

May 12, 2019

Dear Committee Members, Representatives, Moms and Dads, and anyone who is reading/listening to this testimony. It is Mother's Day and I find myself writing this testimony for a bill that has yet to appear, but likely will attempt to take away the Religious Exemption in Connecticut. This battle is raging across our entire country currently.

The argument for doing this is that those who have the Religious Exemption are putting others at risk, like the immune-compromised. A certain herd level of immunity must exist amongst the population for vaccine-preventable diseases from recurring, so the proposed theory goes.

This line of reasoning pits parents against parents, neighbors against neighbors. As if one family wants to put another family's children at risk, when in actuality, they are doing what they believe to be in line with their faith and protection of their children. As parents, we are to protect our children, first and foremost. God bestowed us with them and that is our duty.

The real question that should be on everyone's mind is why are children in Connecticut and The United States of America so chronically ill? For example, I never knew one child with autism, peanut allergies or that was immune-compromised when I was growing up. I ask, did you?

As legislators, the question should be what has changed, and how can we remedy this? We must look at the issue of too many vaccines, too soon and do safety studies upon them, which have not been done. Vaccines do cause harm, and we need to be able to say no to them. A family with an immune-compromised child and a family that chooses an exemption, have equal rights under the law. To say otherwise, is unconstitutional.

Also, the theorized herd immunity does not exist amongst the entire population. Most adults do not have anywhere near the amount of vaccines that are being given to their children. Do you know how many vaccines you have received? Our children are required to get 72. Again this is too many, too soon. Are you willing to receive these additional vaccines to be caught up to your children? I know that I have lived a very healthy life and have no plans to do that, do you?

Lastly, there should be no surprise that exemption rates will increase with added vaccines. Each vaccine does cause injury to some. Many who are injured, will seek an exemption to prevent more harm and many will turn to God to pray for healing, as I did.

Our society and Doctors believe in the Hippocratic Oath to do no harm to the individual first. Each life should be valued the same, whether you have an exemption or are immune-compromised.

Let's not forget, for one moment, that thanks to our forefathers that bravely fought for us, that we are the USA, and are allowed religious freedom. We are "one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all". Keep the Religious Exemption as is. Please add a Philosophical Exemption to allow for more freedom of choice. May God Bless you, and May God Bless the United States of America.

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