

Written Public Comments

**IACC Full Committee
Meeting**

January 26, 2009 – February 07, 2009

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Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

The following individuals submitted the above letter or sections of the letter:

Lisa Hudkins
Marcy Mullins
John Kellogg
Allison Miller
Pat Kilpatrick
Tony King
Horacio Correa Jr.
Joshua Eisen
Lori Schulte
Craig Grenfell (parent of 10
year old autistic boy)
Joy McCarthy
Kathy Spataro
Lawrence Kaplan
Mary Britt
Kathy Miller
Catherine Labarre

Susan Fishbaine
Mary Ann Markley
Agatha Snyder
Donna Bishop
Connie Warren
Donna Pittard (parent of 2
autistic children)
Paul Colliton (father of 11
year old autistic boy)
Jennifer Edelman
Christine Andrews
Nora Middleton
Joel Stein
Rick Middleton
Amy Stoutjesdyk
Theodore Van Oosbree
Murugan Pandian

Alan Mayberry
Jill Klink
Kim Stagliano (mother of
three girls with autism)
Kim Turner
Sonja Stone
Hilary Downing
Alisa Mayberry
Herman Mohazzabfar
William Stone
David Gonzales
Petra Smit (mother of 1 child
w/ ASD, and child w/ serious
vaccine adverse event)
Tracy Freeman
Jennifer Hudnall
Stella Sellers

Christine Jackson
Sarah Rogers
Linda McHale
Lauren Marshall
Robin Stanfield
Jennifer Brusco
Lora Maurer
Jennifer Asmus
April Skotnicki
Stacey Antal
Joseph Jenkins
Mary Herrle
Catherine Schleimer
Andrea Rosenthal
Jennifer Rhoten
Barbara Sachau
Kendra Scott
Sharon Dexter
Stephen Adubato
Tara Krigbaum
Paula Ahlf
Abby Rush
Maurine Meleck
Thomas Rush
Tonya White
Joel Meltzer
Julia Wilson
Bea Kaye
Kim Munley
Linda Moffitt
Keren Kalimian
Donna Alvado
Sharisa Kochmeister
Carolyn Uren
Robert Santos
Maxine Mesko
Sharon Dexter
Elizabeth Hendrix
April Keck
Katherine Walker
Sandra Goldsberry
Michael Amico
Joan Taylor
Roxanna Price
Anita Kessler
Peggy Lech (mother of a child
living with autism)
Rhonda Gatewood

Kim Kowanko
James Kaidy
Charles Coram
Donna Krenc
Rita Shreffler
Amy Greiner (parent of a 7
year old with autism)
Lynn Bardsley
Karen McDonough
Jennifer BonGiorno
David Abere
Dawn Cortez McKee
Patricia McLaren
Toni Ehrlich-Feldman
Chris Cordes
Kathleen OConnell
Mark Kaplan
Kay Kobe
Diana Martin
Kyle Martin
Bob Moffitt
Dana Martin
Arica Jordan
Deborah Dockery
Patricia Jordan
Renee Storm
Benjamin Jordan
Mary Hirzel
Judith Dey
Dieter Waeltermann
Kathleen Heltsley
Jonathan Rose
JoAnn Gray
Matt Ryan
Kerry McCrea
Daphnia Cannon
Leasha Coz
Frank Mitchell
Mary Cutler (mother of 15
year old autistic son)
Robert Blackburn
Lane Massey
Elsie Russell
Charles Sidran
Grace Percival
Keith and Lisa Reagan
Ruth Reddaway
Jeff Fleishman

Jennifer Hendrick
Molly Hauck
Leslie Phillips (parent of two
children with autism
spectrum disorders)
Diane Davis
Richard Buckley
Traci Hagerman
Carla DeMaci
Richard Farretta
Cheryl Dearborn
Debra Christensen
Donna Thompson
Julie Rishel
Donna Grinolds
Kristin Aigner
Debra Christensen
Mike Haywood
Jeannine Williams
Pamela Szal
Dana Belcher (occupational
therapist in the school
systems)
Kathleen Heltsley
Nancy Chapman
Dawn Edwards (parent of
child with autism)
Victoria Ferrante
Robert and Liza Greve
Diane Frioni
Audre Rasmusson
Manon Roberge
Valarie Rome-Jessup
Amy Beasley (desperately
hoping for a safer vaccine
schedule)
Hailey Jacob
Meeta Khushal
Cathy Lemmon
Candice Eisenberger
Albert Matlosz
Staci Gomez
Rebecca Ellis
Suzanne Bauer
Pamela LeProhon
David Beck
Lisa Sykes
Diana Swiderski

Jan Kochmeister
 Lisa Fioranelli
 Megan Gray
 Brian Fennelly
 Heather Waller
 Anne-Marie Liles (parent of a
 vaccine injured child with
 autism)
 Cheryl Peeples
 Barbara Mccarthy
 Dawn Gildea
 Pamela Mummery
 Miriam Pohl
 Melissa Bezar
 Camille Maher
 Janet Daue
 Diane Krogh
 Shelley Caron
 Alicia Burns
 David Delitta
 Anita Pellerito
 Tiffany Larsen
 Cheryl Richt
 Don DeSmedt
 Dana Johnson
 Antonio Pousa
 Maureen Costello
 Jonathan Polcyn
 Jennifer Steelman
 Jane Tallman
 Traci Rider
 Laurie Brekke
 Eric Bahnsen
 Angelique Alliman
 Christine Ruiz-Falkowski
 (mother of a 13 year old son
 with autism)
 Laura Bolt Cellini
 Linda Weinmaster
 Kelly Valenta (mother of a 6
 year old boy with autism)
 Laurie Mitchell
 Shari Lawlor
 Tommy Blain
 Alison MacNeil
 Tracy Smoot (parent of a 5
 year old boy with autism)
 Deanne Vizurraga

Mary Schulle
 Irene Olivant
 Athena Nicholas
 James Walker Jr.
 Kathy Bass
 William Sullivan (please don't
 let us down)
 Joyce Paul
 Krista Vaughan
 Catherine De Genova
 Marianela Alvarez
 Jeanne Piccione
 Maureen York
 Adriana Tulian
 Gina Bateman
 Nicole Simon
 Nathaniel Lane
 Richard Dunn
 Tammy Wandling
 Jeanne DeLong
 Barry Flamm
 Jesika Smith
 Kristin Walsh
 Shannon Maffia
 Bethany Ward
 Jennifer Bidlovski
 Tracy Blaney
 Laura Belcher
 Zurama L. Johnston
 Nicole Turner
 Heather Frew
 John Kevin Beaver
 Andrea Adimando
 William Chester
 Nancy Kennedy
 Kelly Vanicek
 Andrea Keller
 Stephanie Housel
 Leslie Cox
 Helen Waldron
 Ken Shanks
 Roberta Ennis
 Sandra Lane
 Susan Graham
 Wendy Fournier
 Martha Gabriela DeVelbiss
 Marjorie Nilsen
 Louis Ennis

Lauren Payer
 Connie Wardell
 Jean Perry
 Anissa Brasher
 Robert Pfingsthorn
 Katherine Crouch
 Michelle Wearnly
 Christy Harrill
 Jeanmarie Ennis-Gaylor
 Caroline Ennis-Fedele
 Cheryl Fields
 Jack Gaylor
 Richard Fedele
 Mark Ennis
 Tracie Ennis
 Monique Lane
 Lynn Adams
 Wendy Ennis
 Sean Ennis
 Chuck Ennis
 Sandrine Ennis
 Angie Huang
 Najebie Aymie
 Alina Correa
 Troy Larson
 Stephanie Falls
 Migheon Gottschall
 Paul Boyd
 Sueleda Aurant
 Maria Cardella
 Kelly Nelson
 Daniela Popescu
 Amy Yardley
 Debra McCann
 Jean Keller
 Arthur Appell
 Deborah Barker
 Tammie Knight
 Laurie Kowalski
 Leeann Whiffen
 Margarita Gallegos
 Mandy Rogers
 Linda Sniderman
 Rita OGrady
 Rachele Knights
 Patricia Parr
 Kelly Leach
 Ginnie Taylor

David Ralston
Christina Gatz
Martha Nunez
Eleanor Souders
Daniel Laus
Judy McMullen
Cassandra Alls
Mary Cavagnero
Sherri Laus
Gary Egan
Selma Friedman
Ray & Charlotte Foreman
B. Ely
Ken Siri
Gelena Hinkley
Melanie Muns
Sean Brown
Kelly Buettner
Erin E. Jones (registered
school nurse working in the
school system)
Catherine Varrica
Trina Aurin
Nicole Nelson
Yvonne Hershey
Christine Waldeck
Sherry Garnett
Lisa Rowe (mother of a child
with autism)
Michael Kimsal
Vel Paul
David Hamilton
Frank Fitzgerald
June Zeger
Rosemary Spohn
Sheri Lacey
Janet Sorell
Catherine Pelham
Jennifer Steinbachs
George E. Khoury
Vicki Stewart-Fowler
Terry Hochwarter
Cynthia Dalton
Jessica Lewis
Nicole Kamego
Gina Conrad
Sandy Walker
Virginia Vokoun

Garry Cooke
Susan Ford Keller
Gayle DeLong
Jenny Garcia
Karen Tooher
Robert Mito
Cami Neiss
Lisa Fitton
Dorothy Tucker
Melanie Gentile
Barbara Jackins
Ellyn Wolfram
Michelle Ruckersfeldt
Marry Ann Harrison
Steve Mesa
Hope Weinstein
Jean Bock
Donna Schofield
Elizabeth Sagui
Terri Cooper
Dennis Baker
Elizabeth Chuan-Riley
(parent of a child on the
autism spectrum)
Timothy Cooper
Lawrence Landherr
Valery Jean-Phillippe (mother
of 5 year old son with
autism)
Loretta Harrison
Jennifer Patterson
Roger Morten
Jennifer Schrand
Luci Evanston
Susan Patel
Carlos Veloso
Nancy Duley
Francine Acosta
Colleen Grierr
Jacquie Mancini
Angie Lange
Elizabeth Kury
Susan Diesing
Margaret Graham
Alison Davis
Erin Haase
Kathryn Vincent
Heather St. Clair

Maria Hernandez
Daniel Carvo
Danny Vincent
Edwin Eustaquio
Sharon Kask
Susan Goodine
Karen Steinberg
Terri Weinstein
Brandon C. Vaughn
Ken Cross
Kelly Gainor
Zina Charlip-Evans
Ann Hough
Michele Rose
Melinda Tabor
Angelina Grab
Jennifer Meza
Robert Adams
Bill Hoffman
Lisa Harris
Nancy Mcgrath
Lenore Wossidlo
Karen Sigler
John Kopsick
PJ Reitzler
Paymon Forootanshad
Kelly McGovern
Lawrence Centore
Raquel Class
Meghan Furukawa
Kathleen Stephens-Helinski
Michael Furukawa
Daniel OGrady
Kiran Chhaganlal
Rachel Taylor
Kristin McIntyre
Jeri Millard
Marie Spicuzza
Michele Crozier
Lois Schroeder
Marilyn Swanson
Becky Feke
Raymond Benzing
Theresa Cedillo
Jennifer Manning
Teresa Guidice
Jodie Paouncic
Janeen Kraham

Evelyn Nadler
Wm Mitchell
Karen Stevens
Loretta McMahon
Kim Kalina
Garry Cooke
Peggy Tillman-Young
Joyce Watts
Sarah Wolfe
Charles Weber
Nancy Hokkanen
Dana Tucker
Nancy Levinson
Grace Stephens
Rhonda Morell
Robert Krakow
Deborah Mason (mother of
two sons on the autism
spectrum)
Tyler Loftus
Jennifer Elizondo
Heather Walker
Kelly Green
Jennifer Gagliardi
Denise Hickey
Robert Tooher
Johanna Boergesson
Christina Liberatore
Howard Hadley
Janene Siteman
Theresa Wrangham
Collen Moore
Geraldine Nowak
Eduardo de Fex
Taimy Martin
Elaine Sartin
Jessie Sutler
Shirley Morelli
Paul Helgeson
Sarah L'Heureux
Jesse Martinez
Rose Shoemaker
Melonie Zarzuela
Robin Nickens
Deborah Sackreiter
Maria Tomasello
Kathryn Baker
Marta Freas

Peter Barnett
Marie L'Heureux
Rosemarie Buote
Mary Ostrow
Susan A. Cranmer
Marla Walker
Cathryn Rice
Eileen Landies
Kimberly Davis
Jim Stroda
Myra Lowrie
Dyan De Brino
Janet Drew
Susan McNiff
Carol Parsley (grandmother
of 4 autistic children)
Deborah Adames
Laura DeLisio
Holly Faust
Roland D. Scornavacca
Melissa Bowman
James Meo
Lisa Reyes
Jacqueline O'Brien
Donna Laken
Sandy Brady
Kevin Jacob
Tom Duffy
Beth Davoll-Kemper (mother
of 8 year old son with non-
verbal autism)
Lisa Vega
Vicki Lowery
Colette Stack
Amy Stanley
Cyndi Smith Sandoval
Stefanie Stoltz
Carol Rivera
Kathleen Buglino
Lori Krane
Norma Ramos
Susan Fund
Gary Koch
Melissa Ohm
Phyllis Bailor
Katherine Fox
Ann Stine
Paul Cobb

Van Arrington
Morris Davis
Walter Bailor
Sandra Marcus
Deborah Delp
Malia Dawson
Madelaine Motallebi
Lori Whalen
Luz Davis
Marsha Dulz
Melanie Cohn (parent of an
11 year old autistic child)
Claudnita Crawford
Tanya Hunter
Gideon Banai
Anne Sauvie
Kelley Lake
Patricia Hartley Ferrandino
Sonji Palmer
Rhoda Gunnigle
Ann Wesley
Lin Wessels
Vicky Sharamitaro
Paul Zano
Melissa Krishock Esquire
Kellie Dungan
April Boden
Mary Garrett
Anythony Merenda
Jenny Greenwood
Sophia Argeropoulos
Anissa Brasher
Angela Thies
Sabrina Kull
Marguerite Portagallo
Mary Hendrick
David Troutman
Eva Bevins
Gayle Brackner
Mark Wessels
Ken Simels
Elise Craig
Mary Price
Linda Schluender
Joann Bennett
Teri Coffey
Edward Schuster
Candace Passino

Natasha Bryant
Munira Edmonds
Kimberly Kauffman
Brian J. Mass
Natasha Kandic-Corn
Gerry Crocetta
Esther Onuorah
Nancy Yurcina
Nicholas Hass-Burkhardt
Susan Thorpe
Johnnie Shoemaker
Angela Short
Madeline Lafleur
Charles Hoover
Kathleen Burke
Elizabeth Spense
D. Muhammad
Bret Cochran
Angeliza Duenas
Sarah Howard
Tianna Scott
Dina Margulies
Kevin Nixon
Eryka DeLima
Kimberly Linderman
Amy McKenzie
Theresa Jacome
Patricia Episcopia
Christine Keller
Time Price
Joni McKenna
Frieda Davidson
Jason Matyas
Erin Strohl
Shannon Matyas
Diane Yellis
Sara DiFucci
Theresa Jacome
Chris Haas
Sharon Messina
Andrea Moeller
Jolita Meskauskaite
Mary Detrick
Nila Cole
Justina Klinger
Theresa Jacome
Tonya Ulmer
Nancy McGovern

Roanna Tomlinson
Ron Lyman
Marty Pular
Marsha Schreiber
Gabriella True
Agnes Montoya
Keith Chellsen
Annette Lagan
Lora Thomas
Susan Wach
Kelly Maki (son with autism)
Lora Thomas
Edward Carll
Tanya Kovacs
John Kovacs
Selma Neubrander
Travis Neubrander
Gayle Nee
Sabrina Cordell
Jerry Taylor
Nora Brock
Melissa Calocerinos
Jenna O'Neal
Laraine Abbey
Amelia McKenzie
Kathryn Gizzo
Crystal Williams
Nancy Angiello
Donna Estrada
Victoria Khansanshina
Laurie Kalff
George & Anna Smith
Angie Ilie
Tiffany Rosenbrock
Heidi Roger
Norah Mercado
Karin Halvorson
Sandra Hughey
Lynda Leibowitz
Maureen Lynch
Sarah Glass
Michele Rafferty
Karen Beauvais
Ora Tamir
Aleksandra Mihajlovic
Uday Mehta
Juliana Whited
Tami Wilken

Teresa Fresco
Anne Hodapp (parent of a
child on the spectrum)
Nadine Porter
Sarah Wisher
Theresa Syros
Samantha Bushong
Heather Bush
Sheryl Corbijn
Kristen Billings
Tim Brewer
Sherri Andrade
Tara Krey
Kimberly Alvarado
Cynthia Ardolino
Stacie Tucker
Odilia Ernest
Michael Ernest
Jules Gilder
Elizabeth Gillespie-Stefanovic
Nicholas Fredrick
Stephanie Felix
Lisa Ouazzani
Susan Lanngsjoen
Maedot Teka
Pam Dollar
Alicia Mesa
William Leger
Robert Mesa
Janet Leger
Collen Davis-Ryan
Sandy Waters
Wanda McDowell
Lori Hoke
Judy Evans
Lynda Huggins
Lisa Stadelman
Kristin Collins
Carol Slemmer
Alton Alexander
Anthony & Sue Ellen Akers
Theresa Murphy
Lori Beylerian
George Wright
Maricela Vega
Melissa Martinez-Machado
Kathleen Tanenbaum
Lori Brown

Michele Garner
Karen Machikas
Lisa Kiley
Suzanne Harrison
Alice Wachol
Ginger Shamblin
Lea Murchison
Laura Baker
Gil Long
Giorgio Jacome
Brian Brosnan
Nancy Milweski
Wendy Harnisher
Tom Mantych
Carol Sheehan
Greg Coy
Keith Malec
Bruce Hopkins
Barbara Schalk
Christine Roffi
Bruce Manning
Pamela Blackwell-Nwonye
L. Smith
Denise Ferraro
Raquel Class
Karla Harris
Jesika Tchor
Steven Powell
Karen Ginn
GeneGene Rosas (father of autistic child)
Dennis Kertis
Alison Hamilton
Kim Suess
Jill Coolik
Donna Stone
Barbara Eisenhauer
Lihong Cheng
Jennifer Rossi
Karin Gerhauser
Marianna Conroy (mother of a vaccine injured child diagnosed with autism)
Karen Giles
Misti Medders
Dr. Richard F. Carr, Jr.
Aurora Hoobler
Dennis Neumann

Joann Bennett
Jay Shulman
Stefanie Voss
Rachel Kronvold
Corie Hobbs
Dennis O'Brien
Doreen Cereoli
J. L. Simmons
Lisa Ferri
Danielle Rose
Bonnie Primm
Judi Santianni
Jane Reinhardt-Martin
Carolyn Walker
Jennifer Bouckaert
Vickie Denson
Leah Tesfa
Paul Bouckaert
Helen Mlakar
Margaret and Kenny Ackerman
AnnMarie Ottoy
Ann Hutchinson
Lori Atilano
Nancy Gualario
Susan Rice
Terri Zeeb
Kim Underwood
Lila White
Rosanne Achin-Housman
Shelly Martinez
Christine Molella
Rita Price
Misty Cunningham
Larry Cunningham Jr.
Celinda Colavita
Joanne Malanga
Linda Aly
Sara Marcy
June Sayali
Lisa Sigismondi
Kim Fitzpatrick
Carrie Elsass
Rebecca Becker
Tarah Purvis
Dawn Young
Ali Ross-Wilharm
Odalys Perez

Marilyn Ferri
Judy Hopper
Stephenie Gwaltney (mother of a child with autism)
Joellyn Cooper
Elizabeth Bailey
Kellilynn Kelco
Tena Pratt
C. Randal Gardner
Karen Smith
Donna Walter
Jewel Feldhus
Kerry Carty
Alyssa Weinstein
Donna Alden
Maria Mahler
Laura McDaniel
Tricia Finch
Michael Scott
Jamie Leonard
Greg Santucci
Mark Nottoli
Beth Hendershot
T. Benson
Jeff Ransom
Shoshana Stubin
Wendy Bialek
Lisa Gray
Jaimie Spring
Liza Hellenbrand
Melissa Sullivan
Donna Shinsato
Dana Korin
Arsham Antreasyan
Sean Garrett
A.D. Seigny
Angie Robertson
Theresa Winsor
Eric Johnson
Andrew Vaught
Art Collins
Barry Craven
Michelle Parker
Agnes McKeon
Stephanie Nickolson
Janet Presson
Teresa Catafygiotu
Louise Bouta

Kristin Norrgard
Joseph and Bettina Burnette
Ronald Sebert
Allison Nack
Cara Riccio-Collins
Michelle Sprague
Todd Mizenko
Catherine Wright
Janice Patterson
Leylan Piceno
Dennis Jenkins
Norma Miller
Matt Johansen
Linda Chrisman
Jenny Greenwood
Carol Meister
Rhonda Brunett
Gina Lopes
Matt Neumann
Coni Klein
John Fernstrum
Nena Swan
Ana Acosta
Tricia Ortega
Maureen McDonnell
Charlotte Stevenson
Mary Troutman
Kimberly Mougell
Heather Applegate
Eileen Proven
Ann Newsome
Jason Sterndale
Jessica Santos
Gail Bowman
Kinita Fleming
Dawn DiMarco
Dinah Mattick
Raphaella Rozanski
Laura Misenhelter
Portia Thornton
Stacey Thomas
Susan Judge
Melinda Vaughn
Nadine Zimmer
Brenda Eatough
Rosalia Unate
Kathy Ruther
Lydia Johnson

Lia Crowley
Joe Veltri
Jason Kidman
Theresa Brown
Don Mignerone
Michela Musolino
Nicole Crosby
Megan Richardson
Kimberley Harris
Dawna Knight
Karen Anderson
Connie Bixler
Joy Green (parent of a child
on the autism spectrum)
Tania Molinari
Elaine McIntyre
Tiffanie Faimon
Lorin Butterfield
Connie Gomez
Mary Kuttner
Ruben Gomez
Carma Butterfield
Judy Johnson
Adam Smith
Kevin Sikes
Sally Kroeger
Henry Colavita
Vella Mae Travis
Shelly Hudson
Laurie Jenkinson
Carissa Samara
Lee Zaretsky
Julianne King
Emmy Conroy
Barbara Stewart
Jennifer Joseph
Svetlana Lubavin
Barbara Seacrest (mother of
a child with autism)
Michelle Eindhoven
Linda Hill Melinda Heimlich
Margaret Feldhus
Timothy Davis
Karen Sales
Tina Nemeth
Celia Intili
Jon Alden
Natasha Alden

Dyann Herndon
J. Douglas Livingston
Randal Hamburg
J. Douglas Livingston
Erla Click
Lorraine Wyrostek
Bradley Miller
Duane and Linda Amity
Shelley McCormick
Carol Wright
Jay Neuhaus
David Huddleston
John Wright
Elizabeth Powell
Michael Zbinovec
Harry Reeves
Valerie Boergesson
Katie Krueger
Michelle Banach
Carmen Goldman
Terri Lewis
John Calman
Robin Bennett
Lisa Ryan
Christopher B. Muir
Helen Ezell
Duc Vo
Norman Kremer
Alison Bushnell
Julia Myers
Melissa Wilcox
David Robles
Alexandra Kanavos
Mary O'Grady
Michele Powell
Amy Lasich
Tiffani Lawton
Mark Shear
Kimberley Plancich
Charlotte Cranberg
Ellabee Scully
Rose Rose
Ginger McAllister
Kim Weil
Seymour Young
David Bush
Vicki Jennings
Carol Bills

Cindy Barkowski
Alissa Nelson
Tamara Jarrett
Sharalyn Ayers
Ruby DuPont
Sonja Mack
Mike DuPont
Gail Black
Leonard V. Stirn
David Bohn
Ruby DuPont
Sally Jarrett
Alison Fraser
Scott Simontachhi
Heather Tidwell
Jennifer Kowala
Dionne Waters
Melinda Spangler
Laurie Eckler
Tara Fiore
Sigrid Powell
George Mead
Larry Powell
Tim Wiseman Sr.
Brent Remington
Andrea Leonard
Tammy Kopecky
Kathleen Haigh
Lori Bedrio
Mary Stelle
Donna Barber
Erin Melina
Patricia Tavis
Wally Sparks
Gerhard Bedding
Victoria Romay
Amy Schoeneck
J. Wiita
Jennifer Rolfsen
Lisa Brewster
Johanna Bullock
Patricia Tuohy
Beatriz C. Beil
Ronald Schmidt
Caroline Mulders
Maria Esmeralda Martinez
Julianna Pearce
Shanan Harrison

Josh Harrison
David Lee
B Kozin
Nancy Smith
Betts McCombs
Elizabeth Hostetter
Carrie Noorzad
Vivian Davis
Rob Angiello
Jenny Sharplin
Roseary Virella
Jennifer Stehlik
Linda Bedtelyon
Rosemary Virella
Carolyn Kohler-Damron
Lisa Sell
Tara Chandler
Charlene Walker
Kathleen Haigh
Donna Budway
Jennifer McNulty
Patricia Riggie
Claudia Rice
Maria Tomasello
Gina Walker
De OHare
Therese Brosnan
Jill Wendorf
Trilby Sedlacek
RaNaye Schrantz
Mansoureh Noorzad
Mary Catherine Reeves
Deborah Bayliss
Yvonne Wilson
Pamela Hall
AnnMarie McIlwain
Lisa Hinsch
Leo Schwartz
Nicole Rozanski
Geraldine Lewis
Susan Kovas
Carmela Masucci
Gerald Smith
Dave Rosenthal
Rosa Watson
Marvin Burbo
Eileen McGee
Iris Bucci

