

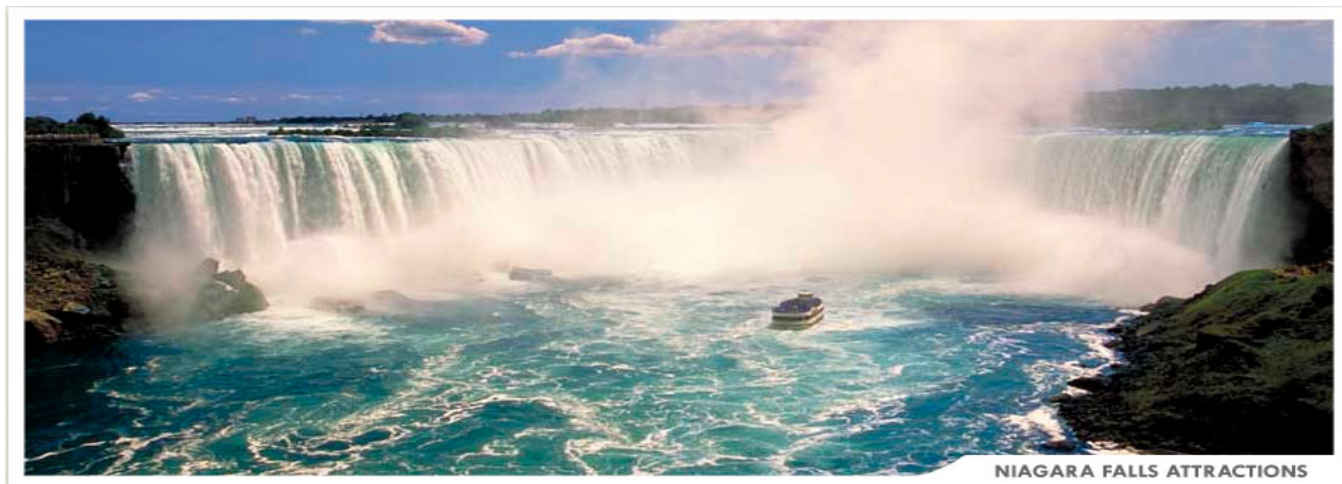
Artificial Water Fluoridation
is
NOT ETHICAL

by

Carole Clinch

Councillor Smeaton – Niagara Falls

“Do we have the right – political right – to force another additive to one of the 2 most life-supporting matters that we have – water, air. There are an awful lot of people who are opposed to this and will have no other choice if we implement it. They will be drinking water. They don’t all buy bottled water. The same people that buy bottled water can afford to and a lot of people cannot afford to simply drink tap water.”



“And quite frankly I enjoy tap water - whether it is alone or with something added. The point is, if I add something, it is my choice for that.”

Transcript of Region of Niagara Committee of the Whole Meeting January 24, 2008 which voted to NOT FLUORIDATE

Safe Drinking Water Basic Human Need Basic Human Right



Drinking water is a basic human need which has been enshrined as a basic human right by the United Nations.

Public drinking water should not be used to deliver medications.
When fluoride is added to drinking water it deprives citizens of

INFORMED CHOICE



Section 7: Life, liberty, security of person

Liberty and health security of Canadians is threatened when we are medicated without informed consent. We are medicated without informed consent when drinking water is artificially fluoridated.

Section 15: Equality Rights

Because drinking water is used to deliver this medication, it is impossible to control how much water, therefore fluoride, is consumed each day.

This places unfair burdens, obligations and disadvantages on susceptible minorities who are over-exposed to these products.

Supreme Court of Canada

Metropolitan Toronto v Forest Hill [1957] S.C.R. 569

<http://csc.lexum.umontreal.ca/en/1957/1957scr0-569/1957scr0-569.html>

Fluoridation is “compulsory preventive medication” which has a “special health purpose”.



Photo Credit: Philippe Landreville,
Photographer
Supreme Court of Canada Collection

Artificial Water Fluoridation Bad Medical Practice

1. **UNAPPROVED, UNREGULATED** fluoride products
2. **TOXICOLOGY TESTS NOT DONE** to determine safety
have not been done
3. **NO CONTROL** over who gets the medication
4. **NO CONTROL** over daily intake
5. **NO INVESTIGATION OF ADVERSE HEALTH EFFECTS** by health authorities
6. Citizens are deprived of **INFORMED CONSENT**

CHOICE

Council is not allowed to force tested, regulated immunizations on citizens,

Council should not force a fluoride product on citizens which has never been approved or tested for health care purposes.

