

Reasonable doubt. The highest standard of proof. The concept that no matter how believable the story presented is, if there is any other POSSIBLE scenario, one can not act to remove a defendant's liberty or sentence another to death.

I could give you any number of scenarios from my personal experience that support reasonable doubt when it comes to accepting advice from medical professionals and so-called experts without doing some personal follow-up, but that would certainly fall under the category of "anecdotal," which won't help us here.

As far as the subject at hand, Reasonable Doubt is what I felt when I heard a vaccine was required against an infection everyone I had ever met had experienced with no major repercussions; what I felt when I heard they wanted to inoculate children as young as 11, of both sexes, against a sexually transmitted disease that could be prevented with the practice of safe sex; what I felt years later, when I heard it was recommended that my newborn get a vaccine against another sexually transmitted disease I HAD ALREADY BEEN TESTED FOR, on her FIRST DAY OF LIFE.

Reasonable doubt is what I feel every time I hear the side effects listed for a new drug or vaccine, and inevitably mentioned is the exact thing the medical breakthrough is supposed to treat or prevent.

Reasonable Doubt is what I felt when my daughter had a fever for a few days after her first round of vaccines, for more than a week after her four month shots, then longer and longer until by her one year well visit, she was still having the daily low grade fevers that had started after her 9-month injections; and still her doctor insisted there was nothing unusual. Nothing to be concerned about. Reasonable doubt is what grew when she never had another fever like that after we stopped accepting vaccines. Fear is what I feel when I consider potentially being forced to choose between her education and what the next injection might have in store that is worse than a three month fever. Is her asthma connected? Could there be greater, permanent damage in her future?

Reasonable Doubt is what I felt when I found a study (<http://www.smartvax.com/images/PDF/cdc%20-%20childhood%20vaccinations%20and%20risk%20of%20asthma.pdf>) that concluded both HiB and Hep B vaccines may be associated with a 20% increased risk of asthma, a condition my daughter was diagnosed with a year ago.

It is what I felt when my daughter had a week to ten days of diarrhea after both doses of her Rotavirus oral vaccine, and our pediatrician still insisted that water pouring out of my baby's rear end was "normal."

Reasonable Doubt is what I felt when I found out that 1 in 3000 doses of the MMR vaccine will trigger seizures (<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccinesafety/vaccines/mmr-vaccine.html>), and then I did some math. Keep in mind that I'm underestimating here:

If 4 million babies are born in an average year in the United States, we can assume there is an average of 4 million due for an initial dose every year, and another 4 million due for their second dose. That's 8 million doses of MMR due to be distributed, yearly. I'm going to be super conservative and keep nice round numbers, so I'm going to assume that 6 million of them actually make it into children. That's only a 75% uptake, and we know the actual average is somewhere around 90%

(<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz-managers/coverage/childvaxview/data-reports/mmr/reports/2017.html>).

If we divide that 6 million doses by 3000, that's a minimum of 2000 children a year with a neurological side effect from one vaccine. That doesn't even take into consideration potential anaphylactic reactions, atypical measles, Steven-Johnson syndrome (which can be deadly), and any number of other listed side effects

(<https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn%3Aaaid%3Aascds%3AUS%3Aa2b408dd-b5f4-44f3-b40a-bfd3f3f3419f>) ranging from mild to severe and even deadly.

Reasonable doubt is what I feel when I compare those 2000 little kids with neurological effects against fewer than a thousand documented cases of fever and rash in people of all ages. From what I've read, only 1 of those thousand people with reported measles is likely to have neurological complications like seizures

(<https://www.cdc.gov/measles/about/complications.html>). None of them will experience related anaphylaxis or Steven-Johnson syndrome.

I felt doubt when every insert I read from vaccines stated they had not been evaluated for effects on fertility; or for their potential to cause cancer in the future. When I looked, I was unable to find information on whether or not the handful of vaccines I had been given might affect my children, or their children, the way drugs given to women in the past were shown to affect their children for generations.

I felt doubt when I read that breastfeeding reduces the effectiveness of vaccines

(<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20442687>). If a mother's milk is stronger than these drugs specifically designed to activate the immune system, how effective are they really?

I felt doubt when I read that the immunocompromised are advised to stay away from recently vaccinated individuals. Doubt when I found studies and articles tracing outbreaks to persons who were already vaccinated

(<https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2014/04/measles-outbreak-traced-fully-vaccinated-patient-first-time>), more when I explored further and realized that for many people (my sister included), the vaccine will never offer protection in the first place. If vaccine failure is as high as 10% (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4962729/>), this supposed herd immunity is completely unachievable, even if there is some magic number (which I have yet to find any supporting study, despite great effort).

I felt doubt when I read a study comparing vaccinated children to those who had not received all their vaccines and while the “unvaccinated” group had experienced more cases of the so-called vaccine preventable diseases, they had also experienced fewer colds, ear infections, and general illnesses than the vaccinated group (related article: <https://vactruth.com/2014/02/26/unvaccinated-children-healthier/>). I felt doubt when I read that recipients of a flu vaccine one year were more likely to experience unrelated respiratory illness in following years (<https://academic.oup.com/cid/article/54/12/1778/455098>)

When another flu vaccine was linked to new cases in other countries of an autoimmune disease I happen to suffer from (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/m/pubmed/29855798/>).

I felt reasonable doubt when my children, who have received no or few vaccines appear to be healthier overall than many of their peers.

I feel doubt when I found out manufacturers aren't liable for their products. I feel doubt knowing every dose is taxed to add to a coffer that has paid out over 4 BILLION dollars in compensation in the last three decades, with each award maxing out at a quarter of a million.

I feel doubt when I consider all of these things and so many more I'd be happy to share with you and discuss.

My hope, my suspicion, is that you also feel reasonable doubt when you hear these things. I hope you have doubt enough to be curious, to research further, to read the scientific studies, talk to the researchers, listen to the stories.

Most of all, I hope you will take that reasonable doubt and recognize the evidence does NOT support the removal of our rights, liberties, and freedom to choose.

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