

Do you know how to spot medical privacy violations in your child's school?

When medical choices and conditions are not kept private, schools:

- violate the very tenets of informed consent,
- create an environment ripe for bullying,
- interfere with students' ability to fully participate in their academic experience, and
- jeopardize kids' mental health.

Even with a near-zero risk of infection from COVID-19, children are facing discrimination when parents choose to not vaccinate them with this experimental intervention that's still in clinical trials.

Healthcare choices are to up to parents, not schools.

Schools are not and have never been the health authority in kids' lives. The parents are. There's too much authority and control claimed over our kids outside the home. If we allow privacy to vanish, we will damage our children in ways we cannot fully grasp and they will start to believe a surveillance state is normal.

State Study

The New Jersey Department of Health released alarming and discriminatory recommendations for schools in "red zones." These recommendations seek to:

- conduct routine COVID-19 screening for unvaccinated students and staff,
- ban vaccine-free students and staff from all extracurricular activities, and
- require twice weekly testing for all students and staff for extracurricular participation, regardless of vaccination status.

We cannot allow this to happen in our schools or set a precedent for any school district.

The NJDOH also has discriminatory Test to Stay guidance that "combines contact tracing and serial testing to allow asymptomatic school associated close contacts who are not fully vaccinated and do not test positive for SARS-CoV-2 to continue in-person learning." This means that the day you're traced, you're tested, and students not fully vaccinated by CDC definition would also be restricted from extracurricular activities.

The problems with this discrimination cannot be overstated:

- The COVID-19 shot doesn't stop transmission.
- The policy is not supported by science or data.
- The long-term risks are unknown.
- Experts and public health officials are starting to call COVID-19 "endemic," meaning we learn to live with it (like the flu). If it's unavoidable, there's absolutely no justification for discrimination.
- The goalposts keep changing—we're getting confusing and contradictory messaging about the definition of "vaccinated" and recommended quarantine periods.
- Exemptions aren't enough—they obliterate medical privacy.

If the shot doesn't stop a child from getting or passing on COVID-19, why discriminate against unvaccinated students?

How do you feel about what's happening at our schools?

Our children's vaccination status is clearly revealed when:

- Coaches and teachers—who aren't trained to protect privacy—ask for it.
- Students are yanked out of classes when nurses tell them, "If you're not vaccinated, go home."
- Select students are lined up down the hall for the nurse's station for testing.
- Certain students are absent ONLY from after school activities with Test to Stay.

SOS: Our Children's Mental Health

With overwhelming scientific evidence that both the vaccinated and unvaccinated can contract and transmit COVID-19, school discrimination policies fall flat. Schools are bullying children to take a medical intervention in exchange for participating in activities that provide a crucial social lifeline.

The mental health of our students is currently in a very fragile state and yet we have school districts ignoring this and doubling down on discriminatory measures. We must ask ourselves—what does this mean for our children's psyches and future leadership capacity? At a time when they're already dealing with epidemic levels of depression, suicide attempts, and mental illness, these discriminatory recommendations will undoubtedly cause further mental strain and irreparable harm.

The statistics are staggering—the current rate of suicide attempt among teenage girls has leapt by as much as half. How can districts ignore this disturbing data and continue to double down on ostracizing vaccine-free students?



State Study

In Indiana, a parental lawsuit is moving forward that will show that approximately 99.7% of kids who were quarantined for one to two weeks at a time didn't in fact have COVID-19. Our children are presumed sick unless proven otherwise and we have to pause and reflect on how this is affecting their mental and emotional wellbeing.

Schools should be a safe place and the critical significance of maintaining and protecting medical confidentiality for our children is being grossly mismanaged. It's in no way acceptable for students to be ostracized or segregated based on medical choices or religious beliefs.

The withholding of in-person education and community with fellow students and teachers is a much greater risk to a child than COVID-19. There's absolutely no justification for prohibiting healthy students from interacting with their peers. Our children have already suffered enough from overly restrictive measures and we must do everything to protect them from further disruption, mental strain, judgment, and undue discrimination.

CITATIONS:

<https://cle.clinic/3oPW6fl>
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<https://bit.ly/3Bi7Ps2>
<https://bit.ly/3HT9Cq4>