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Jan 18, 2018

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NATIONAL

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# Anti-vax movement makes 2019 list of top global health threats, but that's not the whole story

## (/stories/2019/1/16/1826740/-Anti-vax-movement-makes-2019-list-of-top-global-health-threats-but-that-s-not-the-whole-story)



Jessica Sutherland (/user/Jessica%20Sutherland)

Daily Kos Staff

Wednesday January 16, 2019 · 1:18 PM EST

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(<https://www.dailykos.com/story/2019/1/16/1826740/-Anti-vax-movement-makes-2019-list-of-top>)



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A needle prick of prevention can save our entire society a lifetime of pain ... or even just give more people a chance at life.

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A dangerous and illogical movement inspired by fear mongering and long-debunked junk science (<https://www.vox.com/2018/2/27/17057990/andrew-wakefield-vaccines-autism-study>)has a new and terrifying achievement to celebrate in 2019: The World Health Organization has placed “Vaccine Hesitancy” on its annual list of top global health emergencies. (<https://www.who.int/emergencies/ten-threats-to-global-health-in-2019>)In the report, the WHO, established nearly 71 years ago as an agency of the United Nations, seems to be far more polite in its assessment of the anti-vaccine movement’s impact than anyone directly harmed by the resurgence of all-but-eliminated diseases would be.

That’s because, quite simply, the anti-vax movement is just part of a larger picture.

TAGS

#AndrewWakefield  
(/news/AndrewW...

#Complacency  
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#Confidence  
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Vaccine hesitancy – the reluctance or refusal to vaccinate despite the availability of vaccines – threatens to reverse progress made in tackling vaccine-preventable diseases.

[...]

Measles, for example, has seen a 30% increase in cases globally. The reasons for this rise are complex, and not all of these cases are due to vaccine hesitancy. However, some countries that were close to eliminating the disease have seen a resurgence.

The reasons why people choose not to vaccinate are complex; a vaccines advisory group ([https://www.who.int/immunization/programmes\\_systems/vaccine\\_hesitancy/en/](https://www.who.int/immunization/programmes_systems/vaccine_hesitancy/en/)) to WHO identified complacency, inconvenience in accessing vaccines, and lack of confidence are key reasons underlying hesitancy.

Vaccine hesitancy, of course, is not the only dire emergency on the WHO list, and it’s not even the WHO’s only explanation for the resurgence of diseases like measles. Yet there’s no denying the role that the ever-growing and fact-resistant anti-vax movement, which includes those who insist the preventative healthcare causes autism, and those who view vaccination programs as just one part of a massive population controlling conspiracy, has played on global health in recent decades.

More recently, social media and vocal anti-vax celebrities have fueled the spread of the misinformation that prompts parents to make this dangerous choice for children too young to have a say. As the anti-vax movement grows (and their seemingly insane memes and rants go viral), it’s easy for the average bear to blame disgraced doctor Andrew Wakefield’s study or oh-so-vocal anti-vaxxer Jenny McCarthy (<https://newrepublic.com/article/115551/jenny-mccarthy-anti-vaccination-movement-blame-whooping-cough?fbclid=IwAR0u9NXcSVDty-jQ36WChoXg8M3Lql0MZUcenlQTXw6M0qakg5H1Lq3uppQ>) for the increased acceptance of this dangerous practice.

They may get most of the limelight and fuel most of the stereotypes, but Wakefield, the celebs who embrace his fake research, and the folks raging about thimerosal and mercury on social media comprise just one segment of the ever-growing population who refuses to get vaccinated these days, all contributing to this global health crisis.

**f**

 (<https://twitter.com/intent/tweet?>

utm\_medium=social&utm\_source=twitter&utm\_campaign=rachelaltersv&utm\_term=rachelaltersv) at the ridiculousness of it all. But the other two Cs are important as well. If confidence can be oversimplified to “I don’t trust it,” complacency can be boiled down to “I don’t need it,” and convenience comes down to “I can’t get it.” Thus, we’re dealing with not just issues fueled by weird conspiracy theories, but also issues of arrogance and accessibility.



It’s crucial to remember that vaccine hesitancy is a complex, multi-tiered issue affecting the entire planet, and it shouldn’t be defined solely by the well-known maniacs of the anti-vax movement that provide so much fodder for disdain and dismissal. Only then can we push through and conquer the other two Cs and get our society back to the herd immunity we all need and deserve—and that medical professionals worldwide worked so hard to secure.

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## U.S. Cardiologist: It's Like a Pressure Wash for Your Insides

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(https://wikibuy.com/blog/is-amazon-actually-giving-you-the-best-price-779e00e8958e?

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# If Your Dog’s Breed Is On This List, You Need Get Rid Of Them

Livestly

(http://livestly.com/dog-breeds-that-might-affect-homeowners-insurance-premiums/?

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# Couple Adopts Triplets. A Week Later, Doctors Reveal Unexpected News

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# Change Is Coming to Cremation And Funeral Pricing

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Scientists+Spot+Something+Unusual+In+The+Ocean+And+Make+Rare+Discovery-https%3A%2F%2Fstorage.googleapis.com%2Fcaw-uploads%2F5e60b84e-

d00d-4933-8aa3-7dc470a5eab3.jpg&utm\_term=dailykos&utm\_medium=Ma\_TS\_DE\_US\_D\_SriLankaDiscovery\_v116\_1710&utm\_content=newnext)

# Scientists Spot Something Unusual In The Ocean And Make Rare Discovery

DirectExpose

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Scientists+Spot+Something+Unusual+In+The+Ocean+And+Make+Rare+Discovery-https%3A%2F%2Fstorage.googleapis.com%2Fcaw-uploads%2F5e60b84e-

d00d-4933-8aa3-7dc470a5eab3.jpg&utm\_term=dailykos&utm\_medium=Ma\_TS\_DE\_US\_D\_SriLankaDiscovery\_v116\_1710&utm\_content=newnext)

(http://autooverload.com/perfectly-timed-moments-disaster-photos/?utm\_source=taboola&utm\_medium=taboola&utm\_campaign=tbperfectc21e)

# Photographers Captured These Moments When It All Went Wrong

Auto Overload

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(https://www.finance101.com/weird-homes/?utm\_source=talas&utm\_campaign=MSN\_SAFE\_Ra\_TS\_F101\_US\_D\_WeirdHomes\_v6\_1510-%5BPhotos%5D+Wait+Till+You+See+The+Inside.+They+Were+Tired+of+Paying+Rent%2C+So+They+Built+Themselves+A+Tiny+House.+See+What+It+Looks+Li

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# [Photos] Wait Till You See The Inside. They Were Tired of Paying Rent, So They Built Themselves A Tiny House. See What It Looks Like Finished

Finance101

(https://www.finance101.com/weird-homes/?utm\_source=talas&utm\_campaign=MSN\_SAFE\_Ra\_TS\_F101\_US\_D\_WeirdHomes\_v6\_1510-%5BPhotos%5D+Wait+Till+You+See+The+Inside.+They+Were+Tired+of+Paying+Rent%2C+So+They+Built+Themselves+A+Tiny+House.+See+What+It+Looks+Li

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## When You Retire, Avoid These States At All Costs

