Book Review

INJECTION!

by Carol Givner

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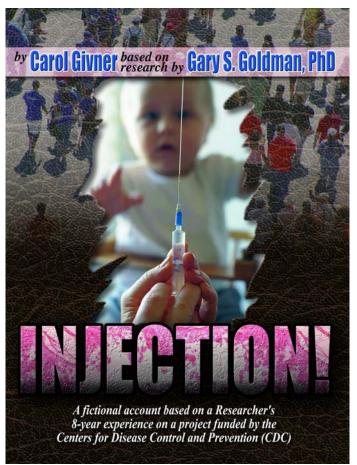
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While this book is written in a fictional setting, the core of the material has a scientific basis. *INJECTION!* presents a unique and often candid look at aspects of the pharmaceutical and medical industries with the goal of revealing major disease trends that are already endangering the health of millions of unwary people. The text investigates how certain medical interventions affect the population at large. More specifically, the narrative addresses issues pertaining to birthing, specific vaccines, adverse vaccine reactions, fluoridated water and more.

The fictitious town of Sycamore Springs, while somewhat rural, is not unlike most urban U.S. cities—including the city in which you, the reader, reside. The water supply is fluoridated (see Appendix I. Fifty Reasons to Oppose Fluoridation) and public health officials strive to achieve their goal of administering all vaccines to all children in a timely fashion according to the childhood immunization schedule. The town physicians all believe that the Universal Varicella (Chickenpox) Vaccination Program is completely safe and will lead to better health of not only children, but all individuals in the community.

The fictional account that you are reading is based on a researcher's true-life experience. In 1994/1995, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) initially funded a Varicella Active Surveillance Project (VASP) to study chickenpox and the effects that the chickenpox vaccine had on each of three U.S. communities: Antelope Valley, California; West Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and Travis County, Texas. The VASP gathered reports of chickenpox cases from sources such as public and private elementary, middle, and high schools, daycares, private physicians, health maintenance organization's (HMOs) offices, hospitals, and other locations so that important trends could be discerned following licensure of the Varivax® vaccine (manufactured by Merck & Co., Inc.) by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on March 17, 1995. Gary S. Goldman, Ph.D., serving as the sole Research Analyst on one of these projects, initially reported dramatic declines in chickenpox cases and other findings associated with increasing administration of the chickenpox vaccine during the first five years following licensure. These data and positive results were welcome and included in manuscripts prepared by the CDC and the local health department for publication in peer-reviewed medical journals. Goldman was listed as a co-author and was encouraged to contribute additional findings that could lead to publication. In 2000, he discovered a preliminary deleterious trend. When Goldman reported this deleterious effect and submitted draft manuscripts for review, these were treated much



differently. At first, he stood alone with his preliminary findings. Later, additional studies would corroborate his hypotheses, translating into increased pain and suffering among millions of individuals throughout the United States.

Seeking to independently publish his research findings in a peer-reviewed medical journal, Goldman first made inquiry at the VASP as to whether the project co-principal investigators as well as those at the CDC desired co-authorship credit. Some months later, after having received no response from his colleagues, Goldman received a letter from the county legal department ordering him to "cease and desist from publishing in a medical journal." Goldman first tried reasoning with the health department attorneys, suggesting that the experienced medical journal editors and assigned peer-reviewers decide whether or not the submitted studies were scientifically sound and sufficiently robust to warrant publication. One attorney replied, "You don't understand, Goldman... they [co-principal investigators of VASP] do not want the studies published." Goldman had his attorney intervene and the issue seemed to be resolved. Goldman's attorney had reasoned, in part, that since the research was funded by the CDC, all results should be available to citizens via the Freedom of Information Act. Three of Goldman's manuscripts were subsequently accepted and published on 18 consecutive pages in the peer-reviewed journal Vaccine. This would not be the last time attempts would be made to suppress Goldman's research and manuscripts.

In Sycamore Springs, as in other cities, many children will fail to be properly diagnosed. Instead, they will demonstrate behavioral difficulties and some will be labeled as troublemakers. This leads to discipline problems in schools, reducing the time that teachers have available to teach. Schools must expand their "opportunity" and other special education classes, leaving few funds to support standard educational programs.

Leading officials from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have stated in their presentations that the varicella vaccine has maintained a protective effect for 20 years in Japan. "Reliable" sources have also cited several studies that show there has been no *statistically* significant increase in shingles incidence in the years following licensure of the varicella vaccine.

