

## **Testimony for the Interim Committee on Education, Jan. 23, 2020**

School Exclusion Policy in Washoe County

Thank you Chair Miller and Education Committee.

I am Katania Taylor. I am a concerned parent in Washoe county and I am also a health care provider and board member of Health Freedom Nevada.

We worked with a few of you last session on the vaccine exemption bill AB123. I want to say that we are extremely grateful to Chair Miller, Assemblywoman Tolles and Assemblywoman Gorelow for your open, respectful discourse and support during AB123. Thank you all.

I would like to bring up the school exclusion policy that was recently implemented in Washoe county. I would like to point out that had AB123 passed last session, the NRS that codifies the exclusion of healthy, unvaccinated children would have been removed.

The exclusion occurred this past November and December in Washoe County at Damonte Ranch High School. Nine-teen perfectly healthy, vaccine exempt children were excluded from school for 31 days because 4 fully vaccinated children came down with Pertussis.

They were to remain out of school for 21 days. Despite the fact that they were perfectly healthy and the only kids getting pertussis were fully vaccinated, these children were excluded, ostracized and demonized. These families were not contacted again. They had to reach out to teachers on their own. A few moms I spoke with had no guidance as to how to keep up with school work, what to make up, what they were responsible for, etc. One boy, deeply concerned with missing honors classes and losing his starting spot on the football team, chose to vaccinate. He was still out of school for 7 days and 3 weeks later was still catching up on school work. And he only missed 7 days.

These families were never contacted by the principle, school counselors or any other administration. They were only contacted by letter, 1 week AFTER their children were allowed to return to school on Dec 14. One mother told me that she received this letter on December 21 telling her that her son could return to school on Dec 14. No other contact and a letter that arrived 1 week late.

Eighteen days into their exclusion, a 4th child was discovered to have Pertussis. The excluded children had their 21-day clock reset, adding 10 more days to their punishment. 31 days. No school. No social support, no counseling. What must this do to the academics and success of these kids to say nothing of their social emotional well-being? Is this policy truly preventing the spread of Pertussis or merely punishing families that don't fully comply with the excessive CDC vaccination schedule? With outbreaks nation-wide exposing the failure of the Pertussis vaccine, with close to 100% of all outbreaks occurring in the fully vaccinated, how can this policy be just?

Experts warn that school exclusions lead to high rates of self-harm; How might an exclusion of this nature, being punished for no reason at all, affect these fragile teenagers? Shunned and ostracized for 30 days for being healthy, and legally exempt for medical or religious reasons. This treatment is inhumane and we need to remove NRS 392.446.

I have attached studies showing the failure of the pertussis vaccine; the likelihood of spreading the disease when recently vaccinated and the fact that the vaccine merely suppresses the symptoms of the infection, allowing carriers to go to school and spread the infection without knowing they have it. All thanks to the vaccine.

We ask you to protect Nevadans from the mandates of liability free, ineffective products, maintain religious exemptions, expand acceptance of medical exemptions and eliminate NRS392.446

Thank you

Katania Taylor, mom, healthcare provider, board member of Health Freedom Nevada

January 2015 - Pertussis epidemic despite high levels of vaccination coverage with acellular pertussis vaccine: <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamapediatrics/article-abstract/517017>

Pertussis vaccine losing efficacy because bacteria is mutating: <https://www.nbcnews.com/health/kids-health/whooping-cough-vaccine-less-effective-because-bacteria-mutating-study-suggests-n982816>

Resurgence of Whooping Cough May Owe to Vaccine's Inability to Prevent Infections: <http://www.bu.edu/sph/2017/09/21/resurgence-of-whooping-cough-may-owe-to-vaccines-inability-to-prevent-infections/>

Whooping cough resurgence due to vaccinated people not knowing they're infectious? <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/06/150624071018.htm?fbclid=IwAR2SivleAMYXOSDXihu0ktyamPwqXoZ5SYQBxOSAU1puNOiCal5dN-P6Kyc>

