

Note: *I understand that not everyone reading this might fully agree with me today. AFA of Indiana supporters are not monolithic. I appreciate your patience, and your continued support, while I vent my personal frustration with Indiana Government as a "papa bear."*

Who's Running this State, and Who's the Parent of Our Children?

On Monday, a letter arrived in my home mailbox appearing to be addressed to my 14 year-old daughter. In small type it said "to the parent/guardian of" then in larger type in the address window section was my daughter's name and our home address. It was a letter from the **Indiana State Department of Health** under the name of **Governor Michael Pence** and **Jerome Adams**, Commissioner of the ISDH. The taxpayer funded letter was in English on one-side and Spanish on the back, something that I had not seen before.

The letter revealed that the state has been tracking our family behavior through a new database, of which they are very proud. The letter explains that Indiana is "one of the first in the nation" to electronically store and track our family's vaccination records with **MyVaxIndiana**.

The letter explained that through **CHIRP**, the **Children and Hoosier Immunization Registry Program**, state records indicate that my daughter was not fully vaccinated and that we should "contact our healthcare provider and make an appointment to start the series" [of vaccines].

The intrusive letter also informed us that we were "eligible to receive publicly funded vaccine[s] to complete this series." Perhaps they also know that we lost our good insurance two years ago thanks to Obamacare and now we have a plan that covers almost nothing.

The Department's letter informed us that by not vaccinating, we

were going against the recommendations of the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**, the **American Academy of Pediatrics**, the **American Academy of Family Physicians**, and the **American College of Physicians**.

Here's the rub. *Our children are vaccinated!* We are not anti-vaccine. I respect the rights of those parents who make different choices than we did for their children. I agree with Psalm 127:3, Children are a gift from God, *to parents*. **They do not belong to the state.**

So why were we hundreds of thousands of Hoosiers flagged by a computer tracking device and sent this letter?

The reason is because we chose not to vaccinate our daughter for a sexually transmitted disease. She has been vaccinated for easily communicable diseases like Polio and Mumps. This, however, is something with completely different moral connotations and risk/benefit considerations.

The ISDH letter never clearly explains that HPV is a sexually transmitted infection, not an airborne pathogen. In fact there's a whole lot that this letter didn't say:

- It didn't say that the Obama Administration gave nearly \$50 million to states to promote this controversial vaccine.
- It didn't say that the manufacturers of the HPV vaccine have come under criticism for spending millions to lobby for the mandating or strong promotion of their vaccines to pre-teen children in dozens of states.
- It didn't say that several girls in the US have died from complications after taking the HPV vaccine.
- It didn't say that the HPV vaccine is not effective on at least 30% of the HPV strains that could lead to cervical cancer. (*This could give kids a false sense of security from STD's.*)
- It did say that the vaccine is most effective on young teens, or pre-teens, it did not reveal that experts do not know how long the

vaccine might actually work.

- It didn't say that while HPV is the most common STD, and it can be serious, most cases go away on their own.
- The letter ominously stated that "cancers can cause reproductive issues making it difficult or impossible to start a family." It did not note that the average age for cervical cancer is 48, long after most families are started, and perhaps even after the vaccine is effective.
- It didn't say that two years ago, Japan stopped mandating the HPV vaccine because of the abnormally high rate of adverse affects and questions about the vaccine's effectiveness.
- It didn't say that in 2010, India stopped requiring that girls receive the HPV vaccine after several died during the trials. India ordered an investigation. Today, one of the two major drug companies that manufacture the vaccine is now defending itself in India's courts regarding its practices and safety.
- While the ISDH letter expressed many health concerns, it didn't say that HPV causes anal cancer in gay men at a rate astronomically higher than heterosexuals. *Why is that?*

Again, I am not anti-pharmaceutical. I am not anti-vaccine. I certainly don't want anyone to get a virus that might lead to cancer. *I am for parental rights and limited government.* A nanny state is not my idea of a self-governing, free society. I think our founders would agree with me.

When a doctor who worked for one of the HPV vaccine manufacturers says something like [this](#), it makes me want to wait before I place my children at risk, *and I don't appreciate the state bugging me about my caution:*

"Gardasil is useless and costs a fortune. I predict that Gardasil will become the greatest medical scandal of all times because at some point in time, the evidence will add up to prove that this vaccine, technical and scientific feat that it may be, has absolutely no effect

on cervical cancer and that all the very many adverse effects which destroy lives and even kill, serve no other purpose than to generate profit for the manufacturers.” (Dr. Bernard Dalbergue, April 2014 French magazine translated title, Health Concerns)

I am not the only one concerned about the actions of this state agency. The **Home School Legal Defense Association** put out an alert to Hoosiers this week in which they warned, “the state has been snooping into immunization records.” They note that the HPV vaccine is voluntary in Indiana. They conclude, “It appears the ISDH is now using pressure tactics to increase the use of this vaccine.”

In February, some legislators in the Indiana House tried to pass a bill (**HB 1359**) that gave the ISDH new authority with the goal of achieving near universal HPV vaccination in Indiana. (*They hoped the bill would raise the HPV vaccination rate from 20% to over 80%*). It undercut the rights of parents to make an informed decision about this very different kind of disease immunization and without pressure from “Big Brother.”

Thankfully, when it was exposed, the bill was blocked in the House failing on a **44-55** vote. Yet, it seems that the intent of its backers was not stopped. Either language from that bill was quietly inserted somewhere else before the session ended, or the state agency simply went ahead with this intimidating letter to half a million Hoosier families on their own.

This raises questions about the role of the state and parental rights. It also is frustrating because this is not the state government of **Jerry Brown** and a bunch of liberals in California. *Need I say more that that?* If you received a similar letter, and share my concerns about it’s tactics and encroachment, you may want to contact the Governor’s office as well as your state legislators with your concerns.

You can Opt out of the state’s registry by filling out **IMMUNIZATION REGISTRY DATA EXCLUSION REQUEST <http://bit.ly/1MTIM15> submitting it to the state and giving a copy to your doctor.*

In Their Own Words:

"Many people want the government to protect the consumer. A much more urgent problem is to protect the consumer from the government." — Milton Friedman, Nobel Prize winning economist and author