Doe vs Rumsfield

Court ruled even under emergency conditions of war the Government cannot force an individual to be medicated with a substance which has not been specifically approved for the purpose and manner it is intended.

Who should decide what medication I take and how much?

Myself and a Trained Practitioner

NOT City Council

NOT my neighbour in a referendum

Earl Baldwin

UK Member – House of Lords

Advisor for York Review

“What physician do you know, who in his or her right mind, would treat someone he does not know and has never met, with ... the advice:

'Take as much, or as little, as you like, but take it for a lifetime because it may help someone's teeth?' ”

How can anyone avoid fluoridated water for drinking, bathing, cooking, eating?

Is mass medication, which is compulsory or difficult to avoid, wrong?

Diesendorf M. 1995 Review: How Science Can Illuminate Ethical Debates: A case study on water fluoridation. *Fluoride* 28(2): 87-104.

Nuffield Council on Bioethics

November 2007 Public Health: Ethical Issues.

Case study – Fluoridation of water

Paternalism

“interference of a state or an individual with another person, against their will, and justified by a claim that the person interfered with will be better off or protected from harm”

Informed Consent

“Whatever policy is adopted, dental health and any adverse effects of fluoridation should be monitored” and “statistically analysed.

Slippery Slope

What else should we put into drinking water?

Prozac: Anti-depressant drugs?

Lipitor: Anti-cholesterol drugs?

Ibuprofen: Pain killers?

**More arsenic and lead from fluorosilicates –
not extra charge!?**

Ethical Concerns

“The issue of mass medication of an unapproved drug without the expressed informed consent of each individual must also be addressed. The dose of fluoride cannot be controlled....Individuals who are susceptible to fluoride's harmful effects cannot avoid ingesting this drug. This presents a medico-legal and ethical dilemma and sets water fluoridation apart from vaccination as a public health measure where doses and distribution can be controlled.”

Dr. Hardy Limeback DDS, PhD,
Resident of Mississauga, ON

Professor and Head, Preventive Dentistry at U of T,
Faculty of Dentistry, University of Toronto

Co-Author of National Research Council Review 2006: Fluorides in Drinking
Water

Citizens are deprived of Informed Choice

- Information regarding risks and benefits
- Choice to refuse or accept drug
- Trained professional to assess medical need and adverse effects



Council of Europe Convention on Human Rights and Biomedicine 1997

“health interventions can only be carried out after free
and informed consent”

UK Fluoridation Report

Nov 2008

- **Alternatives exist** which are **less intrusive and coercive**
- **Total exposure** of fluoride **HAS NOT BEEN EVALUATED**
- When “**adding unnatural exposures**” – evidence on safety must be more stringent.
- Public Health Service is **SYSTEMATICALLY IGNORING** the growing body of evidence pointing to risks and inflating the benefits

Ethical Concerns

“In the absence of comprehensive, high-quality evidence with respect to the benefits and risks of water fluoridation, the moral status of advocacy for this practice is, at best, indeterminate, and could perhaps be considered immoral.”

Dr. David Locker

Professor at U of T Faculty of Dentistry, Department of Community Dentistry,
Director, Community Dental Health Services Research

In: Cohen H, Locker D. 2001 The Science and Ethics of Water Fluoridation Journal of the Canadian Dental Association. 67(10): 578-80.

Bottled Water

“Besides the inconvenience and expense of having to buy bottled water, it is virtually impossible to escape eating processed foods that have been prepared using fluoridated water. Therefore, there is a compulsion to ingest fluoridated water, whether it comes from the faucet or from the foods we eat.”

Balog 1997 Fluoridation of Public Water Systems: Valid Exercise of State Police Power or Constitutional Violation? Pace Environmental Law Review 14(2).

Cheng KK, Chalmer I, Sheldon TA 2007 British Medical Journal October 6, 335: 699-702.

“an uncontrollable dose of fluoride would be given for up to a lifetime, regardless of the risk of caries...”

Is it ethical???

If there is no known “safe” dose for the contaminants found in trace amounts in the fluorosilicates (arsenic, lead, mercury, radionuclides)...

Is it a good idea to add these to our drinking water?

Can we be sure that these contaminants, consumed daily, for a lifetime, cause no harm?

Artificial Water Fluoridation
is

Unethical

Turn it off