MoneyWise

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(http://www.lonny.com/Diane+Keaton+Dropped+1.5M+On+A+Desert+Abode?utm\_source=tabo&utm\_medium=cpc&utm\_campaign=Tabo-LN-Specials-US-Desktop-Diane-Keaton-Desert-Abode-2&utm\_content=dailykos)

## She Has The Most Unique Kitchen We've Ever Seen

Lonny

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(http://www.icepop.com/secret-compartment-dresser-hidden-treasure/?utm\_source=talas&utm\_campaign=D\_TS\_IP\_US\_D\_DresserTreasure\_v61\_0711-Man+Buys+Used+Dresser+With+A+Secret+Drawer.+Look+When+He+Opens+It-https%3A%2F%2Fstorage.googleapis.com%2Fcaw-uploads%2F7397219c-65b9-4c06-9c54-ba8d0c1a68c7.jpg&utm\_term=dailykos&utm\_medium=D\_TS\_IP\_US\_D\_DresserTreasure\_v61\_0711&utm\_content=newnext)

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## 5 Worst Foods for Arthritis and Joint Pain

Healthy Back Institute

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utm\_type=paid&utm\_source=Taboola&utm\_campaign=5WFa&utm\_source=taboola&utm\_medium=referral)

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(https://yeahmotor.com/aero/c-5-galaxy-facts/?

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%20Desktop%20USA&utm\_source=taboola&utm\_medium=dailykos&utm\_term=This+Massive+Cargo+Ship+Was+Missing+For+9+Years+And+Then+Suddenly+pubplus-uploads.s3.amazonaws.com%2F33182bfb-b80a-4cb8-80a8-7b761e82c05a.jpg)

## This Massive Cargo Ship Was Missing For 9 Years And Then Suddenly Turned Up

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%20Desktop%20USA&utm\_source=taboola&utm\_medium=dailykos&utm\_term=This+Massive+Cargo+Ship+Was+Missing+For+9+Years+And+Then+Suddenly+pubplus-uploads.s3.amazonaws.com%2F33182bfb-b80a-4cb8-80a8-7b761e82c05a.jpg)

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## When Girl Who Waves At Cop Suddenly Stops He Knows Something Is Wrong



## Comment Settings

January 16 · 01:18:38 PM (/comments/1826740/72603614#comment\_72603614)

## Tip Jar

★ 51 Recommend



**Lincoln green (/user/Lincoln green)** January 16 · 02:15:30 PM (/comments/1826740/72604461#comment\_72604461)

In the US there's another obstacle to vaccination: private bureaucracy. I recently tried to get my son vaccinated for the flu at a local Walgreens, and Walgreens said they'd charge \$40. Why wouldn't my Anthem Blue Cross insurance pay for it, I asked? Because Walgreens refuses to take Anthem Blue Cross insurance for vaccination, I was told. Other stuff yes, but vaccination is not part of the contract, apparently.

What kind of healthcare system do we have if major players like Anthem and Walgreens screw up *vaccination*? A *bad* healthcare system, that's what.

★ 33 Recommend

[new]



**OutofDate (/user/OutofDate) ▶ Lincoln green**

January 16 · 08:00:06 PM (/comments/1826740/72608492#comment\_72608492)

"A *bad* healthcare system" is a feature, not a bug.

★ 2 Recommend

[new]



(/user/smileycreek)

**smileycreek (/user/smileycreek) ▶ Lincoln green**

January 16 · 10:58:15 PM (/comments/1826740/72610257#comment\_72610257)

Many providers, including our local hospital, are literally boycotting Anthem Blue Cross because of their abysmal reimbursement rates.

★ 3 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Trounce and Bounce)

**Trounce and Bounce (/user/Trounce and Bounce) ▶ Lincoln green**

January 17 · 09:28:05 AM (/comments/1826740/72612910#comment\_72612910)

Neighborhood Walmart gave us flu shots. No charge. Don't know if there is a charge. Worth an ask.

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Newslurker)

**Newslurker (/user/Newslurker) ▶ Trounce and Bounce**

January 17 · 09:52:32 AM (/comments/1826740/72613170#comment\_72613170)

Kroger promotes free flu shots, though mine would be covered by Medicare anyway. Of course, you have to live in an area served by Kroger.

★ 1 Recommend



(/user/libera nos)

**libera nos (/user/libera nos)** January 16 · 02:32:31 PM (/comments/1826740/72604715#comment\_72604715)

One other reason that interacts with confidence, especially in Africa, but also among conservative religious groups worldwide, is *culture*. Combined with the aspect of confidence that says, we've been guinea pigs for or victims of Western experimentation.

★ 5 Recommend

[new]



(/user/raptavio)

**raptavio (/user/raptavio)** ▶ libera nos

January 16 · 07:07:45 PM (/comments/1826740/72607966#comment\_72607966)

Fortunately, the large majority of Africa are not so fearful.

★ 4 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Tomsank)

**Tomsank (/user/Tomsank)** ▶ raptavio

January 16 · 08:53:00 PM (/comments/1826740/72608994#comment\_72608994)

Unfortunately, more than you might think. At the street level, there is a strong mistrust of Western medicine, even where you don't have crazy governments spreading CT. Also unfortunately, they are not completely without reason to be wary.

★ 1 Recommend



(/user/Catte Nappe)

**Catte Nappe (/user/Catte Nappe)** January 16 · 04:23:27 PM (/comments/1826740/72606225#comment\_72606225)

The confidence issue looks very different in other parts of the world. While we are rolling our eyes over crackpots like Wakefield and McCarthy, and debunked autism links, and such there are parts of the world that absolutely distrust the motives of the vaccination programs.

One of the most striking instances of vaccine suspicion in Africa has concerned the polio vaccine. In 1999, British journalist Edward Hooper wrote *The River: A Journey to the Source of HIV/AIDS*. He speculated that the virus that causes AIDS transitioned from monkeys to humans via a polio vaccine. He argued that the polio vaccine was made from the cells of chimpanzees infected with the primate form of HIV (Simian immunodeficiency virus, or SIV), which adapted in humans and caused disease; and that there were coincidences in the sites where the polio vaccine was first administered and where the first cases of HIV originated.<sup>[20]</sup>

(<https://www.historyofvaccines.org/index.php/content/articles/cultural-perspectives-vaccination#Source%2020>) Although scientists and medical scholars have provided plentiful evidence to discount Hooper's ideas, media attention has sparked conspiracy theories and concerns globally.<sup>[21]</sup>

(<https://www.historyofvaccines.org/index.php/content/articles/cultural-perspectives-vaccination#Source%2021>)

[www.historyofvaccines.org/...](http://www.historyofvaccines.org/)

(<https://www.historyofvaccines.org/index.php/content/articles/cultural-perspectives-vaccination>)

When a rumour surfaced in 2003 that Nigeria's polio vaccine was possibly being contaminated with anti-fertility agents

(<http://www.thisdaylive.com/index.php/2017/10/18/dsphcda-rumour-of-killer-vaccine-stalling-routine-immunisation-in-nigeria/>) a boycott of the vaccine ensued and the country's polio immunisation campaign was dealt a heavy blow

(<http://journals.plos.org/plosmedicine/article?id=10.1371/journal.pmed.0040073>).

The boycott lasted for nearly 15 months – from February 2003 to July 2004 – and it had devastating consequences. The polio caseload shot up. And by 2008, Nigeria alone accounted for 86% of all the polio cases on the continent.