Mario Bucci
Robert Bucci
Kristin Rogers
Michael Harrell
Lisa McLaughlin
Julia Jurisich
Jacqueline O'Donnell
Melissa Esham
Janet Lintala
Mara Milani
Catherine Callari
Gary Gray
Jenifer Zink
Susan Jackson
Jill Martinez
Tereza Judge
Joseph Charles
Gina Condos
Alexandra Solomon
Dan Callari
Trisha Kolegar
Pam Rolling
Terra McKay
Karolyn Gossett
Catherine Masha
Kathy True
Jan Perino
Karen Hewitt
Linda Smeltzer
Linda Cuevas
Jennifer Tonti
John Hoogacker
Sharon Wilson
Janet Shouse (parent of a 13-
year-old with autism)
Evelyn Stern
Sara Ohara
Melinda Greer
Kimberly Rogers
Sharon Major
Victoria Broniscer
Alexander MacInnis
Megan Velotta
Patricia Uhre
Mary Smith
Stefan Kolev
Diane Paliscak
Ladan Fakory

Kate Fisher
Campbell Compton
Carolyn Jackson
Donald Steiber
Dolores de Feria-Bryant
Constantina Sweeney
Kim Trujillo
A. Moss
Crystal Powers
Valerie Brinks
Linda Pitsoulis
Shannon Gamache
Darcy Chamberlin
Catherine Putnam
Diane Ruzzi
Philip Crawford
Michelle Hatfield
Mary Mumma
Angela Walker
Susan Reilly
Loreli Rankin
Marisa O'Grady
Cathy Schlottmann
Maria Davis
Charles Jaeger
Thelma Delagarza
Sangee Rai
Pennie Schwartz
Stephanie Akers
Danielle Parsley
Sally Brockett
Jane Flynn
Lory Matthews
Debbie Didyk
Jenna Oliphant
Dan Burns
Patricia O. Winkler
Linda Kemmerer
Jeanette Stuart
Leia Kuntz-Lauerman
Chris Barbosa
AW Williams
Leilani Gross
John Galindo
Joseph Vedam
Melissa Mcneese
Nene Ukaegbu
Cira Herrera

Susan Bragg
Irene Sperling
Barbara Camiscioli
Lori Chester
Carol Norsworthy
Jennifer Thompson
Linda Lester
Shawna Reichert
Gerardo Orozco
Michelle Toconis
Jennifer Logan
Barbara Morello
Pattie Krepela
Ronald Roy
Belinda Rogers
Thomas Moffitt
Paul Keenan
Nancy Dawson
Laurel Reheiser
Denise Frampton
Donna Strong
Sue-Ellen Samuel
Debra Dewald
Michael Bosco
Art Romay
Jennifer Foley
Rosa Spicer
Sue Horton
Robbin Sorensen
Deidre Celano
Deidre Ruggaber
Joan Ruggaber
Terry Blankenship
Shannon Kalsem
Kevin and Christi O'Neal
Audrey Pincu
Adella Lin-Kravitz
Deniz Yeter
Donna Smith
Fred Thompson
Dee Perkins
Daniel Walker
Melanie Walker
Patrick Walker
Debra Walker
Joe Eason
Yolanda Flores
Senay Little

Ann Heinke
Richard Velez
William Pedersen
Debbie Canady (single mom
of a child who has cerebral
palsy and autism)
Max Swank
Jennifer Pushic
Edward Harrison
Joey McIlhon
Stephanie Zimmerman
Joy Briones
Jackie Botbyl
Julie Neumann
Jennifer Krekeler
Lourie Pearlman
Jennifer Hewitt
Barbara LaBeth
Lauren Rook
ToniAnne Gorgone (parent of
a child with autism)
Bill Cooper
Lauren Knight
Genevieve Kumapley
Maura Eden
Stacey Gray
Sandy Thigpen
Dymna Rielly
Betsy Atwater
Sandra Triantafillos
Gizzelle Rojas Boccia
Delores Bilyeu
Sylvia Rodriguez-Chavez
Laurie Youngquist
Kristin Knotts
Kaye Stone
Ann Breznai
Diane Ashley
Jeremy Harmon
Susan Mace
Donna Cregar
Mitra Hamed
Javad Hamed
Maryam Hamed
Chad Stone
Marilyn Hanson
Kathryn Hendrix
Julius Fontelera

Dianne Lepore
Mica Taylor
Judy & John Fernstrum
Diane Gorsline
Karen Combs
Allison Harig
Jennifer Wileman
Marlene Gentilcore
Lori Culbertson
Renee Ballard
Cindy White
Mara Husband
Denise Curry
Adelaida Lopez
Valerie Levy
Merrall Freund
Greta Ritz
Cindy Coachman
Tara Scott
Linda Strawser
Lenore Puleo
Susan Anderley
Collen Errington
Karen Larson
Margot Vaselopoulos
Sarah Collier
Faye Sevel
Susan Reynolds
Pippa Keane
Phil Sullivan
Stephanie Tackett
Rosa Ziolkowski
Mary Kay Holliday
Stephanie Antkowiak
(mother of two children with autism)
Judy Deutch
Joyce Routon
Rhonda Faulkner
Lisa Stoll
Deborah Fischer
Lynda Lee
Nancy Files
Tiffany Dickerhoof
Monalisa Smith
Cliff Davis (parent of a four year old with autism and a healthcare provider)

Helen Hamilton
Leila Silva
Tracie Dugas
Michelle L. Jones
Shane Hiers
Elaine Frick (mother of a 19 year old young man with autism)
Shelley Caron
James Stevens
Brian Muncaster
Thomas Plunkett
Richmond Dickson
John Medina
Nancy Mercer
Sally Affinito
Thomas Ednie
Claudia Villarreal
Uma Scileppi
Kelly Peterson
Jimmie Sue Parker
Joan Hall
Crystal Bane
Robert Bedrio
Maurren Gilliam
Nicole Blosser
James Stepp
Mary Crowley
Kim Mackins
Norene Chin
Deborah Winkler
Laura Munion
Philip Kwait
Elvia Galicia-Martinez
Marcos Martinez
Ruth Martinez
Julie Stewart
Frank Martinez
Tatjana Walker
Elvia Galicia
Norberto Galicia
Laurie Youngquit
Steven Sell
Grace Lupo
Julie Pennell
Dan OGrady
Regina Piotrowiak
Raquel Class

Stephanie J. Dickson
Cindy White
Amy Fisch
Kimberly Alexander
Connie Clark
Audra Bowman
Susan Owczarzak
Len Shoemaker
Pamela LeProhon
Lisa Ferri
Patricia Berkowitz
Frank P. Lupo
Gerry Crocetta
Neathery Harris
Lynda Spann-Cifello
Anely Herrera (mother of 8 year old boy with autism & non-verbal)
Colette Stack
Eileen Mantych
John Saborio
Amber Berry
Delnita Davis
Dr. Frank A. Smith
Carol Slemmer
Vicki Campbell
Paula Hill
Kim Spenser
Debbie Melching
Shelly Luckett
Stephanie Kolosso
Krista Hanus
Collen Jankovich
Bridget Cackler
Violet Licari
Patricia Falotico
Kathy Young
Katey Sewell (mother of two children with autism)
Mozhdeh Mokhtari
Cynthia Bargar
Katherine Kannaneh
Dana Halvorson
Eileen Comia
Diane Ragsca
Alice Cataldo
Jeanne Racaniello
Frances Vecchio

Alicia Synder
Jodee Jernigan
Lisa Spiegel
Sabeeha Rehman
Suzanne Stapler
Brett Loeffler
Sallie Abreu
Margaret Wallace
Deanna Flippin
Denise Huerd
Amanda Wilson
Margaret L. Becker
Chris Horan
Maria Hubbard
Mike Maron
Kimberly Agonstino
Mary Corsentino
Nila Cole
Michelle Broussard-Hanes
Angelique Hamilton
Page Kurtz
David Barber
Amy Schmoeller
Julie Obradovic
Diane Doss
Cheryl Henderson
Michael Wamser
Luis Rolando
Joe Cullen (father of a 3 yr.
old with autism)
Holly Smykaj
Jinger Rosalez-Fergus
Elease Stewart
Charlene Logsdon
Ann Hechler
Roberta Andreozzi
Tracy Karan
Melanie Pappageorge
Joanne Davies
Victoria Doyle
Colleen Casale
Tiffanie Carrico
Jackie Marino
Maria Madero
Rachele Knights
Jose Madero
Ericka Armenia
Zakawat Jah

Shannon Maffia
Minerva Wilkes
Natalia D'Arrigo
Janice Vaysberg
Vincenzo Iannacci
Catherine Norton-Doty
Jeremy Baptist
Patricia Withers
Sally Negroni
Robin Kelleher
Jennifer Sanger
Elaine Moreno
Judy Evans
Karen Oehlschlager
Gail Bovy
Jamal Hussain
Erum Raza
Pamela Briggs
Scott Messinger
Marcia Gold
Meredith Donly
Diane Sullivan
Yvonne Wilson
Kristin Bushey
Sara Haider
Julie Snoeberger
Lorena Gomez
Lindsay Tillery
Alison L. Mauldin
Paul Barrett
Mary Thomas (parent of a 2
yr. old with autism)
Alsa Prosser
Katherine Tucker
Donna Whittemore
Christopher Voyk (father of
autistic child)
Nayipzi Gutierrez
Sharon Harper
Davia Smith
Caridad Fornes
James Tussey
Patricia Wrenn
Tammy Quanstrom
Ana Arce
Joy Pedersen
Carol Carfang
Kimberley Harvey

Corena DiTucci
Melanie Rkein
Margaret Tadeushuk
Barbara Zewicky
Joleen Wade
Catherine Mosley
Todd Hall
Betsy Hall
Lisa Ryan
Anthony Migliaccio
Adrienne Tanner
Meryl Sousa
Melissa Nunamaker
Tom Hake
Sonji Harvey
Carol Manley
Ken Lunsford
Theresa Brittain
Belay Tadesse
Paula Meyers
Diana Schaffer
Audrey Ellington
Marc Secades
Lisa Diccico
Sheryl Shenk
Conne Bard
Susan Roszak (mother of a 6
yr. old autistic child)
Ann Adorn
Joyce Cable (Special
Education teacher in
Milwaukee Public Schools)
Jane Shabtaine
Arne Bard
Steve Bladek
Mary Migliori MD (Physician
and mother of an autistic
child)
Douglas Stock
Mary Miller
William Slimm
Todd Foster
Lucy Reed
Elyse Braun
Regina McDonald
Tracy Himmel Isham
Lisette Perez (parent of an
autistic child)

Denise Harrah
Kathryn Gillis
Gayle DeLong
Edie Lagan
Joan Reese
Gladys Longacre
Anita Fullone
Adam Callens
Paul Rogus
Denise Visco
Kristin Cannella
Bridget Tapkas
Jay Stutz
Amanda Hallman
Benjamin Fennelly
Susan Mickle
Katherine O'Brien (mother of
a son with autism)
Donna Trammell
Lynn Hennigan
Jamie Bailey
Gina Walker
Rachel Ginther
Stephanie Dorton
Paula Bryant-Trerise
Irene Tetonis
Minerva Wilkes
Yvette Correa

Roanna Tomlinson
Liliana B. Sanchez
Harry Tembenis
Margaret Maher
Kim Macri
Darren Macri
Van Arrington
Richard Miller
Lisa Giarrusso
Mary Ann Kazmierski
Andrew Cestaro
Theresa Terry
Jim and Jeanette Fox
Carlton York
Melissa Kaczorowski
Desiree' Conner
Ericka Cero Wood
Rebecca Yerly
Sarah Lapinski
Theresa Graham
Thomas O'Malley
Joan Fisher
Shauna Layton
Betty Stafford
Margaret Smederovac
Kelly Donaldson
Debora Sears
Jennifer Trerise

Kristy Foss
Cynthia Patton
Mark Green
Michelle Hollifield
Diane Kulyk
Karen Hogan
David Lawrence
Kathryn Hotard
Christopher Lapinski
Anna Lech
Ralph/Sandy Werner
Julie Saporito
Lori Ford
Joanne Fegurson
Ana Patrick
Steven Castrechino
Maria Sanford
Sean Rock
Alicia Barile
Maura Gonzalez
Philomena Butler
Terri Miller
Mark Wilson
Carolyn Eriksen
Hollie Ingram
Lisa Seitzinger

John Adams

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs. If there is a possible link between autism and vaccination, you should at the least dispassionately investigate that possibility. It is unethical that government officials would ignore the possibility of endangering children just to promote a program, without ensuring beyond doubt that what you are doing is to "first of all do no harm" to our precious heritage. Do your jobs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

John Adams

Sandra Singer

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

Why on earth would you not want to have independent research on a possible link between vaccines and autism?

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Sandra Singer

Karen Mull

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

As a parent of an 8 year old boy with autism, I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am disheartened to hear that the IACC is now reversing its December 2008 decision to move forward with vaccine/autism studies.

I am writing to you to express my disappointment and concern of the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research. The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Please ask the IACC to reconsider its January 14th, 2009 vote to restore funding to this critical research on autism.

Sincerely,

Karen Mull

Laureen Forman

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community. We in this community worked hard on this agenda and wanted all avenues to be studied. This is the only way that the public can get good and accurate information.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities. This is the only way to make sure that the public gets the appropriate non-skewed information. This is of utmost importance to the integrity of any research - unbiased views from people who do not have a vested interest in the outcome of the study. The American people deserve the truth - especially about the health of our youngest generations.

Sincerely,

Laureen Forman

Nicole Boyd

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

As a parent with a child with regressive autism, I am shocked about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community. When our Congressional leaders passed this legislation, they asked for this and now this is being ignored.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs. Recent studies from UC Davis have noted that we MUST find environmental triggers.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Nicole Boyd

Karen Fuller

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

Please put yourself in our place. Imagine your child or grandchild regressing into Autism when they had been developing right on schedule. Please listen to the parents.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

1 in 150 kids is NOT OK

Karen Fuller

Cynthia Keenan

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am the mother of a child with autism. The CDC and the American medical establishment have done little to help my child and family cope with the difficulties of this disorder.

How many more children must suffer? Now is the time for change.

I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Keenan

Kelly Langston

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

President Obama is calling for a transparency of government. That said, I am outraged at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting, including the UNANNOUNCED agenda item to remove vaccine research from the Strategic Plan. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

The reason parents no longer trust the vaccine program is because [offensive language redacted] like this IACC surprise vote keep occurring.

The bottom line is that THOUSANDS of parents still question the safety of the current vaccine program. Why not listen to these concerns and research the vaccine/autism connection PROPERLY so we can all move on?

This will not get better. You cannot IGNORE the requests of so many parents and expect a blind trust in the vaccine program. Such acts only make the level of fear worse. And whose fault is that now? Not the parents.

We need, as Obama is calling for, a more transparent government. Not one that slides a previously voted on issue back on the agenda without announcing it.

If there is no connection, then AGREE TO RESEARCH it in a way that will satisfy the MANY autism organizations calling for such research. I receive emails weekly from parents who have been asked to leave their pediatric practices because they refuse to vaccinate their children. I'm sure many parents would love to once again trust in the vaccine program, but feel there is not enough honesty and transparency in the current program to risk potential harm to their children.

When is it acceptable to be concerned that we have one too many vaccines on the schedule for infants two and under? Is one more vaccine okay for their immune systems to handle? How about two? How about doubling and tripling that number? Now should we be concerned?

Of course parents — just like me — are concerned! Hear us and research this issue properly to RESTORE OUR TRUST and get on with a safer program.

Regarding the IACC, I formally:

Object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

Request reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were ALREADY APPROVED for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Kelly Langston

Amy Galarowicz

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

We have autism in our family, and I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

When will the federal government recognize that the FOX is WATCHING the HEN HOUSE? I emphatically state my desire for independent oversight of vaccine safety in the country. We canNOT continue to watch autism rise at the rate it has in the US and not DO anything about it. Fund these studies, and stop the game-playing.

Sincerely,

Amy Galarowicz

Sally Ackerman

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

I have two autistic nephews that I have helped to take care of since their birth. They are now 9 and 7 and they deserve better!

Sincerely,

Sally Ackerman

Amy House

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to evaluate any potential relationship between vaccines and autism, to identify screening criteria to identify susceptible children and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

As a parent and a professional with a background in public health, I ask you to mandate the research necessary to evaluate the safety and efficacy of our nation's vaccination program for ALL children, not just the majority of them. If we continue to avoid studying those injured by vaccines, we will never find a problem. If we continue to avoid doing a long-term comprehensive study of vaccinated compared to unvaccinated children, we will never know the true benefits and consequences of our vaccination program.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Amy House

Lisa Cunniff

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am the parent of an 11 year old boy who suffers from Autism. My son received all of his vaccines according to the government mandated immunization schedule, beginning in 1998, before thimerosal was voluntarily removed from childhood vaccines. I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Lisa Cunniff

Dan Fergo

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

As a father of a vaccine injured boy I am incensed that this action took place. Until a real independent study is done (vaccine vs. un-vaccinated) and a quality assurance program is in place that tests the effectiveness and assesses the risk/cost/benefits analysis of each and every vaccine.

As far as I am concerned the head of the CDC, NIH and FDA as well as other Federal 'health' Agencies should be replaced.

Sincerely,

Dan Fergo

Phillip Schechter

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

I do not know what this research will reveal, but there is enough anecdotal evidence, and mixed evidence from other studies, that it is hard to go along with the mere assumption that the overall vaccine load is safe. Better information can only help lead to better decisions, and the way these studies have been shut down leads only to further suspicion.

Sincerely,

Phillip Schechter

John Best

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

[Offensive language redacted]

Gloria & Michael Ponosuk

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

We need to remove all toxins (used as preservatives) such as Ammonium sulfate, beta-propiolactone, Viral DNA, monosodium glutamate, aluminum, micro-organisms, polysorbate 80, mercury, neomycin sulfate, phenol/phenoxyethanol, glutaraldehyds, animal cells, and formaldehyde (I thought we had to be dead for that to be used in our bodies). We need to go back to basics and not have all of these additives. We were better off with using the live viruses and less vaccine. Or let's [offensive language redacted].

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Gloria & Michael Ponosuk

Dawn Crim

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families (1 in 64 children according to the U.S. Dept. of Education are in Special Education!?). I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Dawn Crim

Lisa Ryan

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

As a parent of an autistic child, I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

After combing through my daughter's medical records with a fine-toothed comb (including spread sheeting her records and cross-referencing every symptom and doctor's call in them against the dates of her vaccinations), a very clear cut pattern emerges -- one that clearly implicates her vaccinations. This is also consistent with her lab results. After following a combination of bio-medical, speech, OT, ABA and Vision therapies, she is now considered recovered. This is amazing since she was diagnosed with Classic Autism, and we were told she would need a lifetime of care. She will now no longer be on the taxpayers' dime.

Having been fully recovered for over a year and a half, I gave her a flu shot (FluMist - live virus). It set her into such a serious regression, she was back into 6 therapies a week and we had to call crisis management because she was so violent. It took us another 8 months to recover her again. Even her mainstream pediatrician said "NO more vaccines for her."

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Lisa Ryan

Vicky Debold

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am writing to you to ask that you rectify what happened at the January IACC meeting. The increase in autism is not only alarming, it has substantial financial implications for the nation and it's crucial that the causes of autism are quickly identified and remedied and that children are treated and restored to their optimal level of health. Like hundreds of other parents, I am writing to you to express my strong objection to the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I respectfully ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to IACC's manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. Despite the opinion espoused by many, the science on the potential relationship between vaccination and autism is far from settled. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent non-governmental committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Respectfully,

Vicky Debold

Ginger Taylor

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am the mother of a child who regressed into autism following his 18 month vaccination, and who also meets the diagnostic criteria for vaccine induced encephalopathy. For the last four years I have been studying the link between vaccines and autism and have found that the medical industry's claims that vaccines are safe and do not cause autism are not back up by valid science.

The necessary studies that would properly examine the vaccine/autism relationship have not been done, and the IACC is currently trying to prevent them from being done.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Ginger Taylor, MS

Candida Fuller

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

As an ongoing search into helping my son's autism, I would like to know if vaccines are a problem. Much of my decisions up to this point have been to find other avenues for vaccination by way of removing all metals from the vaccines before giving to my son. I am outraged by the non-concerned attitudes about this epidemic and demand that someone do something about it instead of blow it off.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Candida Fuller

Patricia Smith

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Every person who has any authority over this issue should be screaming for independent research. Autism is so very costly and the biggest expense is the heartbreak that the parents must endure while feeling abandoned by their own government.

Sincerely,

Patricia Smith

Robin Nemeth

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Eventually the public is going to be made aware of the vaccine damaged children. They aren't so [offensive language redacted] that they won't realize that it could just as easily have been their children. They aren't so [offensive language redacted] that they won't realize that this government of theirs, these public health agencies of theirs, are responsible and if they are responsible for this iatrogenic horror they can be responsible for others.

Take the necessary steps to see that this is dealt with properly--to see that justice for these children is done. A vaccinated versus unvaccinated study, done by an independent group of scientists and overseen by a panel that includes a fair number of representatives in the autism community (including any individuals from the following organizations which believe there is a link between vaccine damage and autism: Generation Rescue, National Autism Association, Autism Research Institute, Unlocking Autism, TACA, Safeminds) is long overdue.

Please take the necessary steps to renew confidence in our government and our public health establishments. None of my children are on the spectrum. But it is impossible for me to see any kind of real future for my children in a country where this problem has gone unaddressed for so long.

Sincerely,

Robin Nemeth

Lisa Hunter Ryden

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

Autism is everywhere, and appears to be much more common than 1 in 150 children which was the statistic from the CDC reported in 2007.

We have spent years pursuing genetic research, only to not discover any common genetic traits in the autistic population. This is even despite the fact that scientific fact will tell us there is no such thing as a genetic epidemic.

Yet, we continue to spend millions of dollars into more genetic research and not environmental causes of the autism epidemic. Why is this? Why are more and more children being diagnosed with autism and why are we not responding to this state of emergency in our country?

I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Lisa Hunter Ryden

Christina Fergo

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear President Obama, Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am writing this letter to state my objections to the IACC's recent reversal of their decision to direct autism research funds to studying the link between early childhood vaccination and autism. To be very plain, although the vaccine schedule gets more crowded every year, the effects of multiple vaccinations have never been looked at. All of these vaccines are tested individually, but children are required to get up to 5 at a time.

Imagine that you have a baby, and he is healthy and perfect in every way. He eats well, sleeps through the night and hits all his milestones early or on time during his first year. At 8 months old you take him on vacation, and before you know it everyone at the hotel knows your son because he is so happy and friendly. He is waving and saying hi to anyone who looks at him. Everyone comments on his beautiful eyes and radiant smile. They can see his eyes plainly because his eye contact is perfect.

At 16 months, your child gets five live virus vaccines at one time. You have no problem doing this because you do not want your child getting a preventable infectious disease. You are the "good parent" who makes sure your child has every advantage; including the best health care money can buy.

Immediately after the vaccinations, your child stops eating almost everything he ate before that day. Now, he only wants milk and carbohydrates. He starts vomiting in his bed nightly; he has mysterious fevers and hasn't had a solid bowel movement in weeks. Your pediatrician tells you not to worry, that it is just a string of intestinal viruses that are going around.

At 17 months, you notice your child (who had 15-20 words and sign language before the vaccinations) has not said a new word in a while. A few weeks later you notice that he is not saying his old words anymore. Your doctor tells you again not to worry, boys develop language later than girls, and he'll start talking eventually. He doesn't.

Now your beautiful baby is 2 years old and still not talking. He's still vomiting, getting fevers and diarrhea often. He can no longer understand any words except "no". When you use that word with him, he turns into a wild animal. Your whole family is covered in bruises and bite marks, and you have teachers coming to your house every day to help your son develop skills he should already have. He can't learn at all. You cannot believe what is happening. A child who learned to sign at 6 months old still can't talk? What the hell is going on?

You take him to an esteemed pediatric neurologist who takes all of 15 minutes to evaluate him and diagnose him with autism. On top of pulling the rug out from under you, he tells you to "face the facts". Your child is never going to get better; he will probably get a lot worse. He tells you to bring him to a

local hospital's autism treatment center, and prepares you for the eventuality of medicating your son into robotic compliance.

You ask if there is a need for further testing. Bloodwork? MRI? Other diagnoses that need to be ruled out? The answer to all these questions is no. You cannot believe what you are hearing. That's it? Sometimes your baby just goes away and that's all there is to it? No one knows why? I ask you, Mr. President, senators and congressmen, is that good enough for your child? It is certainly not good enough for mine.

Your trusted pediatrician, who you have been seeing since the birth of your first child 13 years ago, has nothing to offer except that he is sorry. He tells you to love your child for who he is. Apparently you don't already do that. You explain that you love him no matter what, but you cannot forget the child he was before he got sick. That child is further gone every day, but you will never let him go. Your doctor tells you that you are mistaken. There was no change in your child; you just missed all the signs. That is what happens with autism, it is the nature of the disorder. But you know what happened? You watched it with your own eyes.

