

Submission
No 256

INQUIRY INTO DENTAL SERVICES IN NSW

Organisation:

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Telephone:

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Theme:

Summary

From:
To: <socialissues@parliament.nsw.gov.au>
Date: Mon, Oct 17, 2005 3:36 pm
Subject: Fluoride

I find it absolutely outrageous that in the 21st century, with all the known history of man made chemical disasters, that this government would allow the fluoridation of Coffs Harbour drinking supply. Regardless of the mounting evidence of the harmful effects of 'man made' fluoride, why on earth would any one in their right minds go to all the cost of medicating an entire community, without their consent! I still can't quite understand how this debacle has got this far. I can assure you that this matter is far from settled and future generations will have to bear the cost of future litigation claims. Didn't we learn anything from tobacco, uranium and asbestos?
Putting aside the flagrant disregard of my democratic rights NOT to be medicated, why on earth do NSW bureaucrats think treating the symptoms of poor diet and excessive sugars in 'man made' food, instead of spending MY taxes on education of parents who clearly do not understand what effect poor diet has on, not only their children's teeth, but their whole body.
Surely clear and proper labelling of food items is a better solution. I see young kids being fed up on Coke, Icy Poles and chocolates and the NSW Health Department thinks they have poor teeth because their water is not fluoridated. Please give me a break!
How many parents understand exactly what amount of processed sugar is in the stuff they give their kids. Sugar is addictive and just like the way tobacco companies have disguised the addictiveness of nicotine for decades, major food companies are no better, in fact as their target consumer is under 16 years, probably worse.
If parents better understood what 40g of sugar per 100g actually meant they may be a more selective in what they feed their kids. That is about 8 tea spoons of sugar!!
Please, is there some one in our elected government who actually gives a damn. You can make a difference in these children's lives. They currently face the prospect of being dosed up on sugar, being overweight, prospects for diabetes and then medicated on fluoride in the misguided belief that this will reduce the number of fillings they have!
Healthy diet, regular exercise and oral hygiene are what you should be promoting. Please, for our kids, and in the interests of common sense, do something to treat the cause, not add to the problem.

Rod Macpherson

CC: <rkruck@doh.health.nsw.gov.au>