...

The country's polio immunisation campaign, and its entire routine immunisation programme, face another possible setback. A round of rumours has been circulating that people dressed in Army uniforms were forcefully vaccinating primary and secondary school children and injecting them with unknown diseases. Social media was flooded with rumours that the campaign is a ploy to infect the children of the region with the Monkey Pox Virus

(<http://dailypost.ng/2017/10/12/monkeypox-massob-accuses-nigerian-government-importing-deadly-vaccines-iran/>) aimed to wipe out the people of the region.

[theconversation.com/...](http://theconversation.com/...) (<https://theconversation.com/nigerian-vaccination-campaigns-may-be-threatened-by-new-round-of-rumours-90443>)

Take the attack on a polio vaccination centre in Quetta, Pakistan (<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jan/13/bomb-attack-at-polio-vaccination-centre-kills-14-in-pakistani-city-of-quetta>) earlier this year. A bomb attributed to the Taliban killed 13 policemen and two others, causing the government to suspend polio vaccinations in the region until more security could be organised....The attack was widely condemned — but some claimed it was a justified ‘defence’ against a Western conspiracy to sterilise Muslim children (<https://www.scidev.net/global/health/children/>). Many people believed them.

Even people fleeing oppressive and fundamentalist regimes like the Taliban or the Islamic State (ISIS) often retain such suspicions. ....“Some people think it’s sterilisation, or that we are infecting people with HIV/AIDs,” an MSF nurse working in the camp told *SciDev.Net*. “They say it’s the government’s way of controlling the refugees.”

[www.scidev.net/...](http://www.scidev.net/...) (<https://www.scidev.net/global/health/editorials/immunisation-vaccine-health-problems.html>)

And they have some reasons for their suspicions:



Africa has harbored a number of high-profile Western medical miscreants who have intentionally administered deadly agents under the guise of providing health care or conducting research. In March 2000, Werner Bezwoda, a cancer researcher at South Africa’s Witwatersrand University, was fired after conducting medical experiments involving very high doses of chemotherapy on black breast-cancer patients, possibly without their knowledge or consent. In Zimbabwe, in 1995, Richard McGown, a Scottish anesthesiologist, was accused of five murders and convicted in the deaths of two infant patients whom he injected with lethal doses of morphine. And Dr. Michael Swango, ultimately convicted of murder after pleading guilty to killing three American patients with lethal injections of potassium, is suspected of causing the deaths of 60 other people, many of them in Zimbabwe and Zambia during the 1980s and ’90s. (Dr. Swango was never tried on the African charges.)

These medical killers are well known throughout Africa, but the most notorious is Wouter Basson, a former head of Project Coast, South Africa’s chemical and biological weapons unit under apartheid. Dr. Basson was charged with killing hundreds of blacks in South Africa and Namibia, from 1979 to 1987, many via injected poisons.

www.nytimes.com/...  
(https://www.nytimes.com/2007/07/31/opinion/31washington.html?\_r=0)

★ 11 Recommend

[new]



(/user/mungley)

**mungley (/user/mungley) ▶ Catte Nappe**

January 16 · 07:58:30 PM (/comments/1826740/72608481#comment\_72608481)

Your first three links are actually very similar to the Wakefield and McCarthy conspiracies. People with their own agendas convincing others not to get vaccinated for a fabricated reason.

★ 3 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Catte Nappe)

Catte Nappe (/user/Catte Nappe) ▶ mungley

January 16 · 08:58:13 PM (/comments/1826740/72609061#comment\_72609061)

Fabricated reasons that are the more believable to people for the “miscreants” in the final link.

★ 2 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Assaf)

Assaf (/user/Assaf) ▶ Catte Nappe

January 16 · 07:59:15 PM (/comments/1826740/72608485#comment\_72608485)

Well, the first 3 of the 4 quotations describe conspiracy theories, not much different from Wakefield’s. But the third is a very real trauma.

I’ll raise you one: Abdullahi vs. Pfizer.  
([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abdullahi\\_v.\\_Pfizer,\\_Inc.](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abdullahi_v._Pfizer,_Inc.))

The lead investigator, Dr. Abdulhamid Isa Dutse, later provided a letter of approval for human trials  
([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human\\_experimentation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human_experimentation)) that was found to be falsified.<sup>[1]</sup> ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abdullahi\\_v.\\_Pfizer,\\_Inc.#cite\\_note-Wise-1](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abdullahi_v._Pfizer,_Inc.#cite_note-Wise-1)) The Nigerian government called the trial "an illegal trial of an unregistered drug."<sup>[6]</sup> ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abdullahi\\_v.\\_Pfizer,\\_Inc.#cite\\_note-StephensMay72006-6](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abdullahi_v._Pfizer,_Inc.#cite_note-StephensMay72006-6)) It has been alleged that participants and their families were not told that they were part of a trial, and that *Médecins Sans Frontières* was offering the standard treatment in another part of the same building.

Kano Nigeria where it took place, is still 20 years later an epicenter of super-low vaccination rates and super-high preventable child mortality.

★ 6 Recommend

[new]



(/user/susanala)

susanala (/user/susanala) ▶ Catte Nappe

January 16 · 08:05:50 PM (/comments/1826740/72608560#comment\_72608560)

Don’t forget the CIA’s **fake vaccination program**  
(<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2011/jul/11/cia-fake-vaccinations-osama-bin-ladens-dna>) in Abbottabad, Pakistan.

★ 4 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Tomsank)

**Tomsank (/user/Tomsank)** ▶ **Catte Nappe**

January 16 · 08:54:40 PM (/comments/1826740/72609015#comment\_72609015)

Wish I had read your comment before posting mine saying the same thing, but without all of your facts. Thanks.

★ 1 Recommend



(/user/Danarchist)

**Danarchist (/user/Danarchist)** January 16 · 05:43:02 PM (/comments/1826740/72607035#comment\_72607035)

When I talk to people in the US about this, I never hear anything about contaminated cells or sterilization agents. It's ALWAYS about the phony autism link. So yes, i DO blame Jenny McCarthy and her ilk.

★ 9 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Newslurker)

**Newslurker (/user/Newslurker)** ▶ **Danarchist**

January 17 · 09:58:03 AM (/comments/1826740/72613216#comment\_72613216)

And I blame Oprah, for giving her a high profile platform.

★ 0 Recommend



(/user/Kymber)

**Kymber (/user/Kymber)** January 16 · 07:06:52 PM (/comments/1826740/72607957#comment\_72607957)

Thank you Jenny McCarthy, whose shrill anti-vax screed still echoes in my head, years after she got all that media attention about it.

Because of meds I take, I have to be careful about what vaccines I take (for example, I cannot have the more-effective “live” flu vaccination because I would be guaranteed to catch the flu as a result), but I have a good primary care physician who checks against all my prescriptions and only administers those vaccines which will not do me harm rather than good.

This irritates my insurance company no end, because they'd rather I just go to CVS and get vaccinated on the cheap, but f\*ck them ... it's my body, not theirs.

★ 6 Recommend

[new]



(/user/raptavio)

**raptavio (/user/raptavio)** ▶ **Kymber**

January 16 · 07:09:14 PM (/comments/1826740/72607979#comment\_72607979)

You're exactly the kind of person that universal vaccination is there to protect — someone immunocompromised.