By three years old, your child has the skills of a 16 month old child and cannot sleep for more than three hours in a row. It's like he just stopped developing the day he was vaccinated with MMR, Varivax and HiB. Then you see Jenny McCarthy on Oprah, talking about recovering her child from autism with a combination of diet and detoxification. You read her book and see your story all over again. You put your child on the GF/CF diet against your pediatrician's advice, simply because you are so desperate to help him that you will try anything. Within 48 hours of his diet change, he is sleeping through the night. Wow! Within a month, he is able to speak simple sentences. You are looking at a miracle. You find a doctor who treats vaccine injuries (DAN! protocol) and with every step you take your child makes incredible gains. His school evaluations show 18 months' worth of cognitive growth in the first 5 months of treatment.

As happy as you are seeing this, your joy is tempered by the knowledge that you cannot send your child to public school without being fully vaccinated, but you cannot take the chance that he will have another reaction. The treatment is working beautifully, but your health insurance will not cover it, so your medical bills are nearing \$2,000 per month (on top of your \$1,500 health insurance premium, which gets you exactly nothing). What happens when I cannot afford further treatment? Will my baby just go away again? Instead, you just live for today, and count every gain as a blessing.

This is happening to 40,000 families every year, and you think with the autism rate growing so fast, that all possible causes will be investigated. That is not the case at all. The people who are appointed by your government to direct research funds and get to the bottom of the epidemic will not listen to parents. They instead cite studies funded by pharmaceutical firms as proof that vaccines are not harmful. The crime in all of this is that we have no idea what the autism rate is in unvaccinated children, because they have never been included in autism studies. How are we supposed to find out if vaccines contribute to the onset of autism if we have no idea if unvaccinated children are as susceptible? When you want to find out if smoking contributes to lung cancer, do you only look at smokers? No, you look at the rate of lung cancer in smokers compared to non-smokers. We need to study both vaccinated and unvaccinated children to compare the autism rates. Anything else is a giant waste of time and taxpayer money, and since I am now going broke trying to fix my child, I can't afford more taxes.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my story. I understand that it is not what doctors call hard science, but I would imagine that the sheer number of families experiencing the same thing would have to count for something. There was a time when the medical profession would bleed a patient to rid them of illness, something we are aghast at in this century. What will our descendants be saying 100 years from now about our eagerness to overload immature immune systems with record numbers of vaccines? I think they will be horrified at how we turned the early childhood vaccination program into a profit-driven experiment that neurologically destroyed a generation of American children.

Sincerely,

Christina Fergo

Kecia Johndrow

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Driving down a major highway in Austin last week I noticed a billboard that stated "Vaccines are like hugs, you don't want to miss one!" After seeing the billboard I promptly looked over at my oldest son sitting next me and noted that for him and many others vaccines were definitely not like hugs. Hugs make you feel good, they help lift your spirits and give you a sense of love and acceptance. Vaccines have changed the course of my son's life and not for the better. I realize that this department is receiving thousands of emails on this topic so I'll keep this short but our story is the same as thousands and thousands of other parents in this country. My son was born premature; he was injected with the overloaded schedule of vaccines encouraged by the CDC, and now suffers severe health issues and environmental damage that will affect him his entire life.

How is it that vaccines are continuously added to the pediatric schedule but not tested in combination with one another? How is it that the additives that are known neurotoxins be allowed into our vaccines? How is it that thousands of parents are asking for help to heal our children and we are ridiculed? Our children are letting us know that they cannot handle the vaccine schedule as it stands today.

In order to get to the bottom of the chronic illnesses plaguing our children we must do testing by independent organizations that do not have a financial stake in the outcomes of such studies. We need a complete and well thought out study comparing vaccinated vs. unvaccinated populations and health outcomes.

My son has an immune disorder known as Hypogammaglobulinemia. In the literature for this disorder it clearly states that people suffering this condition should not receive live virus vaccines due to immune deficiency yet my son was never tested before being injected. He received 8 live virus vaccines before the age of 2. It now takes a \$6000 a month medical procedure (IVIG) in order to keep him healthy. Why is that?

We hope for a better future for our children and for the next generation.

Sincerely,

Kecia Johndrow

Bill Puglisi

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research by experts on the subject at this time is overwhelming that there is a link to vaccines. MANY books have been written on this subject. Of course they will find a link. That's why they don't want to do the research. Please search your conscience and do the right thing.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Dr. Bill Puglisi

Shannon Ruhe

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I do not accept the alarming rates of autism as purely genetic and we must address the environmental triggers. My son is affected and we deserve immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the affected families.

I believe that the vaccine program is in danger if this issue is not adequately addressed. Studies of children who are not affected do not reflect the needs of our children who are affected. We know that children who don't have autism have handled toxic insults differently than our affected kids. I need studies of the children who got sick. I believe IACC has made many decisions based on studies which don't fairly address our affected population. For example recently it was released that approx. 1,400 children were studied in Rome having been given thimerosal in their injections. These children do not have autism, yet this study says that this further proves there is no link between thimerosal and autism. This only further proves that the children who didn't get sick have handled this insult. A subset of the population demands equal rights to a safe development.

Please immediately, I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Shannon N Ruhe

Bonnie Jensen

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. On the very day - January 14th - that the committee voted against conducting studies on vaccine-autism research (despite approval of the same studies at their prior meeting on December 12, 2008), my 3 1/2 year old son was diagnosed with Autism. My husband and I now join the growing ranks of parents who are concerned that vaccines have harmed their children. The committee's actions only bolster our belief that the government and pharmaceutical industries are trying to keep the truth from coming to light while continuing to [offensive language redacted]. I want you to know that my child is not a dollar sign or a statistic. He is a human being and deserves the dignity of the truth.

I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Bonnie L. Jensen

Bridgett Miller

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

For politics to invade something as serious as thousands of children's lives is deplorable and now is the time to stand for what is right. You can NOT deny what thousands of moms say about their child. We are not crazy....we KNOW our children. We know that in literally hours/days after vaccination there was a spiral into autism. Why are we not being heard? It is disgusting to know what our government is doing. And trust me....we KNOW.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Bridgett Miller

Yvonne Hershey

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I am the mother of a son who suffered from extreme symptoms such as depression, suicide attempts and rage due to mercury in his childhood immunizations. We were fortunate in finding a doctor that understood the problem and how to correct it. After treatment to rid his body of mercury, our son has been transformed into a healthy, vibrant young man who now brings us daily joy instead of what was once constant horror and heartbreak.

I ask for reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

Please consider my request to continue to seek answers for all the families still struggling with heartbreak due to mercury poisoning in their children.

Sincerely,

Yvonne L. Hershey

Eleanor Souders

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Can it be that the drug companies have caught the attention of the powers that be there in Washington? My grandson was fine until he was injected and now he struggles to be understood because he doesn't have the words. His parents struggle every day trying to unlock the mystery of autism. Now you want to stop the research that might hold a key to the lock. What is the matter with you people? You need to implement the Combating Autism Act so it reflects the needs and views of the autism community. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Eleanor Souders

Holly Masclans

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

1 in 60 NJ boys have autism. My son is one of them. Nearly every parent with an autistic child knows exactly what happened at 2 weeks, 2 months, 4 months, 6 months, 12 months, 15 months, 18 months, etc. etc. that drove their child into autism. It was their vaccines. My daughter had 8 seizures after her 4-month vaccines and was autistic by 5 months old. My never-vaccinated 6 year old has never had a sick visit and does not have autism. Every day I tell more and more families about the dangers of vaccination. More and more families are choosing not to vaccinate. People see my children and decide that autism is not something they want and they choose not to vaccinate.

I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee, IACC. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community which includes never-vaccinated vs vaccinated autism study. Every study ever done has been on vaccinated children.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Holly Masclans

Terri Appell

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

As the parent of an Autistic child, I wish to strongly urge you to make sure that the causes of Autism are investigated/researched to prevent other children and families from having to deal with the daily stresses of the effects caused by Autism.

No child should have to endure being hurt by vaccinations that were designed to protect them from injury and illness.

My son suffers from numerous gastro-intestinal disorders that have thus far lead to his inability to properly digest food. Hence, we need to give him many, many supplements on a daily basis in order to try and combat the deficiencies caused by his vaccine injury caused Autism.

I believe in my heart of hearts that Vaccines caused or contributed to my son's Autism.

Please don't let other children have to go through what our son has gone through and will continue to go through.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Terri Appell

Note: Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has been redacted in this document

Katie Smyth

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

As a mother of a child that was perfectly normal until a doctor's visit (where he received 6 vaccines at once), and within two days became autistic, I feel you need to know what happened overnight. At 13 mos. these were [PII redacted]'s new symptoms: no eye contact, toe walking, acting deaf, loss of all words, terrible light-green, soft stools, spinning in circles, flipping light switches, overstuffing himself with food (gluten and dairy), zombie-like behavior, no interest in older sibling or friends, ate sand and dirt, ate non-food items, sucked on clothing, couldn't tolerate noise, hypo-sensitive (couldn't feel pain, hot or cold), no emotional contact with family members, no pointing or gesturing, no response to his name being called, was unable to perform simple tasks (bring mommy the ball).

Each day is precious when you're considering early intervention. The DAN! Protocol has saved my son yet the American Academy of Pediatrics refuses to work alongside these amazing DAN! Doctors. Everyone is so [offensive language redacted] scared about creating a vaccine panic. Mothers like me only want parents to be educated by their pediatricians. There needs to be an open discussion about alternative vaccine SCHEDULES...not the elimination of vaccines. Even though thimerosal has been pulled out of many vaccines, they're still full aluminum...another toxin. Some kids just can handle the toxic loads they're given as babies and toddlers. Autism is now an epidemic and someone better figure out why this happening and NOW! You all think you have problems with education and healthcare, you haven't seen anything if you sweep this issue under the rug.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes

equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Katie and Jeff Smyth

Andrea Capone

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am a grandparent of a 9 year old girl with autism, and I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. We are close to giving up and making her a ward of the state. Do you know how painful that will be? She was given an MMR and broke out in a rash and fever. Maybe it was the thimerosal or maybe it was the live viruses and other irritants in these vaccines. Enough already! What is a hardworking family supposed to do...live in our cars...if we can afford one after paying for attorneys so our afflicted child can receive the services she is entitled to receive. ENOUGH! ENOUGH! I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Andrea Capone

Jill Correnti

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am the mother of a child with autism. I believe his autism was caused by the mercury preservative in the vaccinations he received. Please note that this poison preservative is still used in flu vaccinations and allergy shots.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Jill Correnti

Holly Robinson Peete

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am the mother of a son who had a violent reaction to the MMR shot at 21 months of age. That same visit, against my wishes, he was also administered several other shots he was "overdue" for. I believe that my child's immune system was compromised that day and that his body could not handle the viral load and toxins contained in all of the vaccinations. He was diagnosed with autism very shortly after.

There have NEVER been any studies conducted with a focus on the details of my son's situation or thousands of other families with similar stories. We must also study the impact of the "totality" of the entire schedule of shots and whether there is a "susceptible" subset of children.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the devastating impact of autism on children and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

The Obama administration and government agencies must do their jobs. Our children are counting on us.

Sincerely,

Holly Robinson Peete

Maribel McIntyre

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

It is time for OUR questions to be answer! So far, none of the epidemiological studies conducted have rejected the hypothesis that thimerosal containing vaccinations could be a major factor in the increase of autism incidence in the past two decades. This still a very valid theory to be studied!

Toxicology studies support the theory that the exposure and accumulation of toxic substances and heavy metals, such as mercury, could lead to the weakening of the immune system while severely affecting the neurological system. One of the biomarkers/profile of children affected by autism is their inability to detoxify toxic substances and heavy metals from their bodies. Think about the prospectus of having a toxic substance, like mercury, trapped forever in your body! Think about the consequences!

We need the science explaining what is happening to our children. We need the vaccination research reinstated and properly funded in the IACC Strategic Plan.

Sincerely,

Maribel McIntyre

Austin Carter

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

The recent actions of the IACC (at their January meeting) are inexcusable. Through the manipulation of committee procedures, much-needed (and previously approved) research - concerning the possible link between vaccines and autism - was blocked. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I urge the re-implementation by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

As has been well-documented, the NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

The autism epidemic has become a national crisis, and I hope our government and its new administration will finally begin to facilitate, rather than obstruct, research such as this which is crucial to the well-being of our country and its citizens.

Yours very truly,

Austin Carter

Angelique Higgins

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I strenuously object to their possibly illegal manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the link between vaccines and autism as explicitly called for in the Combating Autism Act passed by Congress. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism and other autoimmune diseases are rising in record numbers, overwhelming the resources of parents, school systems and the health care system.

By their actions, the IACC is further eroding the trust of all Americans in the vaccine program. In brazenly refusing to perform a Congressionally-mandated study of vaccinated vs. unvaccinated populations, in refusing to study the health effects of the entire vaccine schedule as administered in the real world, in refusing to study the hundreds of thousands of children who may have been injured by vaccines, they are abdicating their responsibility and signaling to the world that, indeed, there is something they are trying to hide. Such deceit cannot be allowed to stand. If you allow it, you will be complicit in the inevitable destruction of the vaccine program, for the numbers keep growing and once parents' trust is lost it will be impossible to regain.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research. Highly manipulated piecemeal studies such as those repeatedly funded by CDC and designed to preserve the status quo will no longer cut it. That will only lead to more children being diagnosed every day. What's needed is a comprehensive, methodologically transparent study that is beyond reproach, with raw data publicly released, with the goal of eliminating future adverse vaccine events that cause lifetime disabilities. This is the ONLY solution to a problem that is growing exponentially and will soon threaten to decimate Disability and Social Security as these children reach adulthood.

The FDA, NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities with no current or past ties to pharmaceutical companies.

The recent Congressional report on Gulf War Illness implicated a vaccine adjuvant, aluminum hydroxide, as a possible factor in that illness. That same adjuvant is used in vaccines injected into babies and children. Merck's Gardasil contains it; that vaccine is being implicated by parents in cases of irreversible progressive paralysis in young teen girls. According to a participant at a recent Vaccine Stakeholders meeting, FluMist is contaminated with avian retroviruses and was nearly pulled from the market until a mysterious lobbying effort enabled it to remain in use. The MMR vaccine had its amount of mumps virus quadrupled between 1990 and 2007, the same years the autism rate skyrocketed, and then inexplicably

reduced to an amount more than double the original amount. Vaccines containing neurotoxic mercury are still injected into children, sometimes at the same time as aluminum-containing vaccines, when the material safety data sheet for thimerosal (which is 50% mercury) explicitly states it is not to be combined with neurotoxic aluminum. Why are these things allowed to continue, unexamined? Does anybody care? Is anybody there?

I write to you as a parent whose life has been changed by the vaccines my children received. Our son was diagnosed at age 3 with autism. After 3+ years of medical treatment including chelation which removed lead, mercury and aluminum from his body, he is in a regular classroom at an elementary school where they have no idea he was ever diagnosed. My daughter has suffered from motor coordination and speech problems which worsened after her last set of vaccines. She has high aluminum in her bloodstream and a variety of abnormally high virus titers; she receives OT, PT, APE and Speech Therapy through her school. We are doing everything we can to facilitate her recovery with the same type of treatments that helped her brother. We know from experience that recovery is possible. Further research can help families like ours find the best course of treatment, or find ways to avoid injury in the first place.

Please, use the power of your office to take the IACC to task for their egregious behavior; they aim to actually prevent parents from having truly informed consent for vaccines.

Please, use the power of your office to question whether the committee membership of the IACC and HHS's ACIP should be allowed to have such egregious conflicts of interest as currently exist. Consider that indemnification from civil liability, in tandem with pharma-connected regulators who approve and recommend products and then fail to perform any regulatory function, has created a financial windfall for pharmaceutical companies while inadvertently jeopardizing the health of millions of children.

Please, for my children and others around the world, please do your all to stop this problem in its tracks, now.

Sincerely,

Angelique Higgins

Marcella Averkamp

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

My children are, we, believe victims of neurological damage due to vaccinations. Therefore, I am concerned autism rates and the impact of autism on families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Marcella Averkamp

Louise Barr

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

My son suffers (along with my family) from the debilitating effects of his autism. He will never have a normal life, and will most likely be unable to ever support himself. Society will bear the enormous financial expenses involved with taking care of him when I am gone. In the meantime, I am impoverished financially, emotionally and health-wise from the strain of taking care of him. I love him beyond all words, but he is not the child that was born to me. That was a happy, healthy, bright and outgoing child, who quickly disappeared after receiving his panel of shots at age 2, in 1998. Within 2 days, he was a different child. I saw this happen before my very eyes, and I KNOW that the shots caused it.

I am outraged at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Louise Barr

Jill Rege

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

I am the parent of three boys, one of whom was diagnosed with autism at age 4. I didn't want to look at vaccines at all when we started this journey, but my son's immune system was so compromised (he tests as allergic to 90 percent of the foods he eats! Full-bore IgE mediated allergies!) We eventually looked into reversing any vaccine damage; by doing that we have been able to recover him from autism. He is now 11 and attends school with no aide, no therapy, and no support. He will not be a burden on society. He will not cost tax-payers anything. He will have a job, friends, and a family.

Putting blinders on hurts everyone. The sooner we can look at this without vaccine manufacturers or developers calling the shots, the sooner we will know the truth.

We paid for our son's treatments ourselves. It has cost us the dream of owning a home and has cut into retirement for us. Not everyone is so lucky to be able to afford to do what we've done or to recover a child. Prevention is MUCH more powerful than early screening.

Sincerely,

Jill Rege

Louis A. Abel

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my OUTRAGE at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs. I speak as the grandfather of an autistic boy, and have seen the lab test PROOFS of his Mercury poisoning, with no evident source other than the 22 shots he had received in his first 2 years of life!!

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research. Sound, UNBIASED science!

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent CONFLICTS of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Louis A. Abel

Stephen McIntyre

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

As a parent with an autistic child, I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my extreme disappointment at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I had hoped the implementation of the Combating Autism Act would reflect the needs and views of the autism community, but so far it has done nothing of the sort.

I was stunned to see the blatant IACC manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

All we ever hear from pundits is that there is no link, but no studies will be properly funded to prove the matter out. What are they so afraid of? This patronizing attitude and arrogance only pushes the afflicted community that much more. All we want are safe vaccines and healthy children. Do the right thing and fund the research. In doing so you will claim back the people who severely distrust government and health care officials' motives.

Sincerely,

Stephen McIntyre

Ron Sailors

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

Actions at the IACC meeting in January were unjust and scandalous. Blocking research on the possible link between vaccines and autism is a blatant conflict of interest.

The simplest way to vindicate vaccines is to carry out the research. Let honest science show whether there is any connection.

Persistent manipulation to keep a lid on research fuels mistrust and a growing belief that vaccines must be causing harm -- otherwise why try so hard to prevent research?

I respectfully urge you to reinstate vaccine studies that were previously approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, including the funding necessary to do the research.

Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,

Ron Sailors

Katie Boylan

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

I am not a doctor or scientist; I am a parent of a child who has Asperger's syndrome. When my son was about 16 months old, the day AFTER his vaccinations, he stopped talking completely. He had had a vocabulary of at least 150 words and his doctors thought he was doing extremely well.

After those vaccines, we were referred to Early Intervention Services and my son has been receiving therapies ever since. He is now approaching 7 years old. I know many don't believe us. It's like seeing a ghost. You can tell all of your friends what happened and they'll never really believe you, but when it happens to them.... I KNOW those vaccines played some type of role in my son's disability. I don't think they caused his problems, but they definitely contributed to them. I swear! I just wish SOMEONE would believe me! I'm not looking for money and I have no pending hearings or anything like that. I just want some answers. I KNOW what I experienced.

Sincerely,

Katie Boylan

Ruth Lough

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

Please work towards reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that are so vital to the health and well-being of the citizens. These studies mean so much to MANY! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ruth Lough

Tanya Herod

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities. This is absolutely relevant to the research of why so many of our children are diagnosed with autism. I personally have twins affected by A.S.D. Let the research prove if indeed vaccines did not affect the process. I do know this...the easiest way to prove thousands of parents wrong about vaccines, is to show us the evidence.

Sincerely,

Tanya Herod

Julie Penny

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

UNCONSCIONABLE! The conflict-of-interest ridden IACC must be reconstituted. As is, they act as total lackeys of the industry. Pure Science alone would demand further investigation between autism and vaccines. Bush world is OVER (though I see the IACC [offensive language redacted]). What stomach-churning, [offensive language redacted] are these in charge that they should have dropped the vaccine studies? Let the pursuit of real science return anew.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Julie Penny

Ann Morrow

January 26, 2009

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear President Obama, Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

As a mother of two children on the autism spectrum, I am once again dismayed by the inability of my government and its regulating agencies to face straight on the questions concerning autism and environmental triggers, including vaccines.

I can imagine the dread of contemplating the political, medical and legal nightmare that could be unleashed if in fact vaccines may play a role in the rise of neurological conditions in our children. But that dread has no place in the process by which scientific inquiry must move forward when such an important question faces us.

We must find out what's really going on and the only way to do that is to study it. The controversy will not go away until somebody has the courage to do so.

I have high hopes for the new Administration. This issue warrants attention at the highest level. To not act may be seen by future generations as the worst kind of cowardice.

Sincerely,

Ann Morrow

Lynne Sanchez

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

My beautiful six year old son has autism. I want you to carefully consider all your decisions on this matter. I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my absolute outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Lynne Sanchez

Sandra Hunter

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am a parent of an autistic child. I know more than most the burden Autism places on me, my family, and our community. Please STOP the manipulation of procedure, research, and money for the sake of all families in America.

I am appalled at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

Stop doing the bidding of biased government agencies and start doing the bidding of the American people.

Sincerely,

Sandy Hunter

Elise Graziano

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

My 2 1/2 year old son is autistic. Please don't let this happen to more children!

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Elise Graziano

Sonja Lopez

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

This debate and this epidemic will only continue to grow until real research is done to either exonerate or implicate vaccines in this epidemic...either one is critical to the health of our next generation...we cannot continue to stick our heads in the sand...this will not go away. These studies must be done to restore trust in our health care system...this trust is now broken. Thank you

Sincerely,

Sonja Lopez

Kate Farrell

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

On a personal note I have to add my two cents.....I am completely outraged and call for a revolution in the healthcare system and want NO part of the [offensive language redacted]. I AM SICK OF IT. You people are [offensive language redacted] if you continue to deny us the RIGHT of informed consent and [offensive language redacted] on our children. I demand you stop immediately or [offensive language redacted]. [Offensive language redacted].

Sincerely,

Kate Farrell

Eve Rivas

January 26, 2009

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I have 2 children with autism. They both developed normally & then regressed at about 2 yrs. of age. In fact, the 2nd child regressed a second time when he was 6 years old, just days after his last batch of vaccines. They were supposed to have been free of mercury by then but we found afterwards that one of them (the dT) still had some mercury in it. (We recently found out that both of my autistic children have abnormally high porphyrins correlating to mercury toxicity.) I have a 3rd child who is 8yrs old now & who has had NO vaccines so far. He is the only non-autistic child in our family. Surely there are other families in this country with similar experiences.

Based on my children's experience, vaccines do play a role in autism & I am astounded & outraged that IACC which is entrusted with our children's welfare decided in its January meeting to prevent such research from taking place. I object to IACC's manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critically urgent research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Please do the right thing and help our children from further damage & suffering! We are all running out of money and time trying to help them & we shouldn't be left out here having to do our own "research" in an attempt to reduce their horrible suffering. Suffering that has been inflicted upon them through ignorance, greed, lack of proper oversight, and now indifference in conducting the very studies needed to help them!

Sincerely,

Eve F. Rivas

Marguerite Portagallo

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Thankfully I do not have a child with autism but I am still concerned as the numbers of children with this disorder is growing rapidly, especially in New Jersey. One in 60 boys in New Jersey has autism. When will our government do the right thing and initiate unbiased research? They turn a deaf ear on much evidence (yes, there is evidence) because they are afraid to admit to a possibility they have caused harm to children. We all know that another big part of it is the money that vaccines make for the drug companies. Please, I beg you; do the research so we can truly know once and for all.

Sincerely,

Marguerite Portagallo

Gayle Brackner

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

Our granddaughter was doing very well developmentally until she had her MMR and other shots at 18 months. We are sure the conditions were right for her to be affected by the heavy doses of vaccines!

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Gayle Brackner

E.H. Granai

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am writing to you because I believe the actions of the IACC at their January meeting were unconscionable, disgraceful and quite possibly ILLEGAL. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

My own child changed dramatically 30 minutes after a round of routine vaccines with 6 hours straight of inconsolable scream crying that then continued off and on for days. She lost eye contact the day of her shots and ceased her beautiful verbal communication for weeks beginning that day.

By the grace of God my daughter is neuro-typical and healthy today; however, I feel so much empathy for parents of autistic children who bear witness to the dramatic changes of their children post vaccination. Their stories are dismissed and they are cast in a very bad light when the Inconvenient Truth is that vaccines are not 100% safe for 100% of the children.

Let's find out who is at risk for vaccine reactions and save them with an alternate vaccine schedule - as Bernadine Healy former director of NIH seemed to suggest.

It is unconscionable and immoral to deny the first hand reports of parents who witness drastic changes in their child's health after shots. Too many parents of autistic children have similar vaccine reaction stories to mine only with a very tragic different outcome - an autism diagnosis.

Please let's get to the bottom of this once and for all with a vax'ed versus un-vaxed health comparison study and with full support of independent research into the vaccine autism connection.

