



How the Gates Foundation is Robbing African Women of their Freedom and Their Lives

Obianuju Ekeocha | Nov 18, 2014

As the West pushes dangerous contraceptive drugs on African women, the author stands up for their dignity.

extensive research done by the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research center in Seattle and published by the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) in February 2012, with the research team stating clearly after their studies:

"We found that recent DMPA (Depo-Medroxyprogesterone acetate a.k.a Depo-Provera) use for 12 months or longer was associated with a 2.2-fold increased risk of invasive breast cancer."

In addition to this publication the team also made a compelling press release following their research.

Furthermore, this same product Depo-Provera has been clearly linked to permanent bone density loss and on this very note, Pfizer has had a staggering number of prosecutions, class-action law suits and out-of-court settlements all to the tune of millions of dollars.

As a direct result of this, the American Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued a compulsory "black-box" warning on this product that reads :

"Use of Depo-subQ Provera 104 or Depo Provera may cause you to lose calcium

stored in your bones. The longer you use Depo Provera, the more calcium you are likely to lose. The calcium may not return completely once you stop using Depo Provera. Loss of calcium may cause weak bones that could increase the risk that your bones might break, especially after menopause. It is not known whether your risk of developing osteoporosis may be greater if you are a teenager when you start to use Depo Provera. You should only use Depo Provera long term (more than 2 years) if other methods of birth control are not right for you."

This product is flawed. It is dangerous. And from all indications it could be lethal.

And in the developed countries, it has been marked as such.

In spite of this glaring reality, that which has been deemed unsuitable and terribly flawed in the land of the rich, has now been brought in to the land of the poor.

As an African woman my heart is racing today as I consider this latest collaborative move by Pfizer, Gates Foundation and CIFF.

I think about the full implications and ramifications of this on my people, my sisters, my aunties and my friends.

I think about the poor women in Africa who will have no means at all of filing class-action lawsuits against these giants from the western world.

I think about our sorely inadequate healthcare systems in Africa that are not in any way equipped to deal with the fallout or onslaught of the medical side effects like breast cancer, osteoporosis (bone density loss) as well as increased HIV infection rates, all associated with this contraceptive product.

I cannot help but think about the thousands of African women who will die as a direct result of this \$1 per piece product.

Yes, my heart is racing and my mind is reeling as I try to take it all in.

Simply put, this is racism, it is imperialism and it is a form of colonialism where the poor African women are being treated as subhuman subjects to the wealthy and worldly.

Who will speak up for the women of Africa? Who will lament the crass disregard for their well-being? Who will complain about the cruel disrespect with which they are being treated? Who will shed tears for the irreparable damage that could befall them?

I am only one African woman, but from where I stand I choose today to speak up, to lament, to complain and to shed silent tears for my fellow African women, with the hope that by the end of today, my words and tears may reach and touch the hearts of people of goodwill around the world who will join me in defending the dignity of the African women.

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