★ 14 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Kymber)

**Kymber (/user/Kymber)** ▶ **raptavio**

January 16 · 07:25:25 PM (/comments/1826740/72608162#comment\_72608162)

Thank you. That one sentence succinctly says that you get it.

★ 6 Recommend

[new]



(/user/raptavio)

**raptavio (/user/raptavio)** ▶ **Kymber**

January 16 · 07:39:05 PM (/comments/1826740/72608306#comment\_72608306)

Smacking anti-vaxxers is one of my little crusades — so I try to stay as educated as a layman can be.

But you're more than welcome. And I hope you continue to be healthy.

★ 5 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Newslurker)

**Newslurker (/user/Newslurker)** ▶ **Kymber**

January 17 · 10:04:23 AM (/comments/1826740/72613259#comment\_72613259)

I have a chronic heart condition. Though it does not affect vaccinations, I do have to be careful of drug interactions. My cardiologist insists I get a “flu shot”, though my immune system is weak enough that I often have a common cold during the season and cannot get one as a consequence. The only over-the-counter pain med I can take is Tylenol, due to interactions.

I understand your situation.

★ 1 Recommend

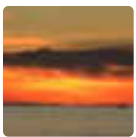


(/user/onionjim)

**onionjim (/user/onionjim)** January 16 · 07:34:03 PM (/comments/1826740/72608259#comment\_72608259)

Thanks. I’m working on a theory that anti vaxers also think the moon landing was a hoax.

★ 5 Recommend



(/user/indycam)

**indycam (/user/indycam)** January 16 · 07:37:28 PM (/comments/1826740/72608291#comment\_72608291)

Let’s all do the very best we can do to get everyone up to speed .

★ 3 Recommend



(/user/analemma)

**analemma (/user/analemma)** January 16 · 07:41:09 PM (/comments/1826740/72608324#comment\_72608324)

RFK, Jr. is also an anti-vaxer, anti-science, conspiracy nut.

★ 5 Recommend



(/user/Assaf)

**Assaf (/user/Assaf)** January 16 · 07:51:45 PM (/comments/1826740/72608425#comment\_72608425)

In most of Africa and parts of Asia, the main obstacle is still the third one: access. “Convenience” would be an understatement: we’re talking having to travel many km to the nearest immunization clinic, where vaccine X may be given once a week, or once a month, or be out of stock once you get there.

Or you and your kid might be turned away because the 10-dose vial won't be opened b/c there are not enough kids showing up today, and they don't want to run out of vials before the next shipment arrives.

Against that background, Western anti-vaxxers' privileged selfish idiocy becomes an even greater disgrace.

★ 6 Recommend



(/user/vzfk3s)

**vzfk3s (/user/vzfk3s)** January 16 · 07:56:26 PM (/comments/1826740/72608462#comment\_72608462)

When the new singles vaccine Shingrex, came out I went to the store I get my flu shot at. I was told BC/BS would not pay for the 2 shots @ \$204 each. I said to heck with that. 2 months later I asked again and was told BC/BS decided it was cheaper to cover the vax price with a \$ 20 copay then have people going to ER. I am not a Doc, but I could have told them that!

★ 10 Recommend



(/user/macknacat58)

**macknacat58 (/user/macknacat58)** January 16 · 08:55:20 PM (/comments/1826740/72609024#comment\_72609024)

thank you for your post- in my local community, I'd wager well over 50% go unvaccinated. Most are college educated. Most self describe as "progressive" .....most are still "oh- autism" or "oh - mercury" ...amazing that they dis Big Pharma [not my fav corporate cluster for sure] but still don't want to believe that a huckster ginned up the autism link so he could make a bunch of money [did the Brits finally toss his sorry ass in jail?]

Another nasty consequence of this POV is that the anti science stance that it nurtures is somewhere on the continuum that eventually funds charter schools with racist, anti gay [can you say "Mother Pence?"] anti anthropogenic climate change curricula ....

oh yea- and around here it quickly kills the cancer pts who believe cannabis cures everything....

★ 1 Recommend



(/user/easong)

**easong (/user/easong)** January 16 · 10:03:20 PM (/comments/1826740/72609699#comment\_72609699)

Note to anti-vaxxers: why reject vaccines when you're happy to take other meds prescribed by your doctor when you're in dire straits?



Also: whether you think vaccines are a conspiracy or not, don't you realize that it's Republicans that will actually kill you?

I recommend you focus on that first.

★ 4 Recommend



(/user/smileycreek)

**smileycreek (/user/smileycreek)** January 16 · 10:56:19 PM (/comments/1826740/72610239#comment\_72610239)

This is a balanced presentation of the three vaccination choice *inhibitors* that covers the conversations I have with my patients every week.

I also see a fourth one, *Concern*. It's not unusual for someone to have an unrelated adverse event shortly after a vaccine. A sudden sore throat, a minor contact dermatitis, a headache or malaise brought on by seasonal blues; any number of minor incidental physical complaints can and do arise after a routine vaccination, but from that point on, correlation = causation.

What I often hear is something along the lines of, *Oh, I had a reaction to [x] vaccine, so I don't do vaccines anymore and I never get sick anyway.*

The answer is patience and a clear statement of, *This is why I get vaccines*. If they trust me enough to hear their concerns I can only hope they'll trust me enough to hear my opinions.

Shaming people or making them feel stupid for their position does no good at all.

★ 4 Recommend

[new]



(/user/raptavio)

**raptavio (/user/raptavio)** ▶ **smileycreek**

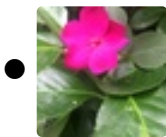
January 17 · 07:52:49 AM (/comments/1826740/72612140#comment\_72612140)

Not if the goal is to get *them* to take their vaccines.

If the goal is to prevent their idiocy from *spreading*, mockery and shame is a much more effective tool in the toolbox.

★ 1 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Crabby Patty)

**Crabby Patty (/user/Crabby Patty)** ▶ **raptavio**

January 17 · 08:13:21 AM (/comments/1826740/72612250#comment\_72612250)

No physician would behave that way with their patients, nor should they.

Building a relationship and trust is the foundation of good primary care, which extends far beyond vaccinations.

★ 2 Recommend

[new]



(/user/raptavio)

**raptavio (/user/raptavio)** ▶ **Crabby Patty**

January 17 · 08:23:11 AM (/comments/1826740/72612323#comment\_72612323)

No, that kind of shaming is definitely not a doctor’s role with their patients. They have duties to those in their care, as well they should.

For the rest of us though, we are not so constrained.

★ 3 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Lenny Flank)

**Lenny Flank (/user/Lenny Flank)** ▶ **raptavio**

January 17 · 10:38:35 AM

(/comments/1826740/72613627#comment\_72613627)

Indeed, the reason why our own resident anti-vaxxers are not regaling us in the comments here is because there are so many of us who kick them in the head every time they open their idiotic mouths and then bojo their ass.

I consider that a win. I have no sympathy whatever for them, and they have no place in a reality-based community. I want them to sit down and STFU.

★ 1 Recommend

[new]



(/user/raptavio)

**raptavio (/user/raptavio)** ▶ **Lenny Flank**

January 17 · 01:18:57 PM

(/comments/1826740/72615728#comment\_72615728)

Yep.

