

## Editorial

### Reminiscences of America's children in the 1930s as compared with today, and the possible role of vaccines in causing retrogressive changes

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#### Abstract

It is now universally recognized that we have a steadily growing epidemic of childhood autism, learning disabilities, and other developmental disorders, with comparable increases in asthma and allergies. By any measure now available, these conditions were rare during the 1930s and 1940s. If this trend is to be reversed, we must seek for causes.

As largely disclosed during the U.S. Congressional Hearings on issues of vaccine safety, which took place from 1999 to December, 2004, there are gross deficiencies in vaccine safety testing. Because of this lack, we have no means of identifying or proving adverse reactions when they do occur.

Almost totally lacking until now, the great need is for definitive before-and-after tests specifically designed to search for adverse effects of vaccines on the neurological and immune systems as well as genetics of our children, and in findings adverse effects to make appropriate safety modifications in vaccine programs. Over the years there have been a scattering of before-and-after vaccine tests showing that there can be harm to the immune and central nervous systems, bringing suspicion on vaccines as an underlying cause of current childhood epidemics. However, these have always been of limited scale, seldom if ever with adequate follow-up.

In the opinion of this observer, until the safety of vaccine programs can be assured by such testing, any further mandating of childhood vaccines will remain morally and ethically untenable.

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