Increased susceptibility in individuals vaccinated with the DTaP: [https://academic.oup.com/jpids/article-abstract/8/4/334/5359449?redirectedFrom=fulltext&fbclid=IwAR11smN9M6mYiWBaEd7Rxi-6Wd\\_BjPDWcyjdwRJcq5zcZAg0VgJ6zbXRdww](https://academic.oup.com/jpids/article-abstract/8/4/334/5359449?redirectedFrom=fulltext&fbclid=IwAR11smN9M6mYiWBaEd7Rxi-6Wd_BjPDWcyjdwRJcq5zcZAg0VgJ6zbXRdww)

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### Percentage of 2019 Pertussis Cases Who Were Fully-Vaccinated



Bishop Manogue



Damonte Ranch



L.A. Harvard-Westlake



Houston St. Theresa

- 2019 Oxford Journal of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society study concludes, "all children who were primed by DTaP vaccines will be more susceptible to pertussis throughout their lifetimes, and there is no easy way to decrease this increased lifetime susceptibility." PMID: 30793754
- 2014 Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences study shows, "nonhuman primates vaccinated with aP were protected from severe symptoms but not infection and readily transmitted Bordetella pertussis to contacts." PMID: 24277828
- 2001 Emerging Infectious Diseases published: "vaccination has caused strains that are antigenically distinct from vaccine strains to be selected."  
MooiFR,vanLooi,KingA.AdaptationofBordetellapertussistoVaccination:ACauseforItsReemergence?EmergInfectDis.2001;7(7):526-528.  
<https://dx.doi.org/10.3201/eid0707.017708>
- The policy of excluding the unvaccinated from school fails to recognize that vaccinated individuals are capable of getting and spreading pertussis. Only those infected, asymptomatic or not, should be required to be quarantined.

### Measles and Artificially-Induced Herd Immunity

The term "Herd Immunity" originated from observations of a naturally immune population by A. W. Hedrich in Chicago in the early 1900's.

But has artificially-induced herd immunity proved to be sustainable? No. Outbreaks are increasingly happening in highly-vaccinated communities with vaccination rates well above the suggested herd immunity threshold.

PMID: 1884314, PMID: 24586717 And, the third booster shot has proven ineffective. PMID: 26597262

The Mayo Clinic is hopeful that a new, measles vaccine could finally eradicate measles. But they're not sure:

**"It remains then an open question as to whether the current vaccine is sufficiently immunogenic and efficacious to allow eradication—even though measles can be controlled, and even eliminated in some regions for defined periods of time. Whether**

**elimination can, in fact, be sustained is unknown, as it has not been evident over sufficiently long periods of time (decades) across geographic regions."**

PMID: 22196079

Models estimate that by 2050, highly vaccinated populations will have more people susceptible to measles than in the prevaccine era without even accounting for waning efficacy. PMID: 6741921

Additionally, the measles virus is mutating. One of the new strains, "lacks epitopes associated with half of the known antigenic sites, which significantly impacts our understanding of measles virus evolution." PMID: 28356529

The latest scientific literature suggests that artificially-induced immunity is not equal to natural herd immunity, and the accompanying protection for the susceptibles along with it, including the passive immunity that used to be given from naturally immune mothers to their newborns through breast milk. PMID: 23661802

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### OUR MISSION

Health Freedom Nevada is a nonprofit organization dedicated to upholding the Constitution of the United States with regards to freedom of religion and the natural right to bodily autonomy for ourselves and our children. We advocate for informed consent and parental choice regarding medical procedures and interventions.



### Nevadans are Losing Access to Primary Care

Families who have experienced harmful reactions to vaccines are losing access to primary care physicians unless they risk further harm to their child. Yet, there are no good risk-assessment models to determine who is most likely to experience severe, non-specific effects from vaccination.

Should kids who suffer adverse effects of vaccines be denied access to pediatric care? Should the siblings of children who died from or were harmed by vaccines have to risk vaccination in order to continue to see a pediatrician?

Nevadans deserve public health policies that promote individualized healthcare and medical treatments. We also need a more proactive method for observing, reporting, and responding to adverse events following vaccination.