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Lenny Flank)

**Lenny Flank (/user/Lenny Flank)** ▶ **raptavio**

January 17 · 10:35:28 AM (/comments/1826740/72613588#comment\_72613588)

Alinksy's Rules for Radicals, number five: "Ridicule is man's most potent weapon."  
:)

★ 1 Recommend

[new]



(/user/deanatduke)

**deanatduke (/user/deanatduke)** ▶ **smileycreek**

January 17 · 12:54:24 PM (/comments/1826740/72615366#comment\_72615366)

As a physician, I have addressed this issue thousands of times over the years. For those patients who are truly interested in learning more about the history of vaccines and the evidence regarding the anti-vax movement, I have sometimes recommended a book "The Panic Virus," which is well written and explains many of their concerns.

★ 1 Recommend



(/user/Trounce and Bounce)

**Trounce and Bounce (/user/Trounce and Bounce)**

January 17 · 09:35:25 AM (/comments/1826740/72612998#comment\_72612998)

I'd rage if I could, but that crowd probably isn't reading this. Selfish, uninformed and closed to reality, anti-vaxers are a pox upon our society. No pun, just harsh judgement from me.

★ 2 Recommend



(/user/rustygh)

**rustygh (/user/rustygh)** January 17 · 10:14:51 AM (/comments/1826740/72613351#comment\_72613351)

These are the only people that are actually more stupid then tRump followers!

★ 1 Recommend



(/user/Jymmit)

**Jymmit (/user/Jymmit)** January 17 · 11:01:14 AM (/comments/1826740/72613928#comment\_72613928)

To be fair, anti-vaccine people are no more insane than people who claim to believe that climate change is causing the current mass extinction and impending death of human civilization, yet still drive cars, fly in airplanes, believe in god... you name it.

And in this country, continue to allow their government to spread death and destruction around the globe in the name of freedom and democracy (protect/promote Capital interests). Nothing "nutjobs!" about all this on DK though.

For good or bad, they are actually acting accordingly with what they claim to believe (in just this case of course, because they act like everyone else in every other way).

Humanity has a lot to work out if we're not going the way of the Dodo (why are they extinct, anyway?...)

★ 1 Recommend



(/user/marc921hotmail)

**marc921hotmail (/user/marc921hotmail)** January 17 · 11:20:03 AM (/comments/1826740/72614154#comment\_72614154)

Maybe the anti-vax movement is simply another method to get rid of minorities by the right wing nut jobs? Just a thought

★ 0 Recommend



(/user/Oakknot)

**Oakknot (/user/Oakknot)** January 17 · 12:19:35 PM (/comments/1826740/72614869#comment\_72614869)

Regardless of what motivates parents to not vaccinate their children, the refusal to do so is insane. In Vancouver, Washington right now, authorities are dealing with an ever widening outbreak of measles because of so many non-vaccinated individuals.

★ 2 Recommend



(/user/deanatduke)  
**deanatduke (/user/deanatduke)** January 17 · 12:48:09 PM (/comments/1826740/72615279#comment\_72615279)

For anyone who is interested in learning more about the reality of the anti-vax movement and the history of vaccines, I suggest “The Panic Virus.” Vaccines are one of the most important advances in the history of medical science.

★ 1 Recommend



(/user/Kelly S)  
**Kelly S (/user/Kelly S)** January 17 · 01:00:16 PM (/comments/1826740/72615460#comment\_72615460)

This arrogance and the constant shrill 'your stupid' is why I am looking forward to proportional representation in government, if we ever get there, and why I am not a Democrat. I may negative vote Democrat but don't support this arrogance that leaves zero room for outside info. and growth. Gee who else is like this?

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/raptavio)  
**raptavio (/user/raptavio) ▶ Kelly S**

January 17 · 01:20:15 PM (/comments/1826740/72615747#comment\_72615747)

What outside info do you imagine is missing? And outside what, specifically? Outside the realm of medicine and scientific research?

★ 0 Recommend



(/user/Midwest Farmers Wife)  
**Midwest Farmers Wife (/user/Midwest Farmers Wife)**  
January 17 · 01:23:03 PM (/comments/1826740/72615793#comment\_72615793)

There might be another reason they aren't mentioning. When my children were little, they had about ten vaccines to do. Now, the state requires 36 to enter school...36! Seems to me that they have moved from preventative medicine to medicine that enriches pharmaceutical companies. Since my grandkids have a family history of immune system disorders, its not much wonder that their parents are a little frightened by the sheer number of vaccines required...especially the live virus ones or the mixed ones like MMR.

★ 0 Recommend



(/user/Jessica Sutherland)

**Jessica Sutherland (/user/Jessica Sutherland)**

January 16 · 01:18:38 PM (/comments/1826740/72603614#comment\_72603614)

**Tip Jar**

★ 51 Recommend



(/user/Lincoln green)

**Lincoln green (/user/Lincoln green)** January 16 · 02:15:30 PM (/comments/1826740/72604461#comment\_72604461)

In the US there’s another obstacle to vaccination: private bureaucracy. I recently tried to get my son vaccinated for the flu at a local Walgreens, and Walgreens said they’d charge \$40. Why wouldn’t my Anthem Blue Cross insurance pay for it, I asked? Because Walgreens refuses to take Anthem Blue Cross insurance for vaccination, I was told. Other stuff yes, but vaccination is not part of the contract, apparently.

What kind of healthcare system do we have if major players like Anthem and Walgreeens screw up *vaccination*? A *bad* healthcare system, that’s what.

★ 33 Recommend

[new]



(/user/OutofDate)

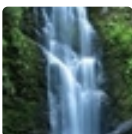
**OutofDate (/user/OutofDate) ▶ Lincoln green**

January 16 · 08:00:06 PM (/comments/1826740/72608492#comment\_72608492)

“A *bad* healthcare system” is a feature, not a bug.

★ 2 Recommend

[new]



(/user/smileycreek)

**smileycreek (/user/smileycreek) ▶ Lincoln green**

January 16 · 10:58:15 PM (/comments/1826740/72610257#comment\_72610257)

Many providers, including our local hospital, are literally boycotting Anthem Blue Cross because of their abysmal reimbursement rates.



★ 3 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Trounce and Bounce)

**Trounce and Bounce (/user/Trounce and Bounce) ▶ Lincoln green**

January 17 · 09:28:05 AM (/comments/1826740/72612910#comment\_72612910)

Neighborhood Walmart gave us flu shots. No charge. Don't know if there is a charge. Worth an ask.

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Newslurker)

**Newslurker (/user/Newslurker) ▶ Trounce and Bounce**

January 17 · 09:52:32 AM (/comments/1826740/72613170#comment\_72613170)

Kroger promotes free flu shots, though mine would be covered by Medicare anyway. Of course, you have to live in an area served by Kroger.

★ 1 Recommend



(/user/libera nos)

**libera nos (/user/libera nos)** January 16 · 02:32:31 PM (/comments/1826740/72604715#comment\_72604715)

One other reason that interacts with confidence, especially in Africa, but also among conservative religious groups worldwide, is *culture*. Combined with the aspect of confidence that says, we've been guinea pigs for or victims of Western experimentation.

