

I am a school psychologist who has worked with children for the last 6 years. In my work with the children of the public school system I have heard so many stories of vaccine injuries from parents. I also have a niece who has cerebral palsy from her 3 month vaccines. I also have a cousin who has autism spectrum disorder from the MMR vaccine. I have seen first hand the issues that vaccines can cause for children both personally and professionally. All children deserve the right to a free and appropriate education despite their vaccination status. Not all children can handle the ingredients in vaccines and with family histories of vaccine related injuries parents should have the right to choose to not vaccinate. The current vaccination policy in Oregon is fine as it is and should not be altered. Medical exemption is hard to obtain even with proof of vaccine injury as most medical doctors won't sign off on medical exemptions. We believe that the government should not control what goes into our bodies in order to access education. Just as Oregon believes women should be able to choose life or death for her unborn child, we should also be able to choose to vaccinate or not for our born children. We need to make sure we are protecting all our children which means that parents need to make the best choice for their children without government involvement. Even with the recent measles outbreak in Washington there were no community acquired measles from the initial area. This means that no one got measles from the initial group of people that originally had them. Even though someone with measles went to OMSI and another person went to the Moda Center and exposed almost 20,000 people. Not a single person acquired measles from these exposures. This case shows our herd immunity is not compromised and we do not need to change legislature in order to protect our community. The CDC also states that 1 in 4 people that get measles will need to be hospitalized. In our most recent outbreak only 1 in 65 people were hospitalized and no one died. This also is another case that shows measles is not as scary as some may believe. I have looked through research related to vaccines and as someone who is highly trained in research with a Masters Education Specialist in school psychology and I have found most research backing up the fact that there are quite a few children that should not get all the vaccines or never be vaccinated. Please respect parents to be the governing authority of their children and do not force them to vaccinate if they do not think it's best for their children. Remember that it's their body and their choice not the government. Thank you,

Brittney Waugh
School Psychologist
Masters Education Specialist