Sincerely,

E. H. Granai

Dawn Soefje

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

We have a beautiful 7 year old girl who was completely on track with all milestones, progressing beautifully until 18 months old when she received the MMR shot. By 2, she was lost in the world of Autism. We have fought back with every ounce of our being and with God's help to bring our girl back. We are winning! We have stopped all vaccinations on her and did very little with our younger son. I have heard thousands of other families with very similar experiences. Something has to be done now. Please, all we ask for is an unbiased true scientific study to prove/disprove once and for all if vaccines do play a part in Autism.

Sincerely,

Dawn Soefje

Melanie Dragone

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

We need to investigate the vaccines that we are asked to inject our children with. It is imperative that we prove that vaccines are safe and gain back the trust of parents nationwide.

Sincerely,

Melanie Dragone

Laurette Janak

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am writing to let you know I think it is despicable that the IACC went against committee procedures by a surprise vote to resend studies that were planned to investigate a possible link between vaccines and autism. Such behavior sends a clear message to the public that we cannot trust our government organizations. Furthermore, the behavior of the IACC continues to undermine our vaccination program by not addressing the fears of our community in a scientifically sound manner. When vaccination rates plummet, agencies such as the CDC and IACC will be largely responsible. The "don't look; don't see" method of doing science is totally unacceptable!

I ask that you work to force the IACC to reinstate the vaccine/autism studies and that those studies be done in a completely independent manner with no conflict of interest. Such studies must be biologically based and not more of the same inconclusive epidemiology studies that we have seen in the past.

Additionally, studies on vaccination safety should be designed to study a complete representation of our entire population. This means such studies would include children with genetic differences such as Down syndrome, congenital defects, mitochondrial dysfunction and immune suppression.

Please keep me informed on your position regarding this issue.

Sincerely,
Laurette Janak mother of a child with Down syndrome and Autism

Curt Linderman Sr.

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

I am a father of a vaccine injured child. He was perfectly normal and developing exactly as he should have been doing. Hours after receiving 9 vaccines he started a fever, within days he was a very sick child. My child is not "autistic" he is vaccine injured with autistic symptoms. We are destroying our children for profit and something MUST be done. I am the host of a daily live radio show on www.autismone.org/radio called "Linderman Live!" and am furious and letting all of the world know about how our government has failed us. I am also a very patriotic veteran that now refuses to fly his American flag because of what this government is allowing to happen to our children to protect the profits of the pharmaceutical companies.

Sincerely,

Curt Linderman Sr.

Alan Foos

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

My name is Alan Foos, BA Botany MS Soils (3.84), concentration chem/bio/statistics, formal research. Boilerplate from Autism Action Network in quotes- "I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community."

With my background in university study as well as achievements since, I can state with certainty that the pandemic of autism (and other disorders) is provably owed to toxic assault through vaccines as well as "amalscams" and many pharmaceuticals. I can also state with certainty that the gov/med people have severely damaged the health and welfare of all members of my family. They have suffered beyond comprehension and in some cases died, their lives destroyed. Reinstate research into this question, it isn't hard to do, nor is it even necessary to prove the obvious, but if you need help, you can make good use of a statistical theorem I discovered for use in such kinds of research. This was based out of formal and acceptable research work on my thesis at Montana State University 30 years ago. Thank you.

<http://mercuryxxpoisoned.com>

Sincerely,

Alan Foos

Joni McKenna

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I work at a school for special needs children. I see children suffering from various issues and families suffering from the daily stresses on them to take care of the children they so deeply love. I can't even imagine what their lives are like on a daily basis....can you? And I ask myself everyday....WHY? President Obama...you seem to have 2 healthy little girls....aren't you lucky. Well, guess what...some parents aren't so lucky. Can you imagine having a child with autism?

I am now asking WHY important research would be stopped for absolutely no good reason.

Blocking research will do more harm in the long run than good. Why stop the research....I don't understand. Don't you want the best for the people of America? Do you want children and parents to suffer? Do you want schools in chaos, unhappy teachers, and an unhappy administration? Schools are in major trouble as it is. The range of disabilities is severely impacting learning and harmony in the classroom. Not to mention the costs involved in hiring aids, therapists, etc. So I must ask myself, is there something you are trying to hide? I've done plenty of research on vaccinations. If you can read, anyone can learn all about them.

This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs. Perhaps people should stop vaccinating at all. Maybe that would solve some of the autism in America.

I ask that you reinstate the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

We will continue our efforts in pressuring our government to do the right thing. We will continue....and continue and continue. The parents who really care will work together.

Sincerely,

Joni McKenna

Ginger Luetkemeyer

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

My family urges you to demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan.

The NIH and the CDC have lost the trust of so many families because they continue to use all their resources and strategy to AVOID conducting research on vaccine safety. If these agencies which were set up to protect the health interests of the public are now devoted to AVOIDING vaccine safety studies, who is acting on behalf of the American families?

Pursuing sincere research to establish safe vaccination protocols are the only way to restore confidence and trust in the federal vaccine program.

Please do not let this political maneuvering undo the cooperative efforts of the autism community thus far.

Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism community who are proponents of SAFETY in vaccine use and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Respectfully,

Ginger King Luetkemeyer

Cindy Barkowski

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community. My husband and I have a child with autism and this is very disconcerting.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

This country moved quickly to put a new government into place, and now I am asking that you move quickly to assist children on the autism spectrum and their families to right this wrong as soon as possible. We have enough on our plates but will continue to fight for what is right and just.

Sincerely,

Cindy Barkowski

Julie Jeff

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

Not that long ago medical science [offensive language redacted]. No doctor would believe a mom who said otherwise. Fast forward to today. Many mothers say their child was harmed by vaccines. Science is saying that is not possible. Just as [offensive language redacted] were dismissed, these moms are being dismissed.

I know how my son was prior to the MMR. I have a MASTERS degree from one of the top 10 schools of social work in the country. I asked my doctor the day he got the shot if he was autistic, she said NO. She swore the shot wouldn't hurt him. They gave him the shot. It was a decision I will forever regret. I know he is NOT the same child. He is no longer happy. He no longer smiles. He won't tell me anything. He is stuck in his own little world. Don't dismiss my experience. I'm not a [offensive language redacted]. I'm not a mom who missed all the signals. (I did ages and stages assessments on him myself prior to the MMR. I know he was fine.)

Please allow independent research into this. Please meet my son. I want my happy child back. I want him to smile and laugh like he used to. Please.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Julie E. Jeff

Cindy Matthews

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I DEMAND reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

After what our family has gone through with one of our twin boys (born 4 weeks early), who met all the early developmental milestones right along with his twin brother and received all vaccines in a very short schedule, only to regress and now diagnosed with Autism Aug 13 2007, shortly after they turned 4 years old, I demand VACCINE Autism Research. It is too many too soon! Vaccines are NOT one size fits all. If this research is not done more parents like I will have no other choice than to say "NO RESEARCH? Then NO vaccines for my child!"

Sincerely,

Cindy Matthews

Kelly Watts

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

I am a very concerned parent; my 3 year old son has just been formally diagnosed with autism. He was a typical developing child until his vaccines. I urge you to reconsider this decision and help my child and thousands of other children and parents.

Sincerely,

Kelly watts

Nicole Fiocco

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

Why is the government blocking research that directly impacts the health and safety of every child in this country? My son has autism spectrum disorder and I suspect that he became autistic as a result of a vaccine. The positions of government entities and the CDC that vaccines do not cause harm absolutely are ridiculous. Without a sufficient study, how can we possibly now? Why would you block a study unless there is something to hide? It wasn't that long ago that the public perception was that cigarettes were harmless. Clearly that mindset has been eradicated. Why not investigate vaccines and find out once and for all if they are actually harmful to some children? Millions of parents, just like me, can't be wrong. We know our children and we have seen their pain. Don't stop research that can save other children from serious injury.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Nicole Fiocco

Note: Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has been redacted in this document

Gary and Lani Gross

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting in which they manipulated committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This action is particularly outrageous because it violated the specific requested by Congress that such research be done.

This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

This research is especially meaningful to us as our daughter, [PII redacted], has autism. As with a large number of children, she began showing symptoms shortly after receiving numerous vaccinations at 15 months of age. A link to her picture is attached.

I respectfully request you do everything in your power to make the IACC reinstate the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Please do not send us back an automated letter. I would rather have you save the money instead.

Sincerely,

Gary and Lani Gross

Robert Marsh

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

It is time to confront the basic questions concerning vaccines and do the research indicated for several years. To skirt the issue at this time means that all other research becomes suspect and tainted.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Robert Marsh

Karen & James Mooney

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

In the words of President Obama,
"Those of us who manage the public's dollars will be held to account — to spend wisely, reform bad habits, and do our business in the light of day — because only then can we restore the vital trust between a people and their government."

Sincerely,

Karen & James Mooney

Crystal Williams

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am the mother a 10 year old son with autism. Our family history includes several family members with auto-immune disorders. Since our family history is not common, how can vaccine researchers recommend vaccinating my children when the link between auto-immune disorders and autism has not been studied, except to determine that our children are at a higher risk of developing autism? Doesn't the fact that we are at a higher risk for the incidence of autism indicates that families with auto-immune diseases should be studied and how vaccines may trigger autism in these families? My son was born appearing quite normal and regressed over the first 3 years of his life. He is now severely affected by autism.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Crystal Williams

JaNell Mathews

January 26, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my extreme outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

For those people not directly affected by autism, it may not seem like an important issue to address. However, one must realize that autism is a reality for many thousands of people in the United States. And if trends continue, you may very well be affected by autism in the near future.

Try to imagine having a child (or grandchild), an ill child, who no one will help. No doctor will listen to your concerns as a parent and you are constantly told how wrong you are about your child's condition. Most doctors don't have the first clue about environmental insults – this includes mercury and toxins in vaccines - and the huge role they play in autism. Most doctors will admit that they don't even know what is in vaccines let alone how it could hurt a child.

Imagine being told that it's all about genetics and you have no choice but to accept that your child will be in an institution by the age of fifteen. According to the CDC, autism affects 1 out of 150 children. Actually, these numbers are conservative but it does show that autism has reached epidemic proportions. Imagine trying to explain to the "experts" that there cannot be a genetic epidemic; it is biologically impossible. But no one wants to look into more plausible (and most likely possible) reasons for the explosion of autism.

Imagine being all alone in a society that doesn't want you or your child. Imagine trying to obtain biomedical treatment, but insurance won't pay for anything. "Experts" say it's too dangerous. Yet these same experts and the same insurance companies willingly use and pay for chemotherapy - a highly toxic and dangerous combination of drugs - to treat cancer. No one wants you or your child around but no one wants to help either.

Sadly, too many families in this country (and many others) don't have to imagine these scenarios; we live them every day. But we still go one for one reason, our children. The government and medical establishment believe that there is an acceptable risk regarding vaccines. Our vaccine injured children are not an acceptable risk. They are human beings of infinite worth.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Thank you for your consideration and appropriate action regarding this most important matter.

Sincerely,

JaNell Mathews

Victoria West

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

After reviewing and researching the data on all government and manufacturing studies, I personally find the length and methodology of the studies to be inadequate to actually assess safety in our children. The numbers studied are too few, the combination or non-combination of shot studies lacking data that would influence outcome and the failure to assess mutagenic properties an egregious lack of pertinent information, especially in view of children such as Hanna Poling who have had mitochondrial exacerbation from combination shots.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I was appalled by the blatant manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs. Vaccines have NOT been ruled out as causative when studies do not encompass the variables stated above, and when they do not involve testing to the cellular level to determine the true effect, if any.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Victoria J West

Twyla Ramos

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the individuals and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand what causes autism and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research!

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

As confirmed by the recent study at the U.C. Davis MIND Institute, the rate of autism has increased 7-to-8-fold since 1980. This is a national emergency. We must leave no stone unturned. The problems with our vaccine program are not going to go away by being ignored.

Sincerely,

Twyla Ramos

Note: Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has been redacted in this document

Mark Vande Kerkhoff

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

"In a move autism family advocates call unprecedented, federal health officials have concluded that childhood vaccines contributed to symptoms of the disorder in a 9-year-old Georgia girl [PII redacted]." AJC 3/6/08 LINK: http://www.ajc.com/metro/content/health/stories/2008/03/06/autism_0306.html

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

I reside in Canton, GA and have seen autism rates SKY ROCKET in the past 10 years! Virtually EVERY close friend we have had in the past 5 years residing in our area now has a child exhibiting signs of autism spectrum - including my 5 3/4 year old son [PII redacted] (diagnosed PDD-NOS) and my 4 year old daughter [PII redacted] (exhibiting sensory issues found on the autism spectrum).

My son was diagnosed at the Emory Autism Center/Marcus Institute in Atlanta as part of an autism based genetics research study. To date the study (going on for over 2 years) has not linked a single child's autism to genetics.

KEEP RESEARCHING THE VACCINATIONS!!!

Sincerely,

Mark J. Vande Kerkhoff

Hilda Bowen

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs. Many independent research studies already confirm a link between vaccines and autism (in addition to genetics).

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Hilda Bowen

Note: Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has been redacted in this document

Victoria Warrenfeltz

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

We are the parents of twins with Autism. Autism is a lifelong condition. So far, at least, there's no hope that it will ever cease, no agreement on cause and little agreement about treatment.

Do you know the daily lives of families that are affected by having children with Autism? If you can make a difference, then I encourage you to do so.

What are particularly sad about autism are a society—and a health-care system—that does nothing for them.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Autism does Speak, through us.

Lon & Vicki Warrenfeltz
[PII redacted] & [PII redacted]'s Mommy & Daddy

Sincerely,

The Warrenfeltz's

Mary Miller

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Fortunately, many doctors and researchers have already completed studies showing the correlation to vaccines and autism and other childhood "diseases". Do the studies that compare non-vaccinated populations to vaccinated children. This shouldn't be such a large undertaking as it has already been done. How do you explain how healthy children received their vaccines and digress into autism only to be cured after receiving biomedical and chelation therapies. Doctors have those numbers too. Stop protecting high paying (to you all) interest groups and start taking care of children, including not aborting them.

My son is close to his cure. Most can't tell he ever had autism. We are still trying to clear his body of the heavy metals that were injected into him. Many people I know are also seeing big improvements in their children for the same reasons. I am investing in my son's future, I wish you would too.

Sincerely,

Mary Miller

Note: Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has been redacted in this document

Sara Brown

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

Due to vaccine injury, I had to bury one child, and am dealing with autism and PANDAS in another.

Yes, doing research on vaccines can be scary. Litigation from some parents is a possibility. People having to admit they are wrong is difficult.

But so was burying my child. My son, [PII redacted], died less than 24 hours after his four-month vaccinations. We felt he was not doing well, and told his pediatrician, but she insisted on following the American Academy of Pediatrics guidelines.

My other son developed autism-like symptoms, from which he is recovering. Living with autism (especially the aggression symptoms) is incredibly hard. We were basically housebound for many months. We have endured rude comments from family, physicians, and friends.

I'm not against vaccinations, nor will my husband and I sue. We are simply heartbroken that other families have to endure the same challenges we've had to face, simply because our children were not healthy enough to handle vaccines at the recommended schedule.

I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I request reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,
Sara Brown, Mount Clemens, Michigan

Note: Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has been redacted in this document

Tiffany Ann Curtis

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am doing this in remembrance of my father who was in the US Air Force, [PII redacted]. His granddaughter is [PII redacted]. I am asking you for your help.

We have a 6 year old now autistic daughter, who was vaccinated with Hexavac which has been taken off the market in 2005. She was fine before the first vaccination, and then got worse with every vaccination (also other vaccinations followed including Thimerosal).

Please, it is very important for all parents of autistic children that research in this field continues! There is no other way of explaining her autism. There must be a link between autism and vaccinations.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Please help, if it was your child, you would do the same!

THANK YOU!

Sincerely,

Tiffany Ann Curtis

Theresa Kosinski

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

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I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

This is a mess to be sure. The only way to heal is to trudge through the process. Government agencies need to acknowledge the wrong doing and move forward with what is right. Our (yours and mine) children, grandchildren, grandchildren's children deserve to live in a world free of this type of corruption and misuse of authority. I urge you to consider our collective future.

Sincerely,

Theresa Kosinski

Meg Oberreuter

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am an RN who gave vaccinations till 5 years ago when I knew the compelling evidence showed that they were linked to the rise in ill health in our children, autism/ADHD, asthma, diabetes, allergies, and cancers. I have documented heavy metal poisoning in two of my children, a 29 yr. old son with autism "behaviors", (I won't list all his physical ills, symptoms of poisoning) and a 20 yr. old daughter with ADHD symptoms, but successful in college. Both are receiving diet, supplements and therapies to detox the metals out of their body, and they are both improving their quality of life. But how many more generations of kids do we need to impair before someone has the backbone to stand up to Big Pharma and say no more. Big Pharma knows what they have done to our kids, but greed and reputation has taken over. This action of the committee is just one more step in hindering the real truth from being told. Stop the madness now, our next generation deserves to be unharmed, and the current two generations desperately need your help healing.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Meg Oberreuter

Sandra Vonniessen-Applebee

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

Since when do we live in a country where the rights of corporations are so one-sided that the rights of citizens are blatantly denied? Health and well-being of citizens should supersede profits but they do not and nor does the CDC or the FDA work in the best interest of the citizen but rather corporate profit. If there is no link between autism and vaccines why are they so scared to study it?

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Sandra Vonniessen-Applebee

Cindy Sloat

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

As the parent of a child with autism, I can tell you anything that can be done to prevent another human being from going through what my child and my family suffers through each day, is definitely in the countries best interest.

I would also like to point out that it is maneuvers like this that make people distrust our government and hate politicians. You need people who live this to be on these committees, and since you seem to be having trouble getting them, I would be happy to volunteer to be a parent member of this committee. Maybe if the committee was a little more evenly represented, the right actions would get taken. It appears that once again our children's health is secondary to monetary concerns.

Sincerely,

Cindy Sloat

Krista Schmitz

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Obviously, the above is the form letter- but I could not have said it better. It is the government who says we have to vaccinate our children, therefor it is the government's responsibility to make sure vaccines are safe and cause no harm. My daughter has Autism, and I know it was from her vaccines- I saw it happen with my own eyes. Her life is ruined- and it is terrible, because she is a beautiful brilliant girl. It is bad enough that there is no help for us from anyone, even though we need it, but the fact that this continues to happen on your watch, that children continue to suffer and have their lives destroyed by autism because you let government agencies and people with wicked agendas get away with this, is unconscionable. This travesty is your fault if you do not permit the truth to be known.

Sincerely,

Krista Schmitz

Heidi Noyer

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I called in and listened to the meeting. I cried and could not sleep for two days due to the haunting meeting on January 14th. The prior meeting was concerning enough with a heated debate on whether or not to include the idea of vaccine research in the proposal. No other topic was debated with such disagreement and adversary. But, the meeting on Jan 14th sent shivers through my body. It was obvious that the only agenda by many of the members was to get vaccine research out of the proposal.

It was more than obvious that many of the members did not want vaccine research to be on the proposal, no matter how long it took to debate it, or if procedures were not followed to enable this to happen. They did not even finish going over the proposal, stating lack of time, and then went back and spent a lot of time on getting vaccine research out of the proposal. I was scared. How could one possibly trust vaccine safety after seeing such a cover-up action first-hand? This leads me to believe that they know the vaccines are not safe and are going to great lengths to hide it. It was obvious that avoiding vaccine research was their main goal. This scares me. I am crying as I am writing this letter.

Sincerely,

Heidi Noyer, MS

Julia Kunkowski

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

As the parent of an autistic son who has spent the last 7 years doing nothing but caring for my child & conducting research on this dreadful affliction, I can state without reservation that vaccines are implicated in this epidemic & MUST be studied. Please consider the following facts: there was NO autism epidemic until the CDC tripled the amount of vaccines given to infants, that the rates of autism & increased vaccination rise on an eerie parallel, that large populations such as the Amish or holistic medical practices such as HomeFirst (23,000 members) who do not routinely vaccinate have virtually no autism (as well as far less ADD, ADHD, asthma & allergies), that vaccine safety studies have been conducted only on single dose shots, NEVER in the combinations given today, that thousands of children who were developing normally (such as my son) regressed & lapsed into autism immediately after vaccination, & that the former head of the NIH described the studies exonerating the vaccine/autism link as deeply flawed & stated the need for independent research.

I am not making any of these statements up. Anyone can do the same research as I have & come to the same conclusions: Over vaccination = autism, ADD, ADHD, allergies, asthma, & many other neurological & auto-immune diseases.

It is time to dig the heads out of the sand & put our children ahead of profits.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Julia Kunkowski

Jennifer Thompson

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

As A Parent of a child that is fully recovered from the ravages of vaccine damage, otherwise known as Autism, I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Jennifer L. Thompson

Tracy Powell

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

As a family who has a child whose autism most likely was triggered by her vaccinations, I have sincere interest in this study being carried out, and answers being gotten that are not contaminated or influenced by personal opinions/kickbacks.

I would love to come and directly share our story with you. Even then, it really is hard to imagine what life is like dealing with ASD (autism spectrum disorders).

As a person who is trying to help the autism community, and make a positive difference for those faced with dealing with ASD 24/7 - I have heard many life stories, and plead with you to continue with the study that was recently halted.

Should you wish to speak with me further, please don't hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tracy Powell

Jody Chambers

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear President Obama, Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

Yes we can stop [offensive language redacted], but only if real change has come to Washington. Only if serious conflicts of interest are no longer tolerated will real change happen. Only if we listen to mothers who have lived the tragedy of watching their healthy children disappear into autism after vaccination, instead of continuing to trust industry insiders liable for this tragedy, will we ever end it.

I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community, and we are all now the autism community. One in six of our school-aged children has a diagnosed learning disability. Ponder this for a moment; these children are the future of our nation.

Please reinstate the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

At a time when we are choosing to reinvest in our country, the most critical investment will be in our children; the FDA, CDC, IOC, IACC and other agencies have, at the very least, been asleep at the wheel for much too long.

Yes we can change this now.

Sincerely,

Jody Chambers, RN

Evelyn Neves

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

PLEASE, I ask all of you to keep in mind the ONE and ONLY reason to "do the right thing" -- it is about PEOPLE, about children! Prior to my son receiving certain vaccines, he was warm, sociable, and personable. I ask you, "What would YOU do if it was your child?" Do you have ANY idea what it is to live with the issues of an autistic child EVERYDAY? If you are ever interested, you are more than happy to contact me. If you meet my son, you will truly know what it means to actually put a name on the issue!

I pray you will re-consider the alternatives and the dire consequences caused by not conducting a non-biased, independent study.

Thank you in advance for your time.

Sincerely,

Evelyn Cruz Neves

Note: Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has been redacted in this document

Karen Maigaard

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am the parent of an 8 year old son with autism. His name is [PII redacted].

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an INDEPENDENT committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities. Please help us get to the bottom of what is causing the increase in autism and save another family the heartbreak that we have experienced!

Sincerely,

Karen Maigaard

Leslie Davidson

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

I am writing to express my complete disappointment in the decision to eliminate vaccine safety studies from the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan. As a research biochemist I assert that this research is warranted and important as long as additives and adjuvant are included which have not been adequately tested for safety. As a citizen I see confidence in our immunization program being damaged by what is being perceived as a suspicious unwillingness to get this job done. The erosion of public confidence has the potential to jeopardize the health of all of us. We need a strong Public Health system. Respect for input by the public regarding concerns about the quality of that system in terms of both the advice we are given and the products it promotes. This decision is short sighted and ignores real and growing fears that shortcuts are being taken to avoid a politically and fiscally inconvenient truth. First look studies at several unvaccinated populations have indicated that those groups have little or no asthma, autism, and allergy. These are each growing concerns in our pediatric population. Toxicology literature bears evidence of mechanisms for this which correspond to vaccine ingredients currently in use in higher amount than ever before. Ingredients without the rigorous safety standards we might expect for injectables should be appropriately tested. I implore you to restore the funding for these safety studies. We need this to be done, done independently of the CDC and done once and for all.

Sincerely,

Leslie Davidson

Jacky Parker

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

Research on the possible link between vaccines and autism should not be dismissed; this and other causes of autism must be thoroughly researched until a cause or causes are found. Unbiased research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Please think about the thousands of children and adults with autism. Cause and cure are desperately needed. Do not stop this vital research. Do the right thing.

Sincerely,

Jacky Parker

Meridyth Burrows

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am writing today to protest in the strongest possible terms the actions of the Federal members of the IACC at their January 14, 2009 meeting in voting against research into possible links between autism and vaccines.

Research of possible links between autism and vaccines is desperately needed to definitively rule vaccines in or out as a contributing factor to autism. Prior epidemiological studies of questionable design have not put the question to rest in the mind of the public. This research is essential, if only to restore public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the original intent of the legislation, and an investigation into the manipulative and deceitful actions of the Federal members of the committee at the January 14, 2009 meeting.

Sincerely,

Meridyth G. Burrows

Susan Winkler

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

~Personal note - Growing up I knew of one kid, who looking back, probably had autism. Now I know dozens of children of friends and family who have autism; some quite severe. It is crucial that we don't cater to pharmaceutical lobbyists on this - our children's health and future is so much more important. Please do the right thing and fund the research needed to either confirm or deny the link between vaccines, the age at which their given, the combination in which their given, etc., and the onset of autism. We need to find out why this is happening to our children, and equip parents with the facts to allow them to make decisions with which they are comfortable and confident.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Susan Winkler

Allison Chapman

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

50% of the population of parents of children with autism believes vaccines played a role. My son was complete evidence of this, loss of all skills and meltdown of his body's regulation ability. His immune system is compromised and it takes a tremendous amount of work to keep him somewhat healthy. He is now plagued with regular absence seizures. The IACC dismissal of him and every other child like him is criminal. Action against those in the IACC who are perpetuating such irresponsibility should be swift.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Allison Chapman

Alecia Salway

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

My son was diagnosed with autism 6 months ago on his second birthday. Since that time, we have fought with all our might to give him a chance for a life of his choosing, not a life dictated to him by autism. This research is necessary to spare future children and families from this ordeal. Please help fight for these wonderful beautiful children!