★ 5 Recommend

[new]



(/user/raptavio)

**raptavio (/user/raptavio) ▶ libera nos**

January 16 · 07:07:45 PM (/comments/1826740/72607966#comment\_72607966)

Fortunately, the large majority of Africa are not so fearful.

★ 4 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Tomsank)

**Tomsank (/user/Tomsank)** ▶ raptavio

January 16 · 08:53:00 PM (/comments/1826740/72608994#comment\_72608994)

Unfortunately, more than you might think. At the street level, there is a strong mistrust of Western medicine, even where you don't have crazy governments spreading CT. Also unfortunately, they are not completely without reason to be wary.

★ 1 Recommend



(/user/Catte Nappe)

**Catte Nappe (/user/Catte Nappe)** January 16 · 04:23:27 PM (/comments/1826740/72606225#comment\_72606225)

The confidence issue looks very different in other parts of the world. While we are rolling our eyes over crackpots like Wakefield and McCarthy, and debunked autism links, and such there are parts of the world that absolutely distrust the motives of the vaccination programs.

One of the most striking instances of vaccine suspicion in Africa has concerned the polio vaccine. In 1999, British journalist Edward Hooper wrote *The River: A Journey to the Source of HIV/AIDS*. He speculated that the virus that causes AIDS transitioned from monkeys to humans via a polio vaccine. He argued that the polio vaccine was made from the cells of chimpanzees infected with the primate form of HIV (Simian immunodeficiency virus, or SIV), which adapted in humans and caused disease; and that there were coincidences in the sites where the polio vaccine was first administered and where the first cases of HIV originated.<sup>[20]</sup>

(<https://www.historyofvaccines.org/index.php/content/articles/cultural-perspectives-vaccination#Source%2020>) Although scientists and medical scholars have provided plentiful evidence to discount Hooper's ideas, media attention has sparked conspiracy theories and concerns globally.<sup>[21]</sup>

(<https://www.historyofvaccines.org/index.php/content/articles/cultural-perspectives-vaccination#Source%2021>)

[www.historyofvaccines.org/...](https://www.historyofvaccines.org/)

(<https://www.historyofvaccines.org/index.php/content/articles/cultural-perspectives-vaccination>)

When a rumour surfaced in 2003 that Nigeria's polio vaccine was possibly being contaminated with anti-fertility agents

(<http://www.thisdaylive.com/index.php/2017/10/18/dsphcda-rumour-of-killer-vaccine-stalling-routine-immunisation-in-nigeria/>) a boycott of the vaccine ensued and the country's polio immunisation campaign was dealt a heavy blow

(<http://journals.plos.org/plosmedicine/article?id=10.1371/journal.pmed.0040073>).

The boycott lasted for nearly 15 months – from February 2003 to July 2004 – and it had devastating consequences. The polio caseload shot up. And by 2008, Nigeria alone accounted for 86% of all the polio cases on the continent.

...

The country's polio immunisation campaign, and its entire routine immunisation programme, face another possible setback. A round of rumours has been circulating that people dressed in Army uniforms were forcefully vaccinating primary and secondary school children and injecting them with unknown diseases. Social media was flooded with rumours that the campaign is a ploy to infect the children of the region with the Monkey Pox Virus

(<http://dailypost.ng/2017/10/12/monkeypox-massob-accuses-nigerian-government-importing-deadly-vaccines-iran/>) aimed to wipe out the people of the region.

[theconversation.com/...](http://theconversation.com/...) (<https://theconversation.com/nigerian-vaccination-campaigns-may-be-threatened-by-new-round-of-rumours-90443>)

Take the attack on a polio vaccination centre in Quetta, Pakistan (<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jan/13/bomb-attack-at-polio-vaccination-centre-kills-14-in-pakistani-city-of-quetta>) earlier this year. A bomb attributed to the Taliban killed 13 policemen and two others, causing the government to suspend polio vaccinations in the region until more security could be organised....The attack was widely condemned — but some claimed it was a justified ‘defence’ against a Western conspiracy to sterilise Muslim children (<https://www.scidev.net/global/health/children/>). Many people believed them.

Even people fleeing oppressive and fundamentalist regimes like the Taliban or the Islamic State (ISIS) often retain such suspicions. ....“Some people think it’s sterilisation, or that we are infecting people with HIV/AIDs,” an MSF nurse working in the camp told *SciDev.Net*. “They say it’s the government’s way of controlling the refugees.”

[www.scidev.net/... \(https://www.scidev.net/global/health/editorials/immunisation-vaccine-health-problems.html\)](https://www.scidev.net/global/health/editorials/immunisation-vaccine-health-problems.html)

And they have some reasons for their suspicions:

Africa has harbored a number of high-profile Western medical miscreants who have intentionally administered deadly agents under the guise of providing health care or conducting research. In March 2000, Werner Bezwoda, a cancer researcher at South Africa’s Witwatersrand University, was fired after conducting medical experiments involving very high doses of chemotherapy on black breast-cancer patients, possibly without their knowledge or consent. In Zimbabwe, in 1995, Richard McGown, a Scottish anesthesiologist, was accused of five murders and convicted in the deaths of two infant patients whom he injected with lethal doses of morphine. And Dr. Michael Swango, ultimately convicted of murder after pleading guilty to killing three American patients with lethal injections of potassium, is suspected of causing the deaths of 60 other people, many of them in Zimbabwe and Zambia during the 1980s and ’90s. (Dr. Swango was never tried on the African charges.)

These medical killers are well known throughout Africa, but the most notorious is Wouter Basson, a former head of Project Coast, South Africa’s chemical and biological weapons unit under apartheid. Dr. Basson was charged with killing hundreds of blacks in South Africa and Namibia, from 1979 to 1987, many via injected poisons.

www.nytimes.com/...  
(https://www.nytimes.com/2007/07/31/opinion/31washington.html?\_r=0)

★ 11 Recommend

[new]



(/user/mungley)

**mungley (/user/mungley) ▶ Catte Nappe**

January 16 · 07:58:30 PM (/comments/1826740/72608481#comment\_72608481)

Your first three links are actually very similar to the Wakefield and McCarthy conspiracies. People with their own agendas convincing others not to get vaccinated for a fabricated reason.

★ 3 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Catte Nappe)

Catte Nappe (/user/Catte Nappe) ▶ mungley

January 16 · 08:58:13 PM (/comments/1826740/72609061#comment\_72609061)

Fabricated reasons that are the more believable to people for the “miscreants” in the final link.

★ 2 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Assaf)

Assaf (/user/Assaf) ▶ Catte Nappe

January 16 · 07:59:15 PM (/comments/1826740/72608485#comment\_72608485)

Well, the first 3 of the 4 quotations describe conspiracy theories, not much different from Wakefield’s. But the third is a very real trauma.

I’ll raise you one: Abdullahi vs. Pfizer.  
([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abdullahi\\_v.\\_Pfizer,\\_Inc.](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abdullahi_v._Pfizer,_Inc.))

The lead investigator, Dr. Abdulhamid Isa Dutse, later provided a letter of approval for human trials  
([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human\\_experimentation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human_experimentation)) that was found to be falsified.<sup>[1]</sup> ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abdullahi\\_v.\\_Pfizer,\\_Inc.#cite\\_note-Wise-1](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abdullahi_v._Pfizer,_Inc.#cite_note-Wise-1)) The Nigerian government called the trial "an illegal trial of an unregistered drug."<sup>[6]</sup> ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abdullahi\\_v.\\_Pfizer,\\_Inc.#cite\\_note-StephensMay72006-6](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abdullahi_v._Pfizer,_Inc.#cite_note-StephensMay72006-6)) It has been alleged that participants and their families were not told that they were part of a trial, and that *Médecins Sans Frontières* was offering the standard treatment in another part of the same building.