As the story unfolds, you will learn how chickenpox and shingles are related and the important role played by annual epidemics or outbreaks of chickenpox in the community. Using studies with flawed methods and improper statistical techniques, public health authorities produce what appears to be supportive documentation for the Universal Varicella Vaccination Program. This keeps confidence high among physicians and patients to encourage the maintenance of high vaccination rates.

If you had been the researcher and had recognized that several key assumptions underlying the Universal Varicella Vaccination Program were invalid, and that eliminating chickenpox would cause an epidemic of a far worse disease, would you have stopped it? Would you have allowed the program to continue, knowing that to ameliorate the deleterious effects experienced by adults, a second vaccine would be needed (along with subsequent booster doses) to offset the effects caused by the first vaccine? Would you have allowed the delicate balance of childhood disease and the natural protection it afforded to be disrupted in the first place, possibly never able to return to the balance that existed in "mother nature" prior to the initiation of the chickenpox vaccination campaign? Or would you have sat back, enjoyed your paycheck, and done nothing to the experimental program that was already in full swing, just watching the epidemic of suffering and death it would bring to the generation of adults who never received the chickenpox vaccine?

Gary S. Goldman, Ph.D. resigned after nearly 8-years on the Varicella Active Surveillance Project (VASP) in October of 2002 on ethical grounds because as he stated, "Whenever research data and information concerning potential adverse effects associated with a vaccine used in human populations are suppressed and/or misrepresented by health authorities, not only is this most disturbing, this goes against all accepted scientific norms. It also dangerously compromises scientists' professional ethics."

INJECTION! presents information that some have tried to suppress and that others would like to cover up. By 2018, you, the reader may likely be affected even though you did not expressly consent. Unknowingly you became a participant in a vaccine experiment for which the long-term consequences were dismissed in exchange for short term profits. Oh, you think, "No one has vaccinated me recently, so this scenario is not plausible and is simply an attempt to create undue fear." To that, the researcher, along with other experts corroborating his hypothesis, would respond: "Paradoxically, over the next 50

years, millions of adults in the U.S. population that did not receive the varicella vaccination will be most affected by the administration of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine to virtually all healthy children starting in 1995."

Without the publication of this book, by the time 2018 rolls around, you might have thought to yourself or outright expressed to others: "Why are so many of us becoming ill? Why are we experiencing such excruciating pain?" You might have blamed the adversities on stress, on poor eating, or perhaps on unhealthy lifestyles. These factors certainly play a contributing role. But, you would never in your right mind have suspected that the majority of suffering and in some cases the fatal outcomes were at the instigation of "health" initiatives by authorities and institutions you had trusted implicitly.

Rising healthcare costs, and numerous other implications, are not unique to Sycamore Springs. They will likely affect all U.S. communities. The problem started when objective research was ignored by the healthcare authorities in office in 2001.

By 2018, many individuals and families will be stressed in order to afford medical insurance coverage. Healthcare premiums will have to rise considerably to compensate for the increases in average annual medical costs. The book's fictional character, Dr. Leviticus, will have seen numerous epidemiological reports corroborating or substantiating the preliminary data reported by "Craig" the researcher documenting the increased incidence of shingles during the early stages of the universal varicella vaccination program.

It is entirely possible that in the real life scenario, these reports will be downplayed to the public, but the HMOs and hospitals will quickly notice the overflow of shingles patients and their related medical expenses. Certainly both the physicians and pharmaceutical firms will be in a quandary as to how to proceed. When the true source of the increasing disease burden is uncovered by the public, the possibility of a class action lawsuit will be real. In all probability, health officials and politicians will recommend laws preventing individuals from seeking compensation for the increased risks of shingles due to implementation of the universal varicella vaccination program. Also, the divorce rate will climb as the stress of raising vaccineinjured children burdens households both emotionally and financially.

INJECTION! does not promote anti-vaccine views. Just because a child is unvaccinated, however, does not mean that the child is unprotected—he or she still has their natural immunity. This book's narrative, supported by published peer-reviewed research and literature provided in the book's appendices, contains practical, cautionary, and balanced admonition that each new vaccine should be thoroughly tested as to its safety. The appendices, authored by leading scientists, researchers, and medical doctors, highlight relevant information supporting the medical issues discussed and will help you to be more fully informed on important health topics.

Whether or not the possible future that *INJECTION!* presents becomes reality will largely depend on what you as the reader learn and do based on your informed conscience.