Sincerely,

Alecia Salway

Amy Briggs

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

My son suffered a vaccine injury so please don't STOP research! Our future depends on it.

Sincerely,

Amy Briggs

Anne Skorupski

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

[Offensive language redacted]. DON'T YOU REALIZE THAT THE MEDICAL EXPENSES FOR THIS WILL BE ASTRONOMICAL????? [Offensive language redacted]?

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. ASK YOURSELF WHO BENEFITS FROM THIS IF NOT BIG PHARMA? Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Anne T. Skorupski

Mylanda Thurston

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

We need independent research and we need it now. 1 child of every 150 is diagnosed with autism (some studies suggest 1/88). The treatments are very rarely covered by insurance. As a voting constituency, we want valid research to show if the vaccines are safe.

There has NEVER been a study conducted to test the safety of the many combined vaccines that these children receive all at once. Officials and physicians tell us there are no studies showing that the vaccines are unsafe, yet no one is able to actually produce these studies. Yet, there ARE studies showing the danger of mercury, and no one wants to hear about it.

It is time to put the safety of our kids FIRST. They receive over 30 vaccines, all affecting their immune system. The toxic effects on their systems create autism, ADHD, allergies and asthma. Think about it—DO YOU KNOW ANY CHILDREN THAT DOES NOT HAVE ONE OF THESE?

We implore you to help our kids. This is crippling families and school systems.

Sincerely,

Mylanda Thurston

Note: Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has been redacted in this document

Jennifer Hutchinson

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

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The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

On a personal note, my grandson [PII redacted] regressed into autism following a series of rabies vaccines when he was almost four years old. Nobody has ever said that what happened to him was a coincidence. Something in the rabies vaccine caused him to regress. I know that. And the same thing is happening every day to the thousands of children who receive childhood vaccines. We MUST study the link--and it does exist--between childhood vaccines and autism. With one in six children having some sort of delay and the rate of autism, ADD, and other illnesses skyrocketing, this must be a priority.

[PII redacted] story will soon be published. I'd be happy to tell you more about what happened to him. If you'd like more information, please contact me at [PII redacted] or [PII redacted].

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Hutchinson

Kim Wasserman

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am a public school teacher of children with autism. I know firsthand the devastation of this illness. It is imperative that we put public money towards an unbiased attempt to find the root cause of this illness. Our country's future literally demands it. I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Kim Wasserman

Libby Rup

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear trusted public officials,

It is with horror that I read that vaccine-autism research has been removed from the IACC agenda.

Two immunologists have confirmed that my daughter had a vaccine reaction. She has been subsequently diagnosed with autism, mitochondrial cytopathy, epilepsy and auto-immune problems.

When my daughter was diagnosed with autism, the rate of autism was 1 in 500 children. In my state it is now 1 in 81 children. During that time, the flu shot, pneumococcal, rotavirus and other vaccines have been added to the schedule. We have the most aggressive vaccine schedule in the world and we are the country with the sickest kids.

Unbiased Vaccine-autism research must be done. It is imperative that the previously approved vaccine studies by the IACC be reinstated.

I firmly believe that the NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Libby Rupp

Becky Grant-Widen

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am the parent of [PII redacted], a delightful 9 year old boy with autism who works very hard at what comes naturally for his peers. As a public health professional working at [PII redacted], I vaccinated him fully, including flu shots each year. At the age of 2, I vaccinated him with the Hepatitis B series, the one set of vaccines I had held off on. His behavior deteriorated rapidly shortly afterward. His development seemed to stall. 9 months later he was diagnosed with autism. My middle son, also fully vaccinated, does not have autism, but has some health, language and sensory issues found in autism. My 15 month old unvaccinated baby is by far my healthiest child, and developing completely on target.

I tell you this, because it is imperative that all research avenues be investigated to figure out why the autism rates have skyrocketed in the last 2 decades.

I am outraged to find out about the recent actions of the IACC at their January meeting. The Combating Autism Act needs to be implemented fully; in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community. Adequate research has not been carried out to date to fully explore vaccines as a possible cause for some cases of autism.

Research into the links between vaccines and autism should not have been blocked by the federal officials sitting on the IACC. This never would have happened if there was adequate representation of the autism community that enables citizen votes on the committee to count. The citizens on the committee were outvoted by government officials. This is a disgraceful slap in the face to the people whose government is supposed to be 'for the people, by the people'. Where are the people?

This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs. I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Becky Grant-Widen

Theresa Johansen

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I have a 7 year old boy with Autism and he was fine until he was vaccinated with the current US vaccine schedule!! Green your vaccines; rethink the vaccine schedule for kids under 3 and do the research to find out why there is an epidemic around the world with AUTISM!! I am sure it's cheaper to figure it out and not damage our children then it is to incur all the long term cost issues with it. As well as increasing public distrust of your vaccines and then increasing other public health issues. Help find the answers and do the right thing!! We are 1 in 94 boys now with Autism-how much lower do we need to get!! That doesn't even take into account the ones who don't quite qualify and may have other issues such as speech, developmental delays or even our growing ADD/ADHD kids who also can't focus. What else in our society has those kinds of numbers!! Spend a week with a family with autism-plenty to pick from! Time to green our world!!

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Theresa Johansen

Paul Campadonico

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear President Obama,

You have won the Presidency largely on the promise of honesty, transparency and integrity which would create the change in government we need. I ask that you personally intervene with the very powerful special interests that are dictating terms to the IACC. I also call on all members of the House and Senate to follow your lead and your values.

In light of your stance on stem cell research you are obviously aware of the value medical science holds in our society and the potential benefits it can bring to the human condition. You are certainly well informed in financial matters as they relate to business and politics. The unfortunate link between the pharmaceutical/vaccine industry and politics and the interference this relationship brings to scientific studies must be exposed and stopped.

Just as you have lifted restrictions as to how stem cell research is being conducted, you can ensure that there are no impediments to research into a possible link between the increased combinations of vaccines as well as the vaccination schedule our newborns undergo and the rise in Autism cases. This country does not need another version of the tobacco industry debacle and cover-up. This is a national health care concern that not only impacts the families of those affected but will pose a tremendous financial burden on our citizens and plans for health care reform as cases increase and children become adults. Whatever the outcome of the scientific research, it will ultimately be for the greater good.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on families, communities and our country. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Paul Campadonico

Susan Hofherr

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am the Mother of a beautiful 12 year old boy with a diagnosis of severe autism. I am extremely concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism not only on my son but on so many others and all our families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises, how to treat it and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Susan Hofherr

Joy Green

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

As the parent of a child on the autism spectrum, I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and ESPECIALLY the impact of autism on the individual, their parents and siblings. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of those who are directly affected.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I ask for reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Mr. President, I respectfully remind you of your promises for transparency and for no more 'business as usual' in our government. The NIH and CDC need a watchful eye kept on them as do the greedy executives in the headlines as of late.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this crucially important matter.

Sincerely,

Joy Green

Kullen Marshman

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am the father of an 8-year old with autism. The latest actions of the IACC during their meeting on January 14, 2009 were preposterous. This committee, just one month before, voted in favor of vaccine-autism research. Many were caught by surprise when the IACC reversed this decision during the 1/14/09 meeting. I would guess this is not what our president had in mind when he spoke of a transparent government under his leadership. The CDC and other agencies under health and human services cannot be expected to impartial when it comes to research of autism and its possible causes. I can promise in 2 years this issue will be my number one focus when the time comes to vote.

Sincerely,

Kullen "Kub" Marshman

David Kuttner

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I am not against vaccinating; what I am asking is the research to determine if some children are more susceptible than others to the vaccine cocktails that we are giving them (such as the MMR). If there is a chance that this is one of the causes in some of the Autism cases, then we, as intelligent persons, need to explore that possibility. There are too many first hand parental observations, to ignore, which say that their child changed the day or the day after they received an immunization (esp. said of the MMR). Not to mention, but I will, that we are immunizing newborns before they even leave the hospital. We need research to find out the effects all of these immunizations are having on our children. The amounts of immunizations to our youngest children continue to increase as we discover more ways to prevent diseases and sicknesses. This is fine for prevention in most children but may need to be scheduled better for others if they are shown to be more sensitive (than most) to this barrage of immunizations. Bottom line, if there is ANY correlation between vaccines (their amount, their strength, their frequency, their combinations, etc.) than we need to know that. This is an EPIDEMIC and needs to be addressed as such. How many children on the Autism Spectrum do you have in your families? With the ratio on the rise, if you don't have at least one now, you will shortly. That's a very scary prospect and has enormous repercussions for the future of our country and beyond.

To that end, I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

David Kuttner

Maria La France

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

Do you know Autism (and its UNKNOWN causes) is far more prevalent than juvenile diabetes pediatric cancers, and all the popular childhood conditions? Do you know Autism gets a FRACTION of research dollars that those other conditions? No one is looking for a solution! And when a child gets Autism, its halts the American dream for the ENTIRE family.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Maria La France

Michael Nagengast

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I personally am not convinced of the direct connection that vaccines alone cause autism, but the independent research needs to be done correctly and without bias to find out for sure. The manner in which this political organization (IACC) has conducted itself is appalling, and pushes my opinion farther in the direction that there really is something being hidden. The biggest issue is the growing number of people that are losing faith and trust in the nation's vaccine program leading more people to decide to just play it safe and not vaccinate. This is the obvious and undesired result that will come about if government continues to try to deny research instead of doing it. After all, the amount of funds needed for research and studies would be less than the government is currently spending to try to keep a positive light on the vaccine program.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Michael P Nagengast

Rose Fitzpatrick

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

As a parent of 2 boys with autism and following research, I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

This is a sin!

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Rose Fitzpatrick

Deborah Hochhauser

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on those affected and their families. I am writing to you to express my grave concern at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

Instead of running from the truth, the IACC should reinstate its commitment to the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and restore the funding already allocated to this critical research. This research will both bolster public confidence in the vaccination program and provide important insight into the possible interplay between vaccines and autism.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes representatives of those who believe they or their children have been injured by vaccines and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Deborah Hochhauser

Twyla Gauthreaux

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

The actions taken are a slap in the face to families like mine who struggle with the effects of autism on a daily basis. Instead of insulting us, help us.

Sincerely,

Twyla Gauthreaux

Patricia Curtis

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am a school psychologist who has witnessed firsthand the explosion in the number of school children with autism. I have heard dozens of anguished parents describe watching their happy, sociable toddlers sink into autism after being vaccinated. I have read widely on this subject and am convinced that research to confirm or rule out a vaccine-autism link is desperately needed.

I am therefore outraged at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Curtis

Willow Sanders

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

Although I am including the posted letter for information, I wanted to add some personal information. I am the mother of a boy who is severely affected by Autism. To end research on something like this is heartbreaking to me. I wonder what it will take, maybe once some of your kids get autism, you will understand, and start doing things for the right reasons, instead of money.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Willow Sanders

Sunny Polito

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am writing with great hope that you will do something to change the course of the political train-wreck that is causing the Autism epidemic to continue climbing. I am the mom of 3-year-old twin boys with Autism. I also have a 10-year-old son who has no developmental or other health issues. In trying to figure out what happened to my twins, I looked at the differences between my pregnancies/deliveries in both cases. The glaring differences are ALL environmental. With my first pregnancy, I was NOT given a flu shot---however it was insisted upon by my OB/GYN with my twins' pregnancy. (I have since read very clearly on the insert from the Sanofi Pasteur flu vaccine itself that "Safety and effectiveness have NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED for pregnant or lactating women, or pediatric or geriatric populations." It's on the FDA's OWN website. It goes on to say that "It is not known whether or not (this vaccine) can cause fetal harm..." The flu shot I received at 7+ months pregnant contained 25 micrograms of mercury-based thimerosal. NO STUDY has established that thimerosal, a known neuro-toxin, is SAFE for a fetus or a developing baby. Of course I knew NONE OF THIS at the time; I blindly trusted my dr., the FDA and the CDC's recommendations. The other glaring differences relate to the increased vaccine schedule between '98 and '05. My oldest son DID NOT receive a Hep B at BIRTH. He also DID NOT RECEIVE ANY flu shots. My twins rec'd their first vaccines at the hospital, and also received flu shots at 6, 8 and 18 mos. (some while they were already fighting colds and, therefore, had already-stressed immune systems at the time of vaccination). Again, the insert states that "Safety and effectiveness have not been established in pregnant or lactating women, or in pediatric or geriatric populations," yet someone, somewhere decided within the last 10 years to aggressively market flu shots to pregnant women, babies and the elderly. This just does not make sense...

So much hope came about with the passing of the Combatting Autism Act. However, the recent actions of the IACC make it clear that nothing has been fixed...yet. In developing their Strategic Plan, the IACC pretended to be working with the Autism Community (as they have been directed to do) by making vaccine safety research a priority of the Plan in the December meeting. However, they "took it back" in January's meeting when it clearly was not an item up for discussion on January's agenda. Although Congress has directed the IACC to include input from the Autism Community in devising their plan, it means nothing---in this case, 5-out-of-6 of the Community representatives voted against removing the vaccine safety inclusion, yet it was still removed. Their input is sought, and they are patronized by being allowed to compile loads of research and present testimony, but then, their input is completely ignored. We are not [offensive language redacted]. We see very clearly what's going on. The one stand-out vote from the Community's seats was Allison Singer. She holds a seat that was given to Autism Speaks as a representative seat of the Autism Community. Singer no longer works for Autism Speaks, she clearly does not represent AS, she does not represent the Community at-large, and she should not maintain that seat---that seat belongs to the Community.

It is a shame that the GOOD the government did by allocating serious funds to Autism research is now being completely undermined by the IACC's overt disregard for the directives that came with the responsibility for spending this money. The CAA was passed in large part due to the outcries of thousands and thousands of parents for desperately needed fair and honest government-funded research in the areas of environmental triggers and vaccine safety issues associated with Autism. However, the funds are being funneled into genetic research---allowing the myth of Autism being a purely genetic, non-treatable, incurable disorder to persist. It seems the IACC is playing out their own political agenda despite the fact that they have been directed to do otherwise.

Unfortunately, we've seen this before...We finally think the tide is going to turn because enough people in D.C. know (or at least are interested in finding) the truth, so they issue directives for things to change (in this case, for the environmental causes of Autism to finally be fully and fairly researched by the government). Yet the people with the responsibility for carrying out those directives ignore them or re-direct them, and, next thing you know, 2-3 more years have passed and we're nowhere closer to getting the appropriate research done (and thousands more kids have been diagnosed along the way). I can only imagine how this feels to the parents who've been in this fight for 15+ years now... Had the truth been told when the original study mandated by Congress in 2002 was done, we would likely not be where we are today. I know my family certainly wouldn't be in this mess if the truth had come out back then. Instead, those study results were not released, and the CDC, fearing the public would panic at the truth, chose to, instead, "re-work" the study until conclusions were unattainable. Somehow, the final product that resulted in inconclusive findings was portrayed to the public as exonerating vaccines in the Autism epidemic---a far cry from the truth. Since then, the studies financed by the pharmaceutical industry and the CDC have been ridiculously flawed---yet they continue to be used to try and convince the public that vaccines have, overall, been proven safe. The headlines in the news and the statements from "experts" and government officials are in direct conflict with the drug companies' own admissions of risks (as indicated on the package inserts that no one sees unless they know to ask for them). The media, "expert" and government statements today are also contradictory to the government's own admissions of risks that led to the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986. The fact that the government knew in 1986 that vaccines carried serious risks, yet they allowed the vaccine schedule to be tripled without safety studies on the effects of giving vaccines so early OR giving multiple vaccines at one time (issues that remain UNSTUDIED to this day), AND today act and speak to the public as if vaccines are categorically safe, defies logic. The already-risky vaccination program of 25 years ago has only expanded---unchecked and unregulated. The blatant statements of vaccine safety coming from the government (most often through the media and the doctors themselves) are what I trusted when I vaccinated my pregnant self and my babies. I had no idea the "safety and effectiveness had not been established". The message to the public about vaccines in the last 10 years has been anything but that. I find that appalling...

The IACC's recent actions bring to mind the clearly stated letter Brad Miller of the Subcommittee for Investigations and Oversight, sent to Michael Leavitt back in July, 2008. Miller is clear that the IACC is to incorporate the Autism Community's input and explore environmental triggers---including vaccines. Yet, six months later, the committee is still taking steps to obviously avoid this directive. WHY???

The IACC must be held accountable for carrying out the CAA's research initiatives in the ways the Act intended. For now, they're wasting a considerable amount of time; and as we in the Autism Community know all too well, in the midst of this growing epidemic, time is something we don't have to waste!!!

This is a broken system: The Acts like the CAA that look and sound so good (and appear to the public to solve a serious problem), can apparently be manipulated after they become law to completely side-step the purpose for which they were intended, and, thus, allow the problem to continue completely unaffected by the law. That, Ladies and Gentlemen, is unacceptable representation of the public at its core.

I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the Autism Community. I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have proven that they have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

You have the power to fix this. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE FIX THIS! Our children deserve so much better. Our nation deserves better. We deserve the TRUTH. Had Transparency in Government been anywhere on the radar over the past 10 years, we wouldn't be in this mess. Our regulatory agencies are wrought with conflicts, and our children are paying the price. President Obama and his Administration bring so much hope---but the history of what's transpired in the Autism crisis has to be carefully studied. If you look, you'll find it's crystal clear what's happened. And it's unbelievable that the pathways to finding the causes and best treatments for our sick children have been continually blocked for so long now. God help these precious kids. They are absolutely NOT acceptable collateral damage for the sake of not questioning what's happened with our vaccine program. Please help us help them.

With hope,

Sunny Polito

Denise Shaw

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am a friend of a family devastated by Autism who is extremely concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

In addition, what a betrayal by Autism Speaks to have voted "no" on this issue considering the enormous amounts of money that, not only my friend's family but others have raised for Autism research, including this. I'm sure the Autism community would be very interested in learning where this pre-approved money is now being spent.

With every fiber of my being, I believe that these children afflicted with Autism, have suffered enough.

Please, let's do the right thing for them. If they could speak and tell you how much they needed this research to help them, they would SCREAM it out. But as many with Autism are not able to speak, they are powerless and only have their families to speak for them.

Sincerely,

Denise K. Shaw

Duane and Linda Amity

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

We are parents to two beautiful children on the spectrum of Autism, an 11 year old son and a nearly 8 year old daughter. We are beyond deeply concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates, we are appalled frankly.

We know full well the pervasive, life changing and rearranging impact of autism on our children and our family as well as the 1 in nearly 100 children with "like families" around our globe.

We are writing to you to express our outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. We respectfully demand immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

We object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism.

This research is long overdue and is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs. Additionally, professionals who treat our children as well as parents and family members need to understand that our children are chronically ill and are in dire need of special health treatments for their very special health care needs. Currently, the D.A.N.! (Defeat Autism Now!) community of medical professionals, nutritionists, etc. are equipped with the training and the D.A.N.! protocol to appropriately treat our children's special health needs. Our children are very ill, in pain and cannot always tell us where or how they are hurting. This is why specialized testing and treatments are so desperately needed to be supported by additional research and implemented by all who see and treat our children.

We demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and we ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Respectfully,

Duane and Linda Amity

Dee Blose

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am a parent of a child with autism. I do not believe that we have enough evidence about the effects of vaccinations on our children. While I do not believe the vaccinations caused autism in my child, I am concerned that many, many parents are questioning whether to vaccinate their children or not. The only way we are going to give them confidence is to continue research into this issue.

The IACC committee should NOT abandon their charge to direct priorities for research by passing the buck to another committee. I think they do need to coordinate with other appropriate groups, but to abandon the issue entirely in this plan is heartbreaking for the future of our children's health.

Please pass on the importance of continuing this research NOW>>>>>not later, after they push the buck to someone else. They are supposed to be the autism experts! Please tell them to take up pressing issues NOW, including immunizations and environmental impact.

Also, I would request that persons with conflict of interest be removed from leadership positions on this committee.

Sincerely,

Dee Blose

Margaret Watt

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

Like you, I am concerned about the impact of autism, not only on children such as my two sons, both of whom are on the autism spectrum, but on families, schools, and communities.

The most recent research from University of California indicates a strong environmental link to autism that must be further investigated. One component of the needed research needs to focus on vaccination, because it appears that a *sub-set* of children with a genetic predisposition toward autism may have their autism triggered by vaccination.

Since the CDC recommends far more vaccines at far earlier ages than you and I grew up with, and far more than any other country in the world, it is unethical *not* to conduct research to identify the possible neurodevelopmental side-effects (such as autism) of such an extensive vaccination program. Please refer to the CDC's pamphlets on side-effects given out at every vaccination, which you can find online at www.cdc.gov. These pamphlets list a host of possible *medical* side-effects, up to and including (rarely) death. Research is needed to identify the *neurodevelopmental* side-effects and to determine which sub-groups are most at risk.

In December, the IACC planned to include vaccine research as part of its Autism Research Strategic Plan. In January, the IACC withdrew that component from its plan. I urge you to reinstate this needed research in order to reflect the needs of the autism community.

I also urge you to create an independent committee for such research decisions, one that consists equally of members of the possibly-vaccine-injured autism community and of other agencies, rather than the currently biased membership (primarily from government agencies with an inherent conflict of interest, given that they could possibly be held responsible for any adverse effects found). It is important that the autism community and in fact the greater public be able to trust in the research and programmatic decisions of the government.

Thank you for your attention to this matter,

Sincerely,

Margaret Watt

Laura Kay Berry

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear President Obama, Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

As a parent of a child severely afflicted with autism I have direct interest in the research and treatment on autism. I have been concerned for years regarding the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on our children and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

It is actions such as this that destroy public trust in the vaccine program. My son is part of unfinished study which has already found live measles virus in the ulcerated lesions in the intestinal lining. Stopping research such as this is unconscionable.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Laura Kay Berry

L. Smith

January 27, 2009

*1 in 4 children now have a developmental disability. Autism, ADD, ADHD, anaphylactic allergies, diabetes, alzheimers, certain cancers, and genetic mutations which include but are not limited to mitochondrial dysfunction are the result of the **huge unethical experiment known as the National Vaccine Program**. Our children demonstrate the results.*

We've read the court rulings in the vaccine injury cases, yet the media and others continue to practice what amounts to false advertising for vaccines.

"There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children." ~ Nelson Mandela

L. Smith

Penelope Urban

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I have been a special education teacher for over 30 years and I have seen the alarming increase in autism rates. I have also seen the impact of autism on individuals diagnosed with it and their families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. Research has provided us with a great deal of treatment information on all disabilities through the decades. Just as science provided answers about the polio epidemic of the 1950's, research can help us understand the causes of autism. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

For the children,

Penelope Urban

Helen Ezell

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

President Obama,

I am a nurse and mother of 4 young sons, 3 are diagnosed as autistic. Yes, you read correctly - 3. All 3 had severe reactions to shots, all of them. I am left with damaged children in an environment and world that does NOT give [offensive language redacted] what happens to my sons. I fight for autism every day, I run free seminars and events and run a free website for families: www.autismeducationcenter.net

I am terrified about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism. By the way the real figures are 1 in 65 for boys now. You are losing a whole generation! I am a Generation Rescue Angel because I want CHANGE. You profess to want that too - PROVE IT! I am a nurse because I want to help people and I am married to an Air National Guard Active Duty Serviceman.

Who is going to help my sons? You? I am writing to you to express my total outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community. This community is MY community; I live in this world 24/7.

I STRONGLY object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

My sons were fine before the shots, and now I am destined to watch my damaged sons NOT get what they need to become functional, NOT get the services they need to become healthy and NOT be recognized as worthy of anyone's attention. CHANGE? PROVE IT!

Helen Ezell

Paul Burgdorf

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Please consider the following actions for the US vaccination program:

- Perform a study comparing vaccinated v. unvaccinated populations.
- Test vaccines in the recommended combinations v. individual vaccines.
- Separate the duty of promoting vaccines v. the duty of monitoring their safety.
- Remove the legal immunity of vaccine makers v. limiting rights of public.

Sincerely,

Paul Burgdorf

Helen Ezell

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

I am a nurse and mother of 4 young sons, 3 are diagnosed as autistic. Yes, you read correctly - 3. All 3 had severe reactions to shots, all of them. I am left with damaged children in an environment and world that does [offensive language redacted] what happens to my sons. I fight for autism every day, I run free seminars and events and run a free website for families:

www.autismeducationcenter.net

I am terrified about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism. By the way the real figures are 1 in 65 for boys now. You are losing a whole generation! I am a Generation Rescue Angel because I want CHANGE. You profess to want that too - PROVE IT! I am a nurse because I want to help people and I am married to an Air National Guard Active Duty Serviceman.

Who is going to help my sons? You? I am writing to you to express my total outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community. This community is MY community; I live in this world 24/7.

This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs. MORE RESEARCH IS NEEDED-NOT LESS!! I don't care what the CDC states about no links and vaccines - too many families are saying otherwise for there to be nothing to it!

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

My sons were fine before the shots, (we have no hx of autism in our family until now) and now I am destined to watch my beautiful but damaged sons NOT get what they need to become functional, NOT get the services they need to become healthy and NOT be recognized as worthy of anyone's attention. CHANGE? PROVE IT!