Kano Nigeria where it took place, is still 20 years later an epicenter of super-low vaccination rates and super-high preventable child mortality.

★ 6 Recommend

[new]



(/user/susanala)

susanala (/user/susanala) ▶ Catte Nappe

January 16 · 08:05:50 PM (/comments/1826740/72608560#comment\_72608560)

Don’t forget the CIA’s **fake vaccination program**  
(<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2011/jul/11/cia-fake-vaccinations-osama-bin-ladens-dna>) in Abbottabad, Pakistan.



★ 4 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Tomsank)

**Tomsank (/user/Tomsank)** ▶ **Catte Nappe**

January 16 · 08:54:40 PM (/comments/1826740/72609015#comment\_72609015)

Wish I had read your comment before posting mine saying the same thing, but without all of your facts. Thanks.

★ 1 Recommend



(/user/Danarchist)

**Danarchist (/user/Danarchist)** January 16 · 05:43:02 PM (/comments/1826740/72607035#comment\_72607035)

When I talk to people in the US about this, I never hear anything about contaminated cells or sterilization agents. It's ALWAYS about the phony autism link. So yes, i DO blame Jenny McCarthy and her ilk.

★ 9 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Newslurker)

**Newslurker (/user/Newslurker)** ▶ **Danarchist**

January 17 · 09:58:03 AM (/comments/1826740/72613216#comment\_72613216)

And I blame Oprah, for giving her a high profile platform.

★ 0 Recommend



(/user/Kymber)

**Kymber (/user/Kymber)** January 16 · 07:06:52 PM (/comments/1826740/72607957#comment\_72607957)

Thank you Jenny McCarthy, whose shrill anti-vax screed still echoes in my head, years after she got all that media attention about it.

Because of meds I take, I have to be careful about what vaccines I take (for example, I cannot have the more-effective “live” flu vaccination because I would be guaranteed to catch the flu as a result), but I have a good primary care physician who checks against all my prescriptions and only administers those vaccines which will not do me harm rather than good.

This irritates my insurance company no end, because they'd rather I just go to CVS and get vaccinated on the cheap, but f\*ck them ... it's my body, not theirs.

★ 6 Recommend

[new]



(/user/raptavio)

**raptavio (/user/raptavio)** ▶ **Kymber**

January 16 · 07:09:14 PM (/comments/1826740/72607979#comment\_72607979)

You're exactly the kind of person that universal vaccination is there to protect — someone immunocompromised.

★ 14 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Kymber)

**Kymber (/user/Kymber)** ▶ **raptavio**

January 16 · 07:25:25 PM (/comments/1826740/72608162#comment\_72608162)

Thank you. That one sentence succinctly says that you get it.

★ 6 Recommend

[new]



(/user/raptavio)

**raptavio (/user/raptavio)** ▶ **Kymber**

January 16 · 07:39:05 PM (/comments/1826740/72608306#comment\_72608306)

Smacking anti-vaxxers is one of my little crusades — so I try to stay as educated as a layman can be.

But you're more than welcome. And I hope you continue to be healthy.

★ 5 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Newslurker)

**Newslurker (/user/Newslurker)** ▶ **Kymber**

January 17 · 10:04:23 AM (/comments/1826740/72613259#comment\_72613259)

I have a chronic heart condition. Though it does not affect vaccinations, I do have to be careful of drug interactions. My cardiologist insists I get a “flu shot”, though my immune system is weak enough that I often have a common cold during the season and cannot get one as a consequence. The only over-the-counter pain med I can take is Tylenol, due to interactions.

I understand your situation.

★ 1 Recommend

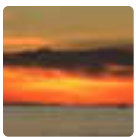


(/user/onionjim)

**onionjim (/user/onionjim)** January 16 · 07:34:03 PM (/comments/1826740/72608259#comment\_72608259)

Thanks. I’m working on a theory that anti vaxers also think the moon landing was a hoax.

★ 5 Recommend



(/user/indycam)

**indycam (/user/indycam)** January 16 · 07:37:28 PM (/comments/1826740/72608291#comment\_72608291)

Let’s all do the very best we can do to get everyone up to speed .

★ 3 Recommend



(/user/analemma)

**analemma (/user/analemma)** January 16 · 07:41:09 PM (/comments/1826740/72608324#comment\_72608324)

RFK, Jr. is also an anti-vaxer, anti-science, conspiracy nut.

★ 5 Recommend



(/user/Assaf)

**Assaf (/user/Assaf)** January 16 · 07:51:45 PM (/comments/1826740/72608425#comment\_72608425)

In most of Africa and parts of Asia, the main obstacle is still the third one: access. “Convenience” would be an understatement: we’re talking having to travel many km to the nearest immunization clinic, where vaccine X may be given once a week, or once a month, or be out of stock once you get there.

Or you and your kid might be turned away because the 10-dose vial won't be opened b/c there are not enough kids showing up today, and they don't want to run out of vials before the next shipment arrives.

Against that background, Western anti-vaxxers' privileged selfish idiocy becomes an even greater disgrace.

★ 6 Recommend



(/user/vzfk3s)

**vzfk3s (/user/vzfk3s)** January 16 · 07:56:26 PM (/comments/1826740/72608462#comment\_72608462)

When the new singles vaccine Shingrex, came out I went to the store I get my flu shot at. I was told BC/BS would not pay for the 2 shots @ \$204 each. I said to heck with that. 2 months later I asked again and was told BC/BS decided it was cheaper to cover the vax price with a \$ 20 copay then have people going to ER. I am not a Doc, but I could have told them that!

★ 10 Recommend



(/user/macknacat58)

**macknacat58 (/user/macknacat58)** January 16 · 08:55:20 PM (/comments/1826740/72609024#comment\_72609024)

thank you for your post- in my local community, I'd wager well over 50% go unvaccinated. Most are college educated. Most self describe as "progressive" .....most are still "oh- autism" or "oh - mercury" ...amazing that they dis Big Pharma [not my fav corporate cluster for sure] but still don't want to believe that a huckster ginned up the autism link so he could make a bunch of money [did the Brits finally toss his sorry ass in jail?]

Another nasty consequence of this POV is that the anti science stance that it nurtures is somewhere on the continuum that eventually funds charter schools with racist, anti gay [can you say "Mother Pence?"] anti anthropogenic climate change curricula ....

oh yea- and around here it quickly kills the cancer pts who believe cannabis cures everything....

★ 1 Recommend



(/user/easong)

**easong (/user/easong)** January 16 · 10:03:20 PM (/comments/1826740/72609699#comment\_72609699)

Note to anti-vaxxers: why reject vaccines when you're happy to take other meds prescribed by your doctor when you're in dire straits?

Also: whether you think vaccines are a conspiracy or not, don't you realize that it's Republicans that will actually kill you?

I recommend you focus on that first.

