

Submission
No 248

INQUIRY INTO DENTAL SERVICES IN NSW

Organisation:

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Telephone:

Date Received: 6/09/2005

Theme:

Summary

1st September, 2005.

Ms J. Burnswoods,
Chair, Standing Committee on Social Issues,
Enquiry into NSW Dental Services,
Parliament House,
Sydney, NSW, 2000.

Dear Ms Burnswoods,

I submit the following to your Committee re the enquiry into dental services in NSW.

The final point of your enquiry deals with fluoridation of water supplies. This submission concerns that aspect only.

1. Fluoridation of a water supply, where medical treatment is administered without the permission of the recipient and at a rate only governed by the drinker's thirst, breaches all ethics hitherto endorsed by any doctor-patient relationship.

Does this conflict with our basic Australian freedoms?

2. Many members of the medical and dental fraternity find fault with the practice of fluoridation and have discovered undeniable evidence of major medical problems caused thereby.

Has there yet been one proper scientific experiment or study which proves the effectiveness and safety of fluoridation as claimed?

3. Health Department employees and some professionals "endorse" the idea despite having no personal contact with scientific or democratic aspects.

"No proof of harm" is vastly different from "proof of no harm".

Are people not entitled to clear proof of no harm?

4. Fluoride has a toxicity rating close to cyanide and arsenic. This remains unpublicised, along with the fact that 1080 pesticide has fluoride as an active constituent. When are we to be told publicly?

5. It is now commonplace to find that some accepted drug or treatment has disastrous side-effects. Such have been with fluoridation also. When will these facts receive examination in the public arena?

6. Statistics supporting fluoridation's effectiveness are sometimes published; but a careful examination of the figures usually provides a nil-benefit result in terms of tooth decay prevention. e.g. Comparison of tooth decay rates between Sydney (fluoridated) and Brisbane (non-fluoridated) shows no basic difference in the longer term.

7. The Fluoridation Act (1957) and amendments confers inordinate powers on the Director of Health.

At what stage will this be rectified, such that the Director has a responsibility and liability for his/her actions?

Yours faithfully,

Bryan Morrow
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