Sincerely,

Helen

Laura Kasemodel

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives:

We are very concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families.

Here in Minnesota 1 in 86 children aged 6 to 18 have a diagnosis of autism. In the 1990's and early 2000's Minnesota had one of the highest vaccination rates and one of the most aggressive vaccine schedules. The CDC and pharmaceutical companies fund the Immunization Action Coalition located here, whose literature still states it is OK to vaccinate a sick child.

We are writing to you to express our outrage and disbelief at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. We ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

We object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

We publicly request reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting true and honest research on vaccine safety. The CDC's job is to promote vaccinations and increase the uptake. The HHS has 5,000 cases pending in vaccine court and there would probably be well over 100,000 cases if not for the statute of limitations.

Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Laura (& Tim) Kasemodel

Laura Kasemodel

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives:

We are very concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families.

Here in Minnesota 1 in 86 children aged 6 to 18 have a diagnosis of autism. In the 1990's and early 2000's Minnesota had one of the highest vaccination rates and one of the most aggressive vaccine schedules. The CDC and pharmaceutical companies fund the Immunization Action Coalition located here, whose literature still states it is OK to vaccinate a sick child.

We are writing to you to express our outrage and disbelief at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. We ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

We object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

We publicly request reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting true and honest research on vaccine safety. The CDC's job is to promote vaccinations and increase the uptake. The HHS has 5,000 cases pending in vaccine court and there would probably be well over 100,000 cases if not for the statute of limitations.

Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Laura (& Tim) Kasemodel

Heather Tidwell

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives, Congressmen, and our new president, President Obama,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on individuals, families, and our nation as a whole. I am writing to you to express my outrage and disappointment at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

My husband is an officer in our U.S. military and is currently working on his dissertation for his doctorate program. The dissertation will include whether our government is, once again, trying to block research into a possible vaccine-autism connection. We are among the countless military families affected by this disorder and have recently learned through military research that autism occurs at a much higher rate among the military. We want to know why. I have a Master of Education degree and am a certified nutritionist and have devoted all my time and efforts into helping my precious child on the autism spectrum and others using nutrition and dietary intervention. I am only asking for you to all practice some ethics in this matter.

President Obama, I will be honest, I did not vote for you but I respect you and pray for you daily. I am asking YOU to be a man and a leader true to your word and show me that you are serious about "cleaning up" Washington. I pray that serious thought about the implication to not fund this research will be considered. There are numerous families and precious, innocent children out there who deserve some answers and some help. I pray that you can live with your decisions if, God forbid, you have a loved one who becomes affected by this challenging disorder.

Thank you for your serious consideration in this matter.

Respectfully

Heather H. Tidwell, M.Ed., CNC

Cheryl Shafer

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

We lost our son to Autism after his 16 month set of vaccines, (MMR, DTaP, & HIB). He was rushed to the ER in an ambulance with a red rash and severe swelling, especially his face, hands, and feet. He had blood in his stool and was sick for months after that reaction. He slowly began to lose his pragmatic language, he lost 100% of his eye contact, and he lost his spirit. He was diagnosed with PDD/NOS (Autism Spectrum), and our family has been grieving ever since. It has taken a huge toll on everyone. We want him back, the way he was before the day of the ER visit. We need to **STAND UP AND SPEAK FOR THE BABIES THAT HAVE HAD THEIR VOICES STOLEN FOR THE ALL MIGHTY DOLLAR!** Follow the money trail; look at who is funding what. Please, as a fellow HUMAN BEING, please.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Mark and Cheryl Shafer

Nikole Chilcote

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

I as the parent of a child on the spectrum would like some answers as to what causes this to happen to our children, if they even exist. The only way for that to happen is for research to be done and for you to do it. That is what needs to be done so we may find ways to stop Autism in future generations and possibly help our children already affected by Autism. SO PLEASE, CONTINUE THE RESEARCH!

Sincerely,

Nikole Chilcote

Margaret J. Jaeger

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

ADDENDUM;

These government agencies seem to persist in believing that we parents/grandparents and other relatives of children diagnosed with regressive autism, are at Odds with them. For the Children's sake, we are on the SAME Team, though not always on the Same Page.

Why do research agencies persist in doing more gene studies when they seem to have concluded that genes are the only answer? Enough of the gene studies... more just waste money. They would tend to present only a singular cause of regressive autism anyway, which begs a lot of questions regarding the non-identification of the millions of predecessors.

Why, in foreign countries that have never experienced Autism, why are they now diagnosing massive case amounts of regressive autism... after vaccines were administered? Why aren't we believed that we saw regressive autism or brain damage that presents as Autism, in our seemingly 'normal' children After vaccine administration?

'Fellow Americans', as with the AIDS epidemic and research, we are More than 20 years - Twenty Plus Years - behind in looking into All factors involving children who are now diagnosed with regressive Autism to find the most common causative factor.. vaccines and the ever increasing schedule of them.

As a grandparent with an autistic grandson, I must conclude that All My Governmental representatives just Don't Care about How many millions of our young men are being mentally and physically damaged by some common childhood factor. You all ought to live with one of these kids for a 24/7 month for a dose of reality.

It's shameful that our representatives and guardians of our health cannot be trusted to truly protect our children. If they had done so, there might not be [offensive language redacted].

The common factor in all these kids, in the USA and other countries, is vaccines. We All breath the air, drink the water and are exposed to the sun.. but only kids get an overbearing load of vaccines, especially at an age when they have no immune systems to support the many given. That's why vaccines MUST be thoroughly investigated by an independent agency.. NOW. The 'waiting' has been Way TOO long.

Sincerely,

Margaret J. Jaeger

Judith Barron

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

As the mother of a 7 year old son with autism, I do not know if the vaccines triggered his autism. I do know that we need to resolve this issue so that we (the entire Autism community) can focus on other possible environmental triggers and so children will continue to receive vaccines needed to keep our society healthy.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Judith Barron

Note: Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has been redacted in this document

Jennifer Morgan-Byrd

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. As a mother of two children with autism and a third with red flags for autism, I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I request that the Combating Autism Act be implemented immediately in a method that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I am disgusted by and object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. Both of my children regressed with each wave of vaccines. I trusted that the vaccines work and decided to do a delayed schedule with my third who has since regressed. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs. I ask for you to do this for my three beautiful children: [PII redacted], [PII redacted] and [PII redacted].

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Morgan-Byrd

Frances Keiper

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

I am deeply concerned by the characterization of this issue as FOR vaccines (= for public health) vs AGAINST vaccines (= against public health). There are many in-between positions such as vaccination on a less aggressive schedule. Or vaccinations using monovalent, single-dose vaccines -- but these are no longer being made in America as they are not as profitable. Please do as our new president has said and promote good science. Let's do the studies to properly answer the questions.

Sincerely,

Frances Keiper

Sharon Capezzone

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, President, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned in the dramatic increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my distain at the actions of the IACC at their Jan. meeting. We need to Act quick to implement the Combating Autism Act in a way that supports the needs and views of the autism community, and addresses the proper handling of the investigation as to the cause of this disabling disorder. The funding for the link between vaccines and Autism MUST be restored. This disorder is spreading at an alarming rate; 1 in 150 mostly boy toddlers. Imagine in 10 years the rate if research is not continued in this direction to restore the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The CDC has been trying to cover this up for years now and more and more the link is becoming self-evident. As the Mom of a toddler who progressed perfectly and then regressed rapidly after a series of 4 vaccinations at 18 months of age, I know that the thimerosal issue linked with the vaccines is legitimate as the cause of my son's "regressive Autism". There is no cure but we can prevent this epidemic by stepping up to the bat and continuing research in this direction to save our babies young immune systems before this claims more of our American children.

Sincerely,

Sharon Capezzone

Note: Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has been redacted in this document

Aimee Doyle

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am the mother of a son with autism. With each vaccination I saw my son deteriorate -- and he was born healthy and smiled early. As we vaccinated him in accordance with the schedule, believing ourselves to be good parents, he developed a seizure disorder, then cognitive and language delays, and finally autism. Booster shots in early adolescence, loaded with thimerosal, resulted in self-injurious and aggressive behavior. Friends, family, teachers were bruised, bitten, and scratched. We tried many different therapies and drugs and although some have helped, we still have a severely impaired child. There have been other behaviors that are very difficult to live with -- for example, during one particular time he would wake up in the middle of the night and yell at the top of his lungs for hours. This went on for weeks. If I had to do it all over again, I would definitely not vaccinate. And I have researched this issue thoroughly, looking at the studies on both sides. I am a highly educated parent who holds a doctoral degree, and I have enough training in statistics to recognize a flawed study when I read one.

I am appalled that the CDC does not formally recognize there is an autism epidemic. One in 150 kids gets the diagnosis! I've spoken with pediatricians and teachers who have been working with kids for decades; each long-time practitioner has told me that today's neurologically damaged kids are both more numerous and more severely affected than children in previous generations. I am also frustrated that the CDC seems so unwilling to look at vaccines as a possible cause for autism -- certainly the recent case of [PII redacted] shows that there is a subset of vaccine-vulnerable kids. I think my son would definitely fall into that group.

Today's children get too many vaccines; my daughter received only 10 by school age. Children now get closer to 40 (more if they live in New Jersey, where flu shots are mandated). They receive vaccines too soon -- why does a newborn need a Hep B shot? Why have there been steep increases in learning disabilities, allergies, asthma, juvenile diabetes, and other chronic childhood illnesses? Why is the most vaccinated generation we have ever seen also the sickest?

I am also writing to you because I am furious about the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. Last year, the committee had voted to pursue research on the autism-vaccine link. Then at the January meeting, this research was blocked. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

I have lost trust in the government agencies that are supposed to protect the health of our children. Whenever a new parent asks me about vaccination, I tell them about my experience, and suggest that they thoroughly research the issue for themselves. Inevitably, they are shocked by what they learn and try to either opt out or pursue an individualized vaccine schedule with a willing doctor.

I ask that you help my family, all the other families affected by autism, and all those who will be affected if changes are not made.

Sincerely,

Aimee Doyle

Note: Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has been redacted in this document

Patricia Smith

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Please conduct this research so that we have a good solid research as to the part vaccines play in regard to ASD. We need to get to the bottom of this issue.

Sincerely,

Patricia Smith, Grandmother of [PII redacted]

Karen Ryan

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

As both a parent and teacher of children with autism, I am truly concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates. Every day I witness the terrible impact of autism on the person and their families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to the IACC's manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. There should be no sacred cows in the search for the causes of this dreadful disorder. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and will help to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. In order to maintain integrity, research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Karen Ryan

Minta Greenblatt

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

When my son was 18 months, he said 6 words, like "mommy", "car", and "cookie". After his MMR, his words dropped off one by one, and within a month he had no language at all. He has been diagnosed with PDD-NOS, a form of autism. He is now 3 years old, he goes to a special school, and receives the maximum services I could get for him, but he still has no language. There is NOTHING anyone can say to convince me, and many, many other heartbroken parents of autistic children, that there is no link between autism and vaccinations. How much more money will have to be poured into rehabilitating human lives that are virtually minimized or lost to this epidemic, how many families destroyed before enough time and money is put into researching a TRUE CAUSE?!

I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Minta Greenblatt

Rudy Arias

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am very concerned that we do not yet have reliable research studies that can put to rest whether past vaccinations containing mercury actually caused autism in some children. Most of the studies that say there's no link cannot even be published in scientific journals because of their lack of validity and reliability and insufficient data. The IACC is wrong in their actions at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs. Let's once and for all fund research that we can all trust and will be available for all to see and review.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Rudy Arias

Steve Godfrey

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

You surely are aware that autism has become an epidemic. Children's lives (and often their families') are being destroyed. There is plenty of evidence linking vaccines to autism in thousands of children. No one with any power seems to have the courage to admit this. The vested interests - government, doctors, certainly not drug makers, who constantly lobby to require more and more vaccinations as a prerequisite for going to school - don't want this to ever see light of day. I believe this is no different than the tobacco companies refusing to admit smoking was harmful for decades.

How long will our leaders stand by and let power and profits be put above lives and health? I believe you will be called to account for what you did and did not do while you were in positions of leadership. Don't turn and look away - take this on and prevent more tragedies from happening.

The link between vaccinations and autism is no longer a scientific debate. It is a political debate. I personally know of kids who have been treated to reverse the effects of vaccinations and the metals in them, and have been cured of autism. Don't contribute to the terrible things being done to helpless children.

I thought President Obama was going to fight for families that were struggling with autism! This is not a very promising first move. If the accusations in the form letter below are true, you will essentially let the drug companies own medical policy in this country. I would have thought the Democrats would never let that happen.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes

equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Steve Godfrey, Jr.

Kimberly Katari

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I have a 5 year old son with autism. He has 3 brothers, the youngest of which is 3, and has not received all of his vaccines because I believe that is what caused my son's autism.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Katari

Karen Johnson

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

As a parent of a child with autism, I believe it is important to continue to fund a variety of studies in the attempt to determine what is causing the increase in autism. I have done my part to help my child, and I urge the government to do their part. Please help

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Karen Johnson

Kathy Burris

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I have a 17 year old who was diagnosed with autism when he was around 18 months old. My doctor more than suspected the cause to be the vaccinations because he told me not to give my other child, who was born 2 years later, the MMR or pertussis shots. Why would he make such a statement if he did not believe that there was a possible link?

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Kathy Burris

Tricia Spybrook

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

The autism epidemic is affecting families across our nation! The medical community frequently states that parents are the best expert of their children. Parents are reporting adverse vaccine reactions at an alarming rate. The American people deserve unbiased studies to clear the vaccine/autism link. Public confidence in the safety of vaccinations is waning. Independent studies need to be funded! NOW! We have no time to lose. I have two children who regressed after vaccination. You cannot tell me it did not happen! I saw it occur right before my own eyes. May God in Heaven help us all if you fail to do the right thing!

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Tricia Spybrook

Michelle Linn

January 27, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am the mother of two children with severe autism, ages 14 and 15. I am a career civil servant in the Air Force (YF-03, GS-15) and my husband is an active duty Air Force officer.

I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Michelle A. Linn

Stanton Sittser

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

The increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on American families has me very concerned. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I strongly object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block much-needed research on the possible link between vaccines or vaccine components and autism. This research must be undertaken to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Stanton Sittser

Bess DeWitt

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. In fact I have a beautiful 9 year old granddaughter with severe autism.

My faith in our government to do the right thing is almost gone.

The physical, emotional, spiritual and monetary cost of autism to families and our society as a whole is overwhelming. Please, please, valid research cannot wait any longer!

Sincerely,

Bess DeWitt

Terese Lamm

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am a Mother of an Autistic 4 yr. old boy. I, like MANY others, continue to believe there is a link between autism and the current vaccine schedule. We have lived through this and seen the changes in our own children after vaccinations. The studies MUST be conducted, and conducted fairly, in order to save other children!! It is a very difficult life for these children and their families.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Terese Lamm

Stacy Allan

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

I think if only two families made a claim that their child regressed into autism after vaccines; you should do everything in your power to investigate. There are probably hundreds of thousands of families who have video and records of their child's development and then the child slips into autism. Wake up and take responsibility for this epidemic. You don't have to abolish the whole vaccine policy, just eliminate unnecessary vaccines (Hep B, rotavirus and others that are not killing babies in the US) and slow down the schedule.

How can you not study this? The more you hide from the glaringly obvious truth the more kids are going to be harmed. Stop putting drug companies first and using these mandates for political deals. How [offensive language redacted] do you think parents are? More and more people are questioning the ethics of the CDC and FDA. Save your reputation now.

Sincerely,

Stacy Allan

Jill Grant

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

I am writing to you as a parent of a 5 year old with autism who has significant heavy metals in his system after much testing. He is making strides thanks to a wonderful DAN doctor. It is time to move beyond research efforts targeted only at the genetics of autism. An epidemic like this does not come from genetics alone.

Sincerely,

Jill Grant

Note: Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has been redacted in this document

Barbara Crooker

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing because I know this first hand; my youngest child, who is now 24, has autism. His sisters, who are older, were NOT vaccinated with the combined MMR shot, nor did they get the vaccines with Thimerosal in them, and they are gifted/normal young women. [PII redacted] appeared to have normal development, then regressed after his MMR booster. Recent titers show that he has a CURRENT Rubella infection, living in his small intestine (his numbers are in the 200 range; normal, for a vaccine response, would be in the 20s). Every leading Autism organization supports research investigating the links between vaccination and autism. An easy study COULD be done comparing the Amish or the Seventh Day Adventists, neither of whom vaccinate, to the general population. We are creating a monster here, a whole generation of children who will need life-long care, a huge and costly (no one can afford this, on their own) government problem, an elephant in the room that no one is addressing (most of these children/adults still live at home. But we are going to die soon, and then what?)

So, I am writing to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Barbara Crooker

Jon Fishel

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear President Obama, Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

My son turned blue and had a fever of 104 within 2 hours of a vaccination at age 15 months. We were told to just give him Tylenol, children's Motrin and put him in a cool bathtub. As a result of this clear reaction to these vaccines, he now suffers from immune system disorders and encephalopathy and requires nearly \$2000 in unreimbursed medication to function at a reasonable level and remain healthy.

As a result, I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Jon Fishel

Susan Linden

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

My family and I are concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. We are writing to you to express our outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. We are asking for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

We object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

We demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and we ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

The Linden Family

Diane Ruzzi

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities. What a [offensive language redacted] although not a surprise, AFRAID OF WHAT THEY MIGHT UNCOVER, PERHAPS????

Sincerely,

Diane Ruzzi

Angela Sherman

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

My son, who was injured by the large quantities of mercury in his vaccines (he was born in 1989, when the levels were at an all-time high), has autism. We deserve to know the truth about what happened to our children.

Sincerely,

Angela Sherman

Mary Hunter

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

As a parent of a child with autism I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Mary Hunter

Marjorie Hansen

January 28, 2009

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

Autism is a devastating epidemic that is taking out a generation of children. I had two normal boys who became autistic two weeks after routine vaccinations. The CDC and NIH have not yet studied the link free from significant bias and flaws. 60% of the autism community believes that their children were injured by the vaccines they received. This controversy will not go away until the link is objectively studied in a well-designed study by independent scientists!

I do not trust the CDC or the NIH. They have fundamental conflicts of interest. They have demonstrated their concern is for vaccine compliance rather than the health of children. I truly believe that the professionals that work at those agencies easily [offensive language redacted].

Please do all you can to restore the funding into this research.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Hansen

Note: Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has been redacted in this document

Susan Pietrosanto

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

I have a son, [PII redacted], who is severely autistic, as well as epileptic. When we finally could afford to chelate him, which was way too late, his lab results showed mercury and aluminum levels that were off the chart. I think it no coincidence that both of these things are found in the vaccines. He was also found to be glutathione-deficient, so his body was unable to remove the toxins that were being injected into his body. I do not believe that it is acceptable to inject poison into the human body in any amount. The children that are developing autism seem to be glutathione-deficient and, therefore, should not be having these toxins introduced into their bodies in the first place. I am diabetic. It would be unconscionable to inject sugar into my veins. It is, therefore, unconscionable to inject toxins into a body that cannot get rid of them.

People of science believe in the theory of evolution. Maybe they should stop to consider that the human body is still evolving and that due to the toxins in the air, water and ground, our bodies are again changing in relation to this. It therefore stands to reason that the pharmaceutical companies need to keep up with the times. I have no doubt that there are organic, NONTOXIC substances that can replace the heavy metals currently used in the vaccines. The CEOs just don't want to invest any money that they, themselves, could pocket.

Money is more important than people in this country and it is sad that the U.S. Government is allowing the pharmaceutical industry to play [offensive language redacted].

Sincerely,

Susan Pietrosanto

Wendy Short

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

My husband and I own a school in Fredericksburg, Virginia. Our school teaches children in Pre-School age 3 and 4, Kindergarten, First and Second Grades with plans to add a grade annually. The school began operating 7 years ago. Since then, we have had over 20 students with autism, autistic tendencies, sensory issues, ADD, ADHD and the like. This school year alone has the highest enrollment of students with "symptoms" that is affecting their ability to learn, socialize and more. The alarming part of this is, we are not a special needs school however, a school that accepts the children that come to us, pray, and try to teach them the best we can. It's interesting that several of these children have not been accepted in other schools and several were literally "kicked out" by a school because their behavior was too disruptive and they didn't fit the mold of how "typical" children behave. Private and even some public domains have stated either "medicate" these children or they may not attend. I do not have a "special needs" child by birth; however, I consider all of our students my children. I have the unique situation of being able to see the student, parent and teacher perspective. It is a terrible journey these families endeavor. I have seen some of our families break-up over the strain this causes.

One family who was in our program has four children. They had four healthy children born to them. However, the two youngest children found themselves around the age of eighteen months begin to change and withdrawal. There is video of "normal" behavior of these toddlers and then changes began. Eventually these changes led to a diagnosis of "Autism". What caused these changes? The parents have been on a quest to find out. They even needed to move states because the state of Virginia didn't have enough services to offer this family. It has been a difficult and terrible journey. I would work with one of their children and try to watch him communicate with me and his friends. He struggled to make his thoughts known. He would try to "play". He wasn't able to talk to me but he could write words at times normally these words didn't make sense. The month before he left our school however, he wrote a word, it looked as if he was trying to write the name "Bailey" his mom thought. We were not sure what he was trying to say but later that day after questioning her son the mother called me and said, "He said believe!" It was the first sign that he knew what he was trying to communicate. This boy gave me hope and I believe that something can be done.

If these children could talk I believe they would ask you to believe in them and try to help them any way you could. This is not a hard thing for you to do. Keep up that research!

Something has got to be done!

It is obvious that these symptoms/issues are on the rise. Why would anyone ever stop research of such an important topic unless money was the reason? Money for whom? Is anyone helping these children? Is anyone helping these families? What if this had happened to one of your children?

Something has got to be done!

I too am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I expect reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I expect for you to reinstate the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

I expect to see results for these children, for these families!

Respectfully,

Mrs. Wendy Short

Ann Hartman

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I request reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

President Obama has stated, even in his inaugural address that science will take its rightful place again. DO NOT LET FEAR undermine whatever truth valid scientific research will lead us to. We lived like that for eight years under George W. Bush. Do not attempt to squash the truth. We have heard this new President. Do not sway from his worthy aims just one week after he has taken office.

Sincerely,

Ann Hartman

Maria Mouhawil

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

As a parent of a child with autism, I am alarmed by the outbreak of autism in our children. This has been a devastating illness for our daughter and heartbreak to every member of our family.

The increase in autism cannot be explained by genes alone and it seems all too obvious that what these kids have in common is that they are exposed to an exponential quantity of vaccines (and antibiotics too!) at a very young age. Safety studies on these vaccines administered together or in small intervals of time have not been done. This is a collective abandonment of our children, who are suffering from many health problems in addition to autism.

It is said that 1 in 6 children have developmental delay and when you put together this plus the more severe illnesses such as autism, cancer, diabetes, ADHD, allergies, which have all been on the rise, you see a much more disturbing picture of what is going on.

I am outraged at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Maria Mouhawil

David Wollover

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Respected Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

As the father of a three year old daughter who spoke two word sentences until shortly after the MMR vaccine (when she stopped talking completely! And now we struggle to find our daughter!), I am outraged about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. Consider the future public costs if we let this trend continue unabated. Will it eventually become 1 in 10 children? I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the fair and just unaddressed needs and views of the growing population of autistic children and now, sadly, emerging adults.

I object to the wantonly corrupt IACC manipulation of committee procedures, as they are mindful of the rationale behind their intentions, to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain what you may have seen is an eroding public trust in vaccination programs.

Shouldn't we demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan? Please, for the sake of our children, restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

Because the NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety, it is reasonable to require that research initiatives be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

David R. Wollover

Note: Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has been redacted in this document

Leslie Carapella

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

I am the mom of 5 beautiful children! My [PII redacted] (and ONLY son) [PII redacted] is [PII redacted] and was diagnosed with AUTISM (ASPERGERS SYNDROME) by age 2.5 years old!!! He WAS a "TYPICAL" baby and toddler till then, approximately 1 month after receiving his VACCINES is when within 3 weeks he LOST ALL HIS SPEECH, EYE CONTACT, HE STARTED STIMMING (HUMMING, HAND FLAPPING, EYE'S BLINKING and MORE) The SON I HAD WAS GONE FOREVER!!!! OUR LIFE as WE KNEW IT WAS GONE FOREVER TOO!!!! WHY? WHY? WHY????? The people in OUR GOVERNMENT that make these HORRIBLE CHOICES OBVIOUSLY DON'T "LIVE WITH AUTISM EVERYDAY"!!!! IF THEY DID....THEY WOULD UNDERSTAND THAT WITHOUT RESEARCH, THIS EPIDEMIC CALLED "AUTISM" HAS AND WILL CONTINUE TO STEAL OUR INNOCENT CHILDREN EVERY SINGLE DAY!!!! REMEMBER: OUR CHILDREN ARE THE FUTURE! and AUTISM WILL CONTINUE TO INCREASE IN OUR FUTURE!!! UNLESS, WE (OUR GOVERNMENT) DO ANYTHING and EVERYTHING TO FIGHT AUTISM EVERYDAY FROM STEALING ANOTHER CHILD!!!!!! PLEASE, PLEASE I'm BEGGING you to CONTINUE to RESEARCH ANY AND ALL POSSIBILITIES!!! "I KNOW THAT I WILL NEVER SEE MY LITTLE BOY THAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN, GROW INTO THE MAN HE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE" BECAUSE FOR SOME UNEXPLAINED EVENT, "AUTISM" STOLE HIM FOREVER!!!! PLEASE HELP MY SON [PII redacted]!!!! PLEASE HELP ALL OUR CHILDREN THAT WERE STOLEN FROM US BY "AUTISM"!!!!!!