★ 4 Recommend



(/user/smileycreek)

**smileycreek (/user/smileycreek)** January 16 · 10:56:19 PM (/comments/1826740/72610239#comment\_72610239)

This is a balanced presentation of the three vaccination choice *inhibitors* that covers the conversations I have with my patients every week.

I also see a fourth one, *Concern*. It's not unusual for someone to have an unrelated adverse event shortly after a vaccine. A sudden sore throat, a minor contact dermatitis, a headache or malaise brought on by seasonal blues; any number of minor incidental physical complaints can and do arise after a routine vaccination, but from that point on, correlation = causation.

What I often hear is something along the lines of, *Oh, I had a reaction to [x] vaccine, so I don't do vaccines anymore and I never get sick anyway.*

The answer is patience and a clear statement of, *This is why I get vaccines*. If they trust me enough to hear their concerns I can only hope they'll trust me enough to hear my opinions.

Shaming people or making them feel stupid for their position does no good at all.

★ 4 Recommend

[new]



(/user/raptavio)

**raptavio (/user/raptavio)** ▶ **smileycreek**

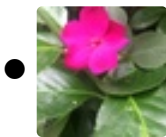
January 17 · 07:52:49 AM (/comments/1826740/72612140#comment\_72612140)

Not if the goal is to get *them* to take their vaccines.

If the goal is to prevent their idiocy from *spreading*, mockery and shame is a much more effective tool in the toolbox.

★ 1 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Crabby Patty)

**Crabby Patty (/user/Crabby Patty)** ▶ **raptavio**

January 17 · 08:13:21 AM (/comments/1826740/72612250#comment\_72612250)

No physician would behave that way with their patients, nor should they.

Building a relationship and trust is the foundation of good primary care, which extends far beyond vaccinations.

★ 2 Recommend

[new]



(/user/raptavio)

**raptavio (/user/raptavio)** ▶ **Crabby Patty**

January 17 · 08:23:11 AM (/comments/1826740/72612323#comment\_72612323)

No, that kind of shaming is definitely not a doctor’s role with their patients. They have duties to those in their care, as well they should.

For the rest of us though, we are not so constrained.

★ 3 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Lenny Flank)

**Lenny Flank (/user/Lenny Flank)** ▶ **raptavio**

January 17 · 10:38:35 AM

(/comments/1826740/72613627#comment\_72613627)

Indeed, the reason why our own resident anti-vaxxers are not regaling us in the comments here is because there are so many of us who kick them in the head every time they open their idiotic mouths and then bojo their ass.

I consider that a win. I have no sympathy whatever for them, and they have no place in a reality-based community. I want them to sit down and STFU.

★ 1 Recommend

[new]



(/user/raptavio)

**raptavio (/user/raptavio)** ▶ **Lenny Flank**

January 17 · 01:18:57 PM

(/comments/1826740/72615728#comment\_72615728)

Yep.

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/Lenny Flank)

**Lenny Flank (/user/Lenny Flank)** ▶ raptavio

January 17 · 10:35:28 AM (/comments/1826740/72613588#comment\_72613588)

Alinksy's Rules for Radicals, number five: "Ridicule is man's most potent weapon."  
:)

★ 1 Recommend

[new]



(/user/deanatduke)

**deanatduke (/user/deanatduke)** ▶ smileycreek

January 17 · 12:54:24 PM (/comments/1826740/72615366#comment\_72615366)

As a physician, I have addressed this issue thousands of times over the years. For those patients who are truly interested in learning more about the history of vaccines and the evidence regarding the anti-vax movement, I have sometimes recommended a book "The Panic Virus," which is well written and explains many of their concerns.

★ 1 Recommend



(/user/Trounce and Bounce)

**Trounce and Bounce (/user/Trounce and Bounce)**

January 17 · 09:35:25 AM (/comments/1826740/72612998#comment\_72612998)

I'd rage if I could, but that crowd probably isn't reading this. Selfish, uninformed and closed to reality, anti-vaxers are a pox upon our society. No pun, just harsh judgement from me.

★ 2 Recommend



(/user/rustygh)

**rustygh (/user/rustygh)** January 17 · 10:14:51 AM (/comments/1826740/72613351#comment\_72613351)

These are the only people that are actually more stupid then tRump followers!



★ 1 Recommend



(/user/Jymmit)

**Jymmit (/user/Jymmit)** January 17 · 11:01:14 AM (/comments/1826740/72613928#comment\_72613928)

To be fair, anti-vaccine people are no more insane than people who claim to believe that climate change is causing the current mass extinction and impending death of human civilization, yet still drive cars, fly in airplanes, believe in god... you name it.

And in this country, continue to allow their government to spread death and destruction around the globe in the name of freedom and democracy (protect/promote Capital interests). Nothing "nutjobs!" about all this on DK though.

For good or bad, they are actually acting accordingly with what they claim to believe (in just this case of course, because they act like everyone else in every other way).

Humanity has a lot to work out if we're not going the way of the Dodo (why are they extinct, anyway?...)

★ 1 Recommend



(/user/marc921hotmail)

**marc921hotmail (/user/marc921hotmail)** January 17 · 11:20:03 AM (/comments/1826740/72614154#comment\_72614154)

Maybe the anti-vax movement is simply another method to get rid of minorities by the right wing nut jobs? Just a thought

★ 0 Recommend



(/user/Oakknot)

**Oakknot (/user/Oakknot)** January 17 · 12:19:35 PM (/comments/1826740/72614869#comment\_72614869)

Regardless of what motivates parents to not vaccinate their children, the refusal to do so is insane. In Vancouver, Washington right now, authorities are dealing with an ever widening outbreak of measles because of so many non-vaccinated individuals.

★ 2 Recommend



(/user/deanatduke)  
**deanatduke (/user/deanatduke)** January 17 · 12:48:09 PM (/comments/1826740/72615279#comment\_72615279)

For anyone who is interested in learning more about the reality of the anti-vax movement and the history of vaccines, I suggest “The Panic Virus.” Vaccines are one of the most important advances in the history of medical science.

★ 1 Recommend



(/user/Kelly S)  
**Kelly S (/user/Kelly S)** January 17 · 01:00:16 PM (/comments/1826740/72615460#comment\_72615460)

This arrogance and the constant shrill 'your stupid' is why I am looking forward to proportional representation in government, if we ever get there, and why I am not a Democrat. I may negative vote Democrat but don't support this arrogance that leaves zero room for outside info. and growth. Gee who else is like this?

★ 0 Recommend

[new]



(/user/raptavio)  
**raptavio (/user/raptavio) ▶ Kelly S**

January 17 · 01:20:15 PM (/comments/1826740/72615747#comment\_72615747)

What outside info do you imagine is missing? And outside what, specifically? Outside the realm of medicine and scientific research?

★ 0 Recommend



(/user/Midwest Farmers Wife)  
**Midwest Farmers Wife (/user/Midwest Farmers Wife)**  
January 17 · 01:23:03 PM (/comments/1826740/72615793#comment\_72615793)

There might be another reason they aren't mentioning. When my children were little, they had about ten vaccines to do. Now, the state requires 36 to enter school...36! Seems to me that they have moved from preventative medicine to medicine that enriches pharmaceutical companies. Since my grandkids have a family history of immune system disorders, its not much wonder that their parents are a little frightened by the sheer number of vaccines required...especially the live virus ones or the mixed ones like MMR.

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