

# Ethics paper on the government mandated vaccinations

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Mandatory vaccination of employees The dangerous tendency in the United States and the whole world can't be left unnoticed: the government applies mandatory vaccination. For example, in the state of Mississippi there is a law, according to which only the doctor can release the child from vaccination. Moreover, the officials may not accept such refusal even if it is signed by several doctors and states serious reasons. Another serious problem is vaccination at work. Employees are forced to get vaccinated by employers who threaten to fire them if they refuse.

In such states as Massachusetts, New-Jersey and Maryland the vaccination are imposed by the court's resolution or by the law in force and in some states such laws are being considered. " During the last flu season, a hospital in northern Indiana fired eight workers who refused to get vaccines against the seasonal disease. According to several media reports, IU Health Goshen Hospital had instituted a policy requiring employees to get flu shots. Several employees balked at getting the shots and tried to seek exemptions. The hospital decided not to grant exemptions and terminated the workers when they refused to change their minds" (Alaniz, 2013). Such politics is very similar to the one in national socialist empires, Stalin's regimes and communist China. When the officials are asked to lawful substantiation of such measures as forced vaccination of people even if they consider them to be a real treat for them and their relatives, they refer to the necessity of society protection (Poland et al, 2005). But if the vaccination is not so effective as it is stated by the officials why should we be afraid of unvaccinated people as vaccinated individuals were 100% protected? This question puts officials in difficult situation. The usual answer is: the small

percent of vaccinated will not be protected enough and may be subject to risk (Hayward, 2006). Then it is necessary to recognize that the possibility of vaccination failure is higher than 5% and this leads to the following question: why should we be vaccinated if the protection is doubtful? Collective immunity is a myth as its conception is related to the natural immunity, which if formed in response (Carman et al, 2000). Many experts state that the best way to stop spread of flu is to stay home when we are sick and wear masks (Conley, 2013).

Another question is that forced vaccination is the violation of human rights. Every person should feel free to make his/her own decision on the issue (Shugarman, 2006). Only parents can decide if to vaccinate their child and employees should not be forced to get vaccinated (Thomas et al, 2006). The rights of people should not be violated this way, moreover, there is a risk of unsuccessful vaccination, which can lead even to death. Moreover, if employers want to apply mandatory vaccination, they should refer to certain policies: “ Many employers only require employees who have regular access to patients or individuals with compromised immune systems to receive a flu shot. If a policy is challenged, an employer must be prepared to present its reasonable business interest. Careful consideration of the scope of a mandatory policy prior to implementation can avoid legal issues down the road” (Conley).

The effectiveness of vaccines is not proved, moreover, mandatory vaccination violates human rights, thus, it should not be applied in democratic countries.

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