Sincerely,

Leslie Carapella & Family

Patti Carroll

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

What happened at the January meeting of the IACC is [offensive language redacted]! As a parent of a severely vaccine-injured child (who was also diagnosed with autism), I am outraged at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

DO THE RIGHT THING!

Sincerely,

Patti Carroll

Susie Taylor

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

I am the grandmother of TWIN 3-YR-OLD AUTISTIC BOYS (see attached photo), whose lives would NOT have been impacted by this insidious disease if truly independent research had been provided by the CDC years ago, when this issue first became public. This is the story of thousands, or tens of thousands of children in America today, and the tide keeps rolling on.

I am angered by the alarming increase in autism rates and dismayed by impact of autism on the children and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

With hope,

Susie Taylor

Note: Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has been redacted in this document

Jade Joseph

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

My son, [PII redacted], is 4 years old and hasn't been able to call me "Mommy" since he received his MMR vaccine at 1 year. He got the vaccine on [PII redacted]. Prior to the vaccine he was completely "typically" developed, hitting every milestone on time. After the MMR he slipped away from us, stopped responding to his name, looking at us, and became distant and lethargic. He was diagnosed with autism at the ripe age of 18 months after seeing multiple specialists.

We are only asking you to do the research. If you have nothing to hide, which you keep stating you do not, then what is the harm in doing the research? A little money? Mr. Obama, if I remember correctly, reportedly spent over 160,000,000 on his Inauguration Day festivities, so why can't we budget some funding for our FUTURE generations?

Thank you for your time and consideration for this issue.

Sincerely,

Jade Joseph

Note: Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has been redacted in this document

Ellen Joseph

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am A Grandmother to a wonderful 4 year old boy with Autism. I witnessed firsthand the change in [PII redacted] after his 6 month vaccinations. He just changed radically. I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Ellen Joseph

Reba Tidwell

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I pray you never have to experience the pain of watching a grandchild trying to be all he can be but with severe limitations. The energy expended by the parents is so horrific that a high percentage divorce.

You have given research millions of dollars for AIDS, a disease caused solely by the lifestyle, except in very rare cases where tainted blood was given. These people are adults, consenting adults, and you can bet they have screamed until you provided them with what they wanted.

These children probably won't be voting for you, screaming until they are heard because it is their brains that have been damaged by this horrible autism. They did nothing to deserve what has happened to them!

Engineers go to work for their competitors, what they bring is a wealth of knowledge maybe on the cutting edge. It appears the same is happening with the pharmaceuticals and our government agencies. Please remember this is our children's lives you are programing when you say no to more research for autism.

Please, I beg you to consider and vote for more funding so my grandson and the thousands of others afflicted with this horrible disease can be treated and a cure found so not another family has to endure this pain.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Reba Tidwell

Kristen Bros

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I voted for the Obama administration (and donated money to Secretary Daschle during his last federal campaign) because I believed you would move science forward instead of manipulating it for your own benefit. Summarily refusing to investigate the vulnerability of some children to vaccine injury is absolutely unacceptable.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Kristen Bros

Jennifer Foley

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

First and foremost, I am a parent of a beautiful child (my only child) with autism. We need answers so we can know which way to go with treatments. Kids do and can get better. I don't believe vaccines are the only culprit here but I know that they played a part in my son's condition. I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Foley

Shannon O'Brien

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

Both of my children regressed just shortly after receiving their 18 month vaccines (including the MMR). They rapidly lost all speech, developed colitis (inflamed gut), & now walk around like zombies, unable to communicate their needs. They don't sleep, will barely eat, & just scream all day (I've quit my job, & we rarely leave the house). My children were perfectly, 100% healthy, & verbal, before this toxic insult.

As a Registered Nurse, (BSN), I know these vaccines harmed my babies. We feel like we are living in a nightmare, & can't wake up. We are currently seeing a DAN (Defeat Autism Now) doctor, who has given us hope with fixing some of the damage. He states that slamming an immature immune system with too many viruses & toxins, is causing viral encephalitis & colitis in about 1 in 6 children. That is why 1 in 6 children have speech delays, learning disabilities, ADHD & Autism.

That is why I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Over a thousand children have died, and almost a million have been injured, as a direct result of these toxic vaccines, & the dangerous vaccine schedules-since 1997 (VAERS). If the vaccine happened to be a pharmaceutical product, it would have been pulled after the first handful of deaths & injuries, & thoroughly tested. Vaccines have never been satisfactorily researched (the same way a new drug would have to be extensively examined). Please stop these senseless deaths & injuries of our babies & toddlers, & implement the long term research needed, in order to produce a safer vaccine & vaccine schedule.

Also, stop the CDC & FDA from telling parents that the most toxic metal on earth-Mercury is safe-in vaccines. And, that it is also safe to fully inoculate 2 month old babies (with 18 viruses, before they are 12 months old), when they know that is simply not true. Parents should have never had to play [offensive language redacted]. Please, please, please save our kids & stop destroying them.

And remember, out of over 33,000 Amish children that have never been vaccinated, NONE HAVE AUTISM. Also, these kids have acquired most of the childhood diseases, & not one child has died from them.

Sincerely,

Shannon O'Brien

C.P. Herring

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my disagreement with the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their apparent manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I request reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

C. P. Herring

Joy Briones

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

My son has Autism. He was not born with Autism in fact; he said 7 words at approx. 10 months. Then just after his 1 year birthday he stopped talking. Vaccines and other environmental factors along with a genetic predisposition cause autism. Nothing else explains the epidemic. Furthermore the fact that biomedical treatment helps tens of thousands of children affected by Autism only helps to prove that it is not simply genetic. Please help us find the causes and save my son's generation and future generations.

Sincerely,

Joy Briones

Doris Olah

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Please take immediate action on this very pressing concern for the parents, families and friends of those children who need this research to help them escape the communication barrier in which they're trapped and prevent other children from this fate. We need to stop this epidemic!!!

Sincerely,

Doris Olah

Jessica Godfrey

January 28, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

What is going on in DC? Who, in fact, is in charge up there? It seems not who we think. Is anyone looking out for our kids? Are we so totally alone in trying to help them? So, so disappointing...

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Jessica Godfrey

Jeffrey Edgar

January 28, 2009

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am the father of an 18 year old boy who has a diagnosis of autism. My son is so severe that we will have a very difficult time finding a permanent living situation when it is time for us to retire (5 years or so). He is nonverbal, self-injurious and requires 24X7 care. We know that long-term care for him will require that we buy him at least part of his own house and employ people to be with him at all times. We are not really sure if we are going to be able to afford this. As you know, there are going to be millions of autistic people that will require long-term care. Many of the families will not have sufficient funds to pay for this care which means that the public sector will be footing the bill somehow.

We read about the recent vote of the IACC at the January meeting. After spending 18 years performing our own research on autism to help with healing our son we definitely believe that biological and environmental studies, including the effects of vaccines and the vaccine schedule should be studied. We are quite angry that federal employees used unconventional procedures to block the original vote of the IACC that recommended that the Federal Government fund and conduct such studies.

We have followed the activities of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for many years and we do not think that under the Bush Administration they have been acting on behalf of individuals and families with autism. In particular, we are shocked that the CDC has not allowed researchers to access the Vaccine Injury Database to conduct studies. We know that there are ways that the data in this database can be handled to protect the identity of the individuals' records. This database belongs to the public and should be made available for research which might relate vaccines to autism incidents and possibly other neurological diseases.

We implore you to allow another vote at the IACC once the CDC, the NIH and the NIMH staffers are led by appointees of the Obama Administration. Please don't restrict the possible areas of research that might help individuals with autism. This is critical not just to the families but also to the rest of our population who will be forced to pay for the long term care of people with autism.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey D. Edgar

Emily Redwood

January 29, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

If there is no link between autism and vaccines, this must be shown in independent studies so that the true cause of autism may be explored further.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Emily Redwood

Note: Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has been redacted in this document

Melissa Taylor

January 29, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Please feel free to contact me if you want to know how autism has affected my family. You may contact me directly at [PII redacted].

Sincerely,

Melissa Taylor

Pamela Mummary

January 29, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

As the grandmother of a child on the autistic spectrum, I am not just concerned about his future and that of his little family, but I am literally frightened by the alarming increase in autism rates. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to the manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I strongly believe that my grandson's regressive autism was at least in part caused by an inoculation, and I urge you to make certain that the manufacturer's and medical establishment follows through on a proper investigation into a possible vaccine link. I, therefore, demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Pamela Mummary

Kerri Bowen

January 29, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the individuals and their families. I am writing to you to express my upmost concerns of the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I specifically request immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I hereby sincerely request reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and further, I respectfully request a restoration of the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Kerri Bowden

Carolyn Cervenka

January 29, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

PLEASE do not retract vaccine-Autism studies programs. We must travel all avenues to find an answer to the epidemic numbers of our children, grandchildren, your children who are afflicted with this devastating disorder. Funding is vital for independent studies without bias to continue. A child that you love could be next and I know you do not wish that.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Cervenka

Carmen Denis

January 29, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I AM OUTRAGED TO HAVE TO WRITE THIS LETTER. As a mother of a 3-year old boy with autism, and a 9-month old boy too young to diagnose, who could potentially be affected as well, I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Carmen B. Denis

Jill Nordtvedt Lenhard

January 29, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

As the mother of a young boy with autism, I was overjoyed that Congress passed the Combating Autism Act in December of 2006. Getting at the root causes of this epidemic and treating it effectively should be a national priority, and at the time I believed that the CAA would do much toward healing and preventing autism in our country.

Today, however, I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I request immediate reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

To prevent this condition from affecting future generations of children, we must pursue every avenue to find out why it is happening. We must be able to eliminate causes of this condition with 100% certainty, which is what the IACC vaccine studies are meant to do. Please listen to the parents and families of children with autism when we tell you that this research is crucial to the future of our children, our families, and our country.

Sincerely,

Jill Nordtvedt Lenhard

Joyce Schulte

January 29, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I understand money, and how it buys attention. It is time that our children, their health and our long-term national health care get attention, in positive ways. Only you have the power to work for the little kids. And it takes more than a diaper to protect a baby!!

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Joyce Schulte

Linda West

January 29, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear President Obama, Vice President Biden, Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families.

I object to the IACC's manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

The pharmaceutical special interest groups and the industry itself have a stranglehold on our government, on our elected officials whose salaries Americans pay. It is disgraceful.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that WERE ALREADY APPROVED for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan.

I ask you to RESTORE THE FUNDING ALREADY ALLOCATED TO THIS CRITICAL RESEARCH.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Linda S. West

Ellen DeGrazia

January 30, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

I have an 11 year old Autistic daughter that I am sure was injured by early childhood vaccines. It is time for real research to find out what causes autism, and hopefully to find out how to prevent our precious young population from being exposed to this dreadful disorder all together.

Sincerely,

Ellen DeGrazia

Susan Needleman

January 30, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

I am a young grandmother of five. One grandson is Autistic and his sister has Asperger's Syndrome. The other three grandchildren live in VT and their parents refuse to vaccinate them. THEY have NO signs of being on the autism spectrum. My husband and I had four children between 1974 and 1983. All of them are fine. I recall when they had their vaccinations the doctor was cautious to only give a limited number of vaccinations per visit. And he would not vaccinate if the child seemed to be coming down with a cold. Now it seems that children are receiving up to ten vaccines at a time. WHY? Doesn't it seem that this is possibly an overload to very small bodies some of whom may be compromised further by their immune system? It seems to me that like many other medical situations, one size does NOT fit all. Wouldn't a simple cost effective trial to reduce the rate of autism be to mandate that pediatricians only give a certain number of vaccinations at a time (go back to the 1970's standard) and give them under strict guidelines concerning the health and weight of the child at the time of vaccination? This data could be collected and perhaps then we could see a correlation between methods of vaccination and rate of autism.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Susan Needleman

Miguel & Laura Dagnino

January 30, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Miguel & Laura Dagnino

Note: Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has been redacted in this document

Wanda Brown

January 30, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

As a mother of an autistic son, I am deeply concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the severe impact autism places on [PII redacted] and our family. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why my son has been diagnosed with heavy metals toxicity, "autistic enterocolitis", and other health issues found in a small subgroup of autistic children.

Our family demands reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Wanda Brown

Jeannine Petrilak Corry

January 30, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

I agree with the above pre-written statement. Also I have 2 sons who regressed after MMR and a 3rd who regressed and reacted after a vaccine with Thimerosal. He had a speech delay and was helped with dietary intervention and speech, but still has some issues.

Please continue to take Thimerosal out of ALL vaccines, especially the flu shot. Many people falsely assume it is out. Please do not mandate more shots and leave the flu shot optional. This is not about allowing or preventing vaccine lawsuits, but preventing further children from becoming affected. Please continue to do the right this and make vaccines safer. I know there are many people working in government that are doing this and thank you for already taking much of the Thimerosal out. Some people are allergic or sensitive while others not, as seen with the contact lens stuff. It is sad it seems only there is negative press running, both anti-govt. and anti-"green vaccine" and Thimerosal is safe [offensive language redacted]. Solutions are needed rather than this [offensive language redacted].

Sincerely,

Jeannine Petrilak Corry

Amy Lusby-Scalzo

January 30, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I respectfully demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research. Please also include silver amalgam dental fillings in the testing, and the testing for heavy metals in the parents of the afflicted children and the afflicted children themselves. I am certain the independent scientists will find that mercury acts similarly to thalidomide and that the ones actually poisoned are the parents, but it is showing up in the offspring. Think thalidomide, DDT, cigarette smoking, alcohol overconsumption.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

As the parent of an autistic child, I have a great stake in this debate. I would like to have peace of mind to know exactly how my child--your future constituent, my future, period--ended up like this. I want my child and my country to have a future that is free; free of the effects of autism. I do not want my child, future generations or my country to end up disabled or otherwise impaired.

Sincerely,

Amy Lusby-Scalzo

Timi Price

January 30, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Not only Vaccine safety, but food safety! Our children are being injected with toxins from vaccines and eating toxins from most of the food they consume. How is the Food and Drug Administration getting away with this? I do not believe that Vaccines alone cause autism, but coupled with the environment (the food our children are consuming) is harming our children. Please do more research on Vaccines and create a safer schedule for our children.

Sincerely,

Timi Price

Khalid Rehman

January 30, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am a physician. I am also a grandfather of a boy with Autism. I know firsthand the impact this disease has had on my family. I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates.

I am outraged at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to the manipulation by the federal members of the IACC committee to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Khalid Rehman. MD.

Tammy Krassick

January 30, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

My name is Tammy Krassick N.H.C., R.P owner of Integrative Health Services.....I use nutrition and detox therapy to heal and help children with autism.....there are growing numbers of documents stating the link between autism and vaccinations....it cannot be denied any longer... let's get this ball rolling, please!!!!!!

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Tammy Krassick N.H.C., R.P.

Note: Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has been redacted in this document

Bruce Kaminski

January 30, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am a father of two boys with autism, ages 10 and 12, living in Elk Grove, California. I believe that both boys' autism was triggered by vaccines, including the mercury in the preservative Thimerosal, since we tested their urine at very young ages and the test disclosed exceedingly high and dangerous levels of mercury. In addition, both of my sons were developmentally normal until they had several vaccines (including MMR for my older son) spaced very closely together in time.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Bruce Kaminski

Ingri Cassel

January 30, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear IACC members, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

We were shocked to hear the actions of members of the Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee (IACC) in retracting vaccine-autism studies at their January 14th meeting. Specifically, I am referring to Duane Alexander, M.D. - Director of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development at NIH; James Battey, M.D. - Director of the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders at NIH; Ellen Blackwell, MSW - Division of Community and Institutional Services for the Disabled and Elderly Health Programs Group, Center for Medicaid and State Operations at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; Margaret Giannini, M.D. - Director of the Office on Disability at HHS; Gail Houle, Ph.D., Associate Division Director, Research-to-Practice Division, Early Childhood Programs, Office of Special Education Programs, U.S. Department of Education; Larke Huang, Ph.D., Senior Advisor on Children at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services ; Story Landis, Ph.D., Director of the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke at NIH ; Cindy Lawler, Ph.D., Scientific Program Director, Cellular, Organs and Systems Pathobiology Branch at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences at NIH ; Patricia A. Morrissey, Ph.D., Commissioner of the Administration on Developmental Disabilities at the Administration for Children and Families ; Edwin Trevathan, M.D., MPH, Director of the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities at the CDC ; Peter van Dyck, M.D., MPH, Associate Administrator of Maternal and Child Health at the Health Resources and Services Administration ; AND Elias Zerhouni, M.D., the Director of the National Institutes of Health (who absolutely needs to be held accountable!)

We hear from the majority of parents of autistic children the same story - their child regressed into autism after a battery of vaccines. You should be ashamed of yourself - do you have no conscience? [Offensive language redacted]. We are simply asking for the immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act that reflects the needs and views of the taxpayer and the autism community at large. We strongly oppose the manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the link between vaccines and autism. We are demanding reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and simply ask that YOU make sure to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research. As reaffirmed by the vote count on January 14th, the NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine efficacy and safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes significant numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent entities that have no ties to the pharmaceutical industry.

In the Spirit of Truth

Ingri Cassel

Chad Tidwell

January 30, 2009

Dear Thomas Insel:

To all concerned:

I am a Naval Officer and have taken an oath to defend the Constitution of America just as many of you have taken oaths to protect our country and its citizens. We live in the greatest nation on the planet, yet we are not a perfect nation. It is not hard to look back at our history and see some of the wrongs our government has committed, but there are so many more good things our government has done for our people as well as people in other countries all over the world. The rate of autism in our children has increased dramatically to 1-in-150. For military dependents it has been reported to be 1-in-88. This is an epidemic that is already affecting our society. You have an obligation to each of these children suffering from this neurological disorder. There is strong evidence of a link between autism and vaccines. More research is needed to determine this relationship. It may turn out to be an ugly situation. If that turns out to be the case, better to acknowledge it and deal with it than hide it and pretend it does not exist. We don't know until we research the problem in a very objective unbiased way, which has not been done very well so far. While none of you can change the past, you will have a direct impact on the future. I pray you each have the integrity and intestinal fortitude to continue the Autism-Vaccine research and push hard to find answers to the cause of the disorder and how we can defeat it now and in the future.

Respectfully,

A concerned Citizen, Sailor, and Father.

Chad Tidwell

Harry Hofherr

January 30, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

Research into the safety and efficacy of vaccines is not done, as some would have the public believe. Research into vaccine safety is not the property of the government, or the manufacturers. Vaccine research is an ongoing mission for the safety of all humanity.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Harry Hofherr

Amy Orzel

January 30, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

AUTISM AND OTHER DEVELOPMENTAL DISORDERS ARE MUCH TOO COMMON AND MANY OF THE CHILDREN AFFECTED BY IT SUFFER TERRIBLY. PLEASE, YOU NEED TO STAND UP FOR OUR CHILDREN.

PLEASE SUPPORT RESEARCH BY AN INDEPENDENT COMMITTEE. PLEASE HELP, SO FEWER CHILDREN DEVELOP AUTISM.

My son has Autism and I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

I KNOW OF MANY CHILDREN WHO DEVELOPED AUTISM AFTER VACCINES, ESPECIALLY THE FLU VACCINE, WHICH STILL CONTAINS THIMEROSAL.

PLEASE STAND UP FOR OUR CHILDREN.

THANK YOU!

Sincerely,

AMY ORZEL

Stella Rusek

January 30, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

We are losing a generation of children in epidemic proportions! I have personally witnessed the rate of autism rise from 1:500 when my son was first diagnosed in 1995 to now 1:150. An epidemic does not occur with genetic disorders, therefore, it is safe to say that an outside agent is affecting our children and throwing them into autism. There is a direct correlation between the rise of autism and the increase in the number of mandated vaccinations for our children. We need to look at the vaccination schedule as well as the safety of the components in vaccinations that are being injected into our healthy children. This can only be done with government funded research.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

In my case, I have the bloodwork to show that my son had a very severe reaction to the measles portion of the MMR. It pains me to think of the life he could have had. I beg you to not let another child be lost in the world of autism.

Sincerely,

Dan and Stella Rusek

Valerie Gonzalez

January 31, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you as, a mother to a 7 year old with autism, to express my full disagreement to the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Please understand that as a parent to a wonderful son with autism, this research could enable me to enable my son. It could help ME help HIM find a path in the mysterious make-up of his mind that will guide him to a life that others would not even consider an option for him. His father and I request that you REconsider.

Most Sincerely,

Valerie J. Gonzalez

Note: Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has been redacted in this document

Robyn Lindsey

January 31, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am a mother of a 4 year old little boy who is nonverbal, he can't talk, he is socially fine, and his motor skills are on target. He has been attending a wonderful school by UAMS in Fort Smith Arkansas. Can you imagine how frustrating it would be to know what you want and not be able to communicate it to the world? I am begging you to please please reinstate research. Let's focus on our future, our children's future, and the future of America. By reinstating the Combating Autism Act, something could be done, these kids could be "normal" and I as a parent of an autistic child only find it fair that they have the opportunity.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

I have HOPE that one day when I ask [PII redacted] how was your day at school he will respond! I have HOPE that one day I will hear "I love you mommy." I have HOPE that YOU will continue this important research!

Sincerely,

Robyn Lindsey, proud mom of autistic [PII redacted]

Note: Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has been redacted in this document

Jennifer Donaldson

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

My son [PII redacted] was born a beautiful, healthy and alert baby. Like his older sisters, [PII redacted] would gaze curiously into my eyes as I nursed him. After a doctor's appointment where [PII redacted] received a series of vaccinations at 4 mo. he lost his ability to suckle. He slowly stopped eye contact and would no longer respond to our voices. By 8 mo. a neurologist diagnosed [PII redacted] with static encephalopathy brought on by, no idea. At 2yrs. of age the same neurologist diagnosed [PII redacted] with autism again, no idea. After years of searching, reading, studying, testing, treating, and experiencing autism every day I am convinced that [PII redacted]' Autism is the effect of an environmental toxin or toxins. I want answers or rather the truth. I am depending on you to find the truth whatever it may be. Those of you that I am writing to obviously know how to reason, how to be unbiased, how to face diversity, and how not to be self-serving or you would not be where you are today. I am outraged at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Donaldson

Maria Devlin

January 31, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs. We need to take a step back and do more research!!! My son has autism but his symptoms only started after 15 to 18 months!

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Maria Devlin

Note: Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has been redacted in this document

Angel Wiles

January 31, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

This letter is from my son [PII redacted], diagnosed at age 2.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Angel Wiles and [PII redacted] Wiles

James Strickland Jr.

February 01, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates across the United States and the impact autism is having on my son, my family, and me. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block pending research on the probable link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public and my trust in vaccination programs.

I demand immediate reinstatement by the IACC of all vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated for the A.R.S.P.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

James Strickland Jr.

Lisa Philbrook

February 01, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

I have a grandson with autism. He was developing in all areas great until he had his vaccines around the age of 18 months. I'm not saying that vaccines should be stopped but studies need to be done to see why they affect some children this way and if there is a safer way to give the vaccines. Please take some time to look into this matter it is needed for the future of our children. Thank-you

Sincerely,

Lisa A. Philbrook

Note: Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has been redacted in this document

Georgia Mueller

February 01, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

As a family who supports a 9 year old son with autism, I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Please follow through on the original intent of the passed bill while honoring the families and practitioners who worked so hard to get it passed. Bills are not passed just to be changed on a whim.

Sincerely,

Georgia, [PII redacted] & [PII redacted] Mueller

Linda Malec

February 02, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to IACC's manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. The proper use of protocols and procedures is a basic foundation for true scientific study and action. Moreover, this research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises, what can be done to prevent more people from developing autism and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Linda Malec

Note: Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has been redacted in this document

Ruby MacNamara

February 02, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am the parent of an 8 year old boy, [PII redacted] who has autism. Since [PII redacted] was 2 years old, we have dedicated ourselves to supporting his needs, both emotionally and financially. [PII redacted] has been able to overcome some of the obstacles exhibited by this condition, but not without endless hours of clinical therapies, dietary intervention, vitamins, and behavior modifications. We have both formally educated ourselves in exceptional student education to support his academic growth. We have learned to become advocates in the public school system to identify his strengths and weaknesses so that he is better understood and accepted by his teachers and peers.

There is no denying the numbers. The prevalence of this condition, whether or not you can argue that it is now being better identified or diagnosed, does not convince me. There is a world-wide factor that is causing children that have either a genetic predisposition or may be less tolerant to vaccines, or have been affected by the thimerosal preservative in the MMR vaccines. The causes need to be identified so that we do not have a population explosion of autism.

Unfortunately, for the children and families that have been affected, most notably in the past 10-12 years-- the damage is done. What we can do now as a responsible government is support these families to raise these children as best possible to be independent people in our society. There needs to be social acceptance in schools and communities, by employers, athletes, etc. to support autism. Families faced with this dilemma, should have complete tax credits for any and all therapies, dietary foods, vitamins, schools, augmented devices, etc. needed to support the need of a child with autism. Support groups need to be funded to help families navigate the decisions that one needs to make to educate our children with special needs. We are more concerned with separating them than providing the support to help them be successful -- successful integration strategies to help them achieve. If there is a smoking gun, let's deal with it and move on. Mistakes are made but we must learn from them and help each other correct them. Although families are upset that the cause may be the vaccines, they are more upset about having their backs turned on them by the government. We need help to raise these children so that they are good happy people that are accepted by society.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rate and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Our family has devoted their life to help our son and other families in the same circumstances. We need to have transparency so that the truth is known and remediated for future generations.

