Down Syndrome produces genetic instability ^{1,2} which is associated with several pathologies ³ including coeliac disease ⁴, sleep apnoea ⁵, poor immunity ⁶ and autoimmune disease ⁷. These pathologies are listed in the Australian Immunisation Handbook as carrying a risk of adverse reaction to vaccination ⁸.

Further studies have linked mitochondrial dysfunction ^{2, 9-11} and metabolic disorders ¹² with Down Syndrome. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that vaccines trigger allergies ^{13,14} autoimmune disorders ¹⁵ and autism ¹⁶⁻¹⁸ in children with mitochondrial dysfunction. Prevalence of autism spectrum disorders among children with Down Syndrome is currently substantially higher than the general population ¹⁹.

Please can you take the time to consider this new proposal with a mind to children with disabilities. There is significant research that confirms that children with some disabilities are more exposed to vaccine injury and parents should be able to make an informed decision

without impacting their child's social development by denying them access to pre-school education.

Please see below for references

Yours sincerely

Katya McCubbing

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