Sincerely,

Ruby MacNamara

Shannon Smith

February 02, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am extremely concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person, families and community. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs, which is severely eroded at this point in time.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

The rate of autism is too high to ignore. Everyone is affected by it and it MUST be researched. You cannot refuse to explore the possible link between vaccines and autism any longer, and as funding was ALREADY ALLOCATED, there is NO EXCUSE to reverse those funds. Please restore those funds and begin the research.

Sincerely,

Shannon S. Smith

Sarah Carrasco

February 02, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am the mother of a seven year old boy, affected by autism. Contrary to popular belief, there is a connection between the vaccines and autism. I find it peculiar when people say there is no evidence linking the two. It makes me wonder how far they looked in to it.

There is a Mercury Detoxification Report which was conducted by scientists through The Autism Research Institute. There was the study paid for and sponsored by TACA which surveyed 100,000 parents, this study looked at the incident rate of autism in children who had been vaccinated and compared the numbers to children who had not been. There was no autism reported among the children who had not been vaccinated and one in every one hundred thirty children was diagnosed with autism who had received the vaccines. There is also a study done by Collaborative Programs of Excellence in Autism where they found regressive autism in children who had received the MMR vaccine. It is important to note that the Amish, who use no vaccines, have no autism.

The studies that the CDC refers to are tainted at best. One study I read from the CDC said in the ten thousand children they tested for autism, (all of which had been vaccinated) they found no correlation between autism and the vaccines. The flaw in the study? They excluded all of the children with autism. That is a fact, you're welcome to fact check anything I have written in this letter.

Basically if you really want the science you can go to www.autism.com and read it for yourself. I must point out that in the study conducted by the CPEA they concluded that there was a connection between the MMR vaccine and autism but ended the paper by stating there was no connection. That study is now under investigation.

It is also of interest that the woman from Autism Speaks, Alison Singer, resigned her position at Autism Speaks the night before attending an IACC meeting. She voted against studying the connection between autism and vaccines. It's kind of like Senator Frist calling December of 2001, [offensive language redacted] after meeting with Pharmaceutical Companies and voting against holding them liable for the autism-vaccine connection.

Corruption is nothing new, the late Senator Kefauver helped pass the 1962 Drug Control Act, imposing controls requiring drug companies to disclose side effects and offer generic prescriptions on their patented medicine. Our country has come through slavery, civil rights violations, and women's suffragist movements etc., and every time, it was overcome by those who refused to yield.

WE WILL NOT YIELD-EVER

My son was born healthy and I have the paperwork to prove it. He regressed following the vaccines; I've got the paperwork on that too. If you want to see a glimpse of my life, look on the ARI website and watch the Recovered Kids videos. And, by the way, kids do recover from autism, once you have reversed the effects of the vaccines.

I realize that the government does not want to take responsibility for this because they think financial compensation will be sought. I don't want money; I want these drug companies to stop denying our kids their civil liberties. Freedom of speech? Not when you have severe autism. Freedom to gather in groups? Not when you have autism. Freedom to do whatever you want, only if you have the money drug companies do.

We're not [offensive language redacted], we know that there is a substantial effort to cover this up and like the great movements in American history; it will only last so long. The truth is coming, and if it doesn't come from me, it will be another mom, if not her, than another. We're coming, in the tens of thousands and the more this is covered up, the harder we will fight.

I love my country but as evidenced recently, certain members of our government forgot this is a representative system. They did not represent our best interests on every level you can think of, including protecting America's future, our children. I am a patriot, I am a mother and I will not allow my son's civil liberties to be denied.

Think long and think hard about the IACC vote coming up on February fourth for the regarding the correlation between vaccines and autism. It will be in the history books forever. Someday, people saying there is not a connection between the vaccines and autism will be like people saying the world is flat; their names are immortalized in history.

To those of you who fight for us and continue to represent us, thank you. Your efforts are not in vain, we appreciate you and admire your courage.

Thank you for your time,

Sarah Carrasco

Irva Hertz-Picciotto

February 03, 2009

Dear Tom,

I offer my thoughts about the vaccine and autism issue for the IACC to consider. There is currently no evidence from the epidemiologic side that supports an association. I recently spent some time carefully reading the thimerosal papers, however, and this led me to the position I discuss in the attached, in which I raise questions about the strength of the evidence against an association.

Thanks very much for considering these comments. I recognize that this is a hot-button issue, but I believe that if we stay focused on generating the best possible science, we can carry out the needed research that can answer the puzzles.

Best,

Irva

Note: Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has been redacted in this document

Anne DelGhingaro

February 03, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

My son [PII redacted] was diagnosed with autism in 2000. He began a regression following seven vaccinations given to him on one July afternoon in 1999. Despite years and years and hours and hours of therapy, etc.; he has not made much recovery. (He lost all language and has none at 10 yrs. old) It is my right as an American to demand unbiased studies to find out whether or not it was the vaccinations.

I have a daughter who wants to have children. Unbiased research will affect future generations and their ability to feel safe about our vaccination program.

I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Anne DelGhingaro

Alexa Reck

February 03, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

My son has autism. Like many parents, I saw my son's autism literally emerge just after a major round of vaccinations. While I understand that this relationship in time doesn't equal cause & effect, until definitive studies of this phenomenon that ARE NOT done by parties with a vested interest in maintaining the current vaccine schedule has been completed, I cannot be sure the vaccines didn't cause my only child a lifetime of hardship.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Alexa Reck

Michelle Neely

February 03, 2009

Dear Dr. Insel,

I fully support the IACC's decision to remove language in the Strategic Plan that would mandate studies of links between autism and vaccine. There are millions of affected families who are tired of autism research being held hostage by groups with a strong political agenda and no scientific acumen.

No amount of time or money devoted to studying a connection between vaccines and autism will ever convince the anti-vaccine groups like SafeMinds and Generation Rescue that there is no connection. I am very dismayed that Autism Speaks has aligned itself with these [offensive language redacted] groups, and I have withdrawn my financial support from the organization. I can only hope that other science-minded representatives from AS will resign as Ms. Singer did.

The Strategic Plan process has been delayed long enough by the anti-vaccine groups and I would urge you to not allow these delays to continue. Now is the time for the first Strategic Plan to be submitted to congress and for the research called for in the Combating Autism Act to begin.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Neely

Chuck

February 03, 2009

Dear Dr. Insel,

Initiatives were inserted into the IACC Strategic Plan in December which would budget for vaccine related research. These initiatives should stand as is or every initiative approved by the IACC should stand for a re-vote.

I would like to express my concern that the Strategic Plan process has been significantly delayed already and I would urge you to not allow these delays to continue. Now is the time for the first Strategic Plan to be submitted to congress as currently stated.

Respectfully submitted,

Chuck

Susette Rodrigues

February 03, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I have two grandsons wit ASD, and I think they deserve to have a normal future.

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

I voted for you for the very first time I was allowed to vote after becoming an American citizen, against most of my family and friends' best judgment, and hope I do not have to regret it. Please take care of our children, as you promised during your campaigns.

Sincerely,

Susette M. Rodrigues

Jody Mack

February 03, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Senators and Representatives,

My little girl was diagnosed with autism nearly four years ago. Our lives have been devastated by her diagnosis. We have had to move half-way across the country and make major changes in our lives, because of her disability. We have accrued massive debt, due to medical and daily living costs, that directly result from her disorder. My last employer asked that I choose my job or my kids, when I requested to reduce my salaried hours from 50+/week, to only 40hours/week for two weeks - to be more available for my daughter, as she transitioned to kindergarten. Now, we are living in poverty and facing possible homelessness. We are struggling and desperate because of hardships we have encountered resulting from my child's disability. I have a college degree; however, over the past few years, I have never felt so stupid and inadequate. We have worked extremely hard to provide my little girl with the things that she needs to be as successful and independent as possible, but our financial security is in ruins.

My little girl developed normally for the first year of life. It was after receiving multiple vaccines that we began to observe her gradual regression into autism. Her words and chatter were replaced by silence alternating with screams. Her giggles and games of peek-a-boo morphed into quiet observation of others alternating with isolation and solitary play. Her silly interactions and back and forth play with her "Little People" toys was replaced with a lonely obsession over lining them up precisely. Our little girl was changed from a happy, engaging toddler into a sick and isolated child.

We saw changes with my little boy as well. Slowly, his speech failed to expand. He didn't "lose" words, like his little sister, but he didn't gain new ones either. His behavior nosedived. We worried that he would be kicked out of preschool. He yelled and tantrumed, as we struggled to understand his garbled speech and baffling behavior. While he was "only" diagnosed with ADHD (and later 30+ food allergies) and eventually gained the ability to speak and learn normally, we watched both him and his sister "change" after repeated vaccinations.

Perhaps I would never have questioned vaccines, had I not personally suffered side effects. After receiving two Dt boosters, along with the Hepatitis B series, I began to feel as though I were slurring my words. My skin also broke out severely. Over time, I've struggled with fatigue and other mysterious symptoms. I understand that it's not popular to questions vaccines, but after feeling sick following my last set, I could no longer deny their potential for harm. I was unable to chalk all of our experiences up to mere "coincidence".

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Jody Mack

February 03, 2009 – February 04, 2009

Dear Dr. Insel,

As you are well aware, some initiatives were inserted into the IACC's Strategic Plan in December which would budget for vaccine related research. As you yourself noted in the January meeting, those initiatives did not go through the standard procedure and were not cleared by the science subcommittees.

I approve of the move to submit those initiatives to a re-vote in the January IACC meeting, and agree with the majority of the IACC members that it is inappropriate to keep these initiatives in the Plan at this time.

In addition, I would like to express my concern that the Strategic Plan process has been significantly delayed already by attempts to incorporate vaccine language, and I would urge you to not allow these delays to continue. Now is the time for the first Strategic Plan to be submitted to congress and for the research called for in the Combating Autism Act to begin.

Respectfully submitted,

The following individuals submitted the above letter:

Janet Norman-Bain

Judy Badner

Stacy Marcassoli

Kate – Mother of a teenager diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome

Bonnie Pellegrin

February 03, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

I am concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families. I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

How many children are going to be left with their minds scrambled up like a jigsaw puzzle? My grandson was fine until he had his vaccinations. Only to lose him a blank stare and many years of hard work and constant playing to bring him back to us. He is only now at almost 8 years old to be able to let us know what he is thinking about and what his needs are. He will more than likely have to have a mentor in the class with him for many more years to come. How many children need to be in special education due to vaccines? There a definite tie into vaccines and autism. I have seen several cases in our city and some are of close friends. There should not be so many children coming up with this unless there was a definite common ground causing it. That common ground is the vaccines. Have not seen many of these people in years and now find out they have a child with autism also... ? Something to be said there. I figure it would cost a lot more to teach all these children Special Ed. and have them on social security for the rest of their lives than to simply change the vaccines. Hello, [offensive language redacted].

Sincerely,

Bonnie Pellegrin

Brian Scott

February 03, 2009

I am writing to you in hopes of convincing you that there is much to be learned by evaluating the possible relationship between a more aggressive vaccination schedule and the apparent increase in autism diagnosis.

In the last few years, there have been a series of articles published in widely respected journals that unquestionably point towards the presence of an ongoing inflammatory process in children with autism; and in some cases, specifically, in the brains of people with autism. Considering these findings, I believe it is prudent that we find a way to determine if the artificial stimulations of our infants' immune systems at an early age may be related to what has been observed at a diagnostic level.

Specific examples of an ongoing inflammatory process in the brain and CNS of people with autism have been observed in at least three studies in the past four years:

In January of 2009 researchers in New York published "Elevated immune response in the brain of autistic patients." When compared with control samples, the brains of people with autism were found to have highly increased levels of several inflammatory cytokines, including TNF-alpha, IL-6, and IFNgamma. The authors concluded that localized brain inflammation may be related to the pathogenesis of autism.

In 2007, researchers in Chicago measured levels of cytokines in the CSF of children with autism. What they observed was very highly increased levels of tnf-alpha in children with autism when compared to children without this diagnosis. This paper is entitled: "Elevation of tumor necrosis factor-alpha in cerebrospinal fluid of autistic children."

In 2005, researchers at Johns Hopkins found that people with autism showed signs of immune activation at greatly increased levels compared to people without this diagnosis, in their paper, "Neuroglial activation and neuroinflammation in the brain of patients with autism". Once again, there was a marked increase in pro-inflammatory cytokines in subjects with autism.

On a more indirect measurement level, but corresponding well to observe increased head size in autism, in 2006, researchers at Washington University observed increased water retention in the brains of children with autism as opposed to children without a diagnosis. The authors believe that this could be the result of an ongoing inflammatory process, and that this inflammation could actually be what drives increased brain size, as opposed to a 'lack of pruning'. This study is entitled: "Gray matter abnormalities in autism spectrum disorder revealed by T2 relaxation".

There are, of course, many other studies identifying an inflammatory cytokine profile in autism, but I have only included those that speak directly to the CNS for purposes of brevity. There should be no doubt, however, that the immune system in autism is dysregulated, and is skewed to a proinflammatory state.

If we look for mechanisms by which a dysregulated inflammatory immune response might be generated in children with autism, we also have many recent studies wherein key upstream immune messengers responsible for controlling immune responses have been shown to be abnormal in autism.

In August 2008, researchers from Yale published "Macrophage Migration Inhibitory Factor and Autism Spectrum Disorders". This study found that children with autism had greatly increased levels of macrophage migration inhibitory factor (MIF) when compared to children without that diagnosis; and as levels of MIF increased, so did measures of autism severity. Increased levels of MIF have been well documented to be associated with autoimmune and inflammatory diseases such as asthma, arthritis, some cancers, and type 1 diabetes. This particular study also utilized genomic mapping, and children with autism were found to be much more likely to harbor known MIF promoter alleles than their non-diagnosed peers.

In this paper, the authors state:

"Thus, the central hypothesis underlying this research was that a genetic predisposition to a particular level of MIF production may lead to a proinflammatory profile of cell activation that, if present during a neurodevelopmentally sensitive period, might contribute to the etiopathogenesis of autism."

In 2008, researchers at the University of California found that children with autism were much more likely to have decreased levels of transforming growth factor beta 1 (TGF-B1) when compared with children without a diagnosis. TGF-B1 is a critical immune component that participates in the control of immune responses. When circulating levels were measured, children with less TGF-B1, exhibited more severe autistic behaviors. This study is entitled "Decreased transforming growth factor beta1 in autism: a potential link between immune dysregulation and impairment in clinical behavioral outcomes."

Decreased levels of TGF-B1 were previously identified by researchers in Japan, in a study titled: "Decreased serum levels of transforming growth factor-beta1 in patients with autism."

Thus, in a very real sense, at a clinical level, we have observed that children with autism have impaired ability to appropriately control immune responses by a variety of identified physiological measures; and indeed, as that impairment grows, so do measures of autism severity. Taken together, observed inflammatory processes and abnormal messenger components constitute the observation of a susceptible subgroup; a population of children who have problems regulating immune responses.

Finally, in an animal model of autism, researchers from John Hopkins were able to create animals with distinctive behavioral and physiological characteristics of autism by administering an agent after birth; but only if that agent was given shortly after birth. The agent in question, terbutaline, has been shown to increase concordance of autism diagnosis in twins. Animals given terbutaline between two and five days after birth went on to display different behavioral profiles, as well as distinctive microglial activation previously observed in people with autism. Animals given the agent between eleven and fourteen days after birth showed no such changes. These physiological changes were persistent until at least thirty days. This study is, "Neuroinflammation and behavioral abnormalities after neonatal terbutaline treatment in rats: implications for autism."

This bears repeating: by adjusting the timing of a dose of chemical after birth, researchers were able to create physiological hallmarks of autism.

Taking all of this information together, we have learned many things. People with autism have been shown to have a distinctly pro-inflammatory immune profile in their brains and central nervous systems when compared to people without autism. From a mechanism of action standpoint, we have increasing evidence of how children with autism are predisposed to have problems regulating an immune

response; with results expected to be skewed towards increased inflammation. These two avenues of observations would appear to be completely consistent with one another. In animal models, physiological features known to be compatible with what is found in autism can be created by adjusting the timing of an agent after the animal is born. Now, consider vaccines.

The underlying mechanism of creating an immunological memory is the initiation of an immune response by providing a small concentration of bacterial or viral proteins alongside aluminum salts. In the past two decades, there has been a gradual but steady increase in the number of vaccinations given, and a corresponding decrease in the age at which those vaccinations are administered. Concurrently, there has been an increase in combination vaccinations, which are well established to produce more pronounced immune responses (i.e., fevers) than the individual vaccinations which those particular diseases. Simply, more immune challenges, at earlier ages, and those that are more likely to generate a robust immune response.

Unfortunately, our existing suite of research regarding autism and vaccination was constructed before almost all of the above observations were made, and as a result, these studies were not designed to attempt to capture information regarding a relationship between dysregulated immune responses and autism. Unfortunately, any association between early aged immune response generation and autism are completely invisible to all thimerosal based studies. Likewise, the remaining components of our research, MMR studies, only take into account vaccines that are given after a dozen, or more, earlier vaccinations are administered. As such, our ability to glean useful information is hindered greatly; especially considering the impact of timing in the animal studies referenced above. It is merely a statement of fact that our existing research based is comprised entirely of thimerosal or MMR studies.

As a scientist, you must accept that as additional information becomes available, new theories are required to try to explain what has been observed. For all the rhetoric concerning 'shifting goalposts' regarding vaccines and autism, one thing seems to be forgotten, or unknown; we now have much more information than we used to. I would assert that it is unconscionable not to formulate new working theories based on our emerging understanding of the immune regulatory issues identified in autism; and we have no valid reason for these theories not to include artificially stimulated immune responses.

Considering that we now know that children with autism are particularly predisposed towards having an impaired ability to control inflammatory immune responses; and indeed, that the timing of insults is critical in the developing nervous system, we no longer have the luxury of believing that there is no viable mechanism of action by which a more aggressive vaccine schedule can contribute to the pathology of autism. Likewise, we have certainty that our existing research does not provide meaningful information as to the impact of initiating immune responses at earlier and earlier ages.

In autism, we have observed abnormalities in the system that is at the absolute heart of vaccination, all vaccinations, and we have no research one way or the other as to if the two are related or not.

Your decision will not be an easy one, but please consider that history will take note of your actions. Unless all of the research I have referenced above is wrong in the exact same way, we have sufficient evidence to take steps to evaluate if artificially generated immune responses are associated with autism. Unless you believe for some reason that all of the information I have included is incorrect, surely additional findings regarding the immunological dysfunction in autism are likely to follow; and eventually more and more people will come to the conclusion that I have:

The foundation of the scientific method is that you only learn about what you actually analyze; in the case of vaccines and autism, as opposed to thimerosal and autism, or the MMR and autism, we simply have not performed any quality evaluations. Without quality evaluations, it is impossible to actually know if there is a relationship between a more aggressive vaccination schedule and autism rates. Considering what we now know about the handling of immune responses in autism, continuing to assert that vaccine research is a waste of resources constitutes either ignorance of our understanding of autism physiology, or outright denial of what has been observed in favor of political expediency.

The evaluation of your decision regarding funding prioritizations will continue for a long time; and I must admit, I do not envy your position. Throwing aside, for the moment, the very legitimate concerns of questioning the policy of vaccination, you should ask yourself, will it stand up to scientific scrutiny in the future?

Best wishes,

Brian Scott

Philip Rudnick

February 04, 2009

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/robert-f-kennedy-jr-and-david-kirby/autism-vaccines-and-the-c_b_161395.html

[Offensive language redacted]

Anika Casem

February 04, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

There has been an outcry for more research on the connection between autism and vaccines, but the want and need is being denied. It is vital to determine the causes and connections surrounding autism in order to slow, stop, and/or solve the disorder.

I feel it is vital because I work with a young autistic child who takes in the world and people around him, but has trouble interacting with them and vice versa. He may be more than 10 years old, but he does not know how to tie his shoes and does not know how to play with other children. He can recite the alphabet backwards and can match the cards to the Memory game without turning the cards over, but he does not know how to pretend to be a cowboy or have a conversation. He can kiss his mother on the cheek, but does not know how to tell her that he loves her.

People look at him and think he is like everyone else until he starts making repetitive noises, flapping his arm, or needs me to answer questions posed to him. Children ask what is wrong with him when he ignores their invitations to play because he would rather walk up and down the stairs over and over again. His parents cannot ask him what is wrong because he does not have the vocabulary to express what is causing him to randomly burst into tears and squeeze his face up in pain when he has been quietly sitting on the couch by himself.

While these qualities are more than concerning to me I am alarmed because I have come across more and more people who know someone or are related to someone who has autism. In reality, I suppose I should not be too surprised since according to Autism Speaks 1 out of 150 people are diagnosed with this disorder. One more child who will have difficulty relating to their world, community, and family. One more child who will not understand how to make friends. One more child who will be kicked out of school because the school does not know how to control and teach her/him. One more child trapped in ASD's powerful and seemingly unbreakable and impossible hold. I implore you to see that change is made in the unfolding story of ASD and that you will make sure the autism and vaccine research is carried. I do not speak for or in place of the young boy I work with, but I speak on his behalf and hope you have it in you to change his future.

I am writing to you to express my outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting. I ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

I object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

I demand reinstatement by the IACC of the vaccine studies that were already approved for the IACC's Autism Research Strategic Plan, and I ask you to restore the funding already allocated to this critical research.

The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Anika Casem

Miruna Stratan

February 04, 2009

Dear Dr. Insel,

Please do not add back vaccine-autism language back into the strategic plan. The plan has been delayed enough.

As you are well aware, some initiatives were inserted into the IACC's Strategic Plan in December which would budget for vaccine related research. As you yourself noted in the January meeting, those initiatives did not go through the standard procedure and were not cleared by the science subcommittees.

I approve of the move to submit those initiatives to a re-vote in the January IACC meeting, and agree with the majority of the IACC members that it is inappropriate to keep these initiatives in the Plan at this time.

In addition, I would like to express my concern that the Strategic Plan process has been significantly delayed already by attempts to incorporate vaccine language, and I would urge you to not allow these delays to continue. Now is the time for the first Strategic Plan to be submitted to congress and for the research called for in the Combating Autism Act to begin.

Respectfully submitted,

Mom of autistic 4 year old

New Jersey

Lydia Maher

February 04, 2009

Dear Dr. Insel,

As you are aware, some initiatives were inserted into the IACC's Strategic Plan in December to budget for vaccine related research. As you noted in the January meeting, those initiatives did not go through the standard procedure and were not cleared by the science subcommittees.

I agree with the majority of the IACC members that it is inappropriate to keep these initiatives in the Plan at this time.

I would also like to express my concern that the Strategic Plan process has been significantly delayed by attempts to incorporate vaccine language, and I would urge you to not allow these delays to continue. Now is the time for the first Strategic Plan to be submitted to congress and for the research called for in the Combating Autism Act to begin.

Yours sincerely,

Lydia Maher

Matt Wiener

February 04, 2009

Dear Dr. Insel,

I support the removal of the (improperly inserted) vaccine-related items in the IACC's strategic plan. An immense amount of research has gone into the search for some - any - connection between vaccines and autism, and there is no scientific reason to be pushing large additional efforts in that direction. This is especially true since it appears that there is no evidence that could persuade the "vaccine sceptics" that there is no link between vaccines and autism.

The attempts to placate vaccine sceptics have already delayed the strategic plan, and therefore have delayed important research. Please put an end to this.

Respectfully,

Matt Wiener

Sandra Baker

February 04, 2009

Thomas R. Insel M.D.
Director, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH

Dear Thomas Insel:

Dear Members of the IACC, Secretary Daschle, Senators and Representatives,

My community is concerned about the alarming increase in autism rates and the impact of autism on the person and families, as well as our school board. I am writing to you to express our outrage at the actions of the IACC at their January meeting, and ask for immediate implementation of the Combating Autism Act in a way that reflects the needs and views of the autism community.

We object to their manipulation of committee procedures to block research on the possible link between vaccines and autism. This research is desperately needed to understand why autism arises and to maintain the public trust in vaccination programs.

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The NIH, CDC and other HHS agencies have inherent conflicts of interest in conducting research on vaccine safety. Research initiatives must be coordinated by an independent committee that includes equal numbers of representatives from the autism-vaccine injured community and conducted by independent and non-biased entities.

Sincerely,

Sandra Baker

Philip Rudnick

February 06, 2009

http://scienceblogs.com/whitecoatunderground/2009/02/kirby_and_kennedy_on_the_wrong.php

If no one else has been thoughtful enough to do so, I now do so. I welcome you.

Welcome to the [offensive language redacted] - you fit in perfectly with them in your characterization of critics of their vaccination policies. I probably missed some of your choice epithets. [Offensive language redacted]. Like them, is there anything else you have to hide?

In the hard sciences of Physics and Chemistry, the inanimate matter investigated is always exactly reproducible - electrons, atoms, molecules...In the soft sciences of Biology and Medicine, no two people are ever exactly alike, the matter studied is very complex and largely uncharted, findings must be treated statistically, so scientists in this area rarely take positions of absolute certainty, physicians are expected to base their treatment of patients on the Precautionary Principle and neither ever call for closing the books on controversial subjects. [Offensive language redacted].

[Offensive language redacted]