



Letters to the Editor

Mortality Figures

One of the TNA articles I found particularly interesting was the article on vaccines (“California’s Vaccination Mandate,” October 7 issue). The author indicates that the CDC is telling parents that the current measles mortality rate is 100 to 300 per 100,000 cases. The author further articulates that there have been only two measles deaths in the United States since 2003 and that the mortality rate in 1960 (just before the measles vaccine was developed) was .3 per 100,000, or less than one person per 300,000 cases. Lastly, the mortality rate for the early 1900s was also given, at 10 deaths per 100,000 cases. The question is then asked why the CDC is now citing such high mortality rates.

If the CDC is citing rates of 100 to 300 deaths per 100,000, that number does appear to be inflated. And, it is often said, one can get statistics to show just about anything. To get the actual present measles mortality figure, we need significant data that is not presented in the article: How many cases of measles have occurred since 2003 (with 2003 included)? I looked that up: 3,676 cases. If one does the fourth-grade arithmetic of 3,676 cases with two deaths, the mortality rate over that period of time comes out to 54 per 100,000 measles cases — 54! That number is over five times higher than the mortality rate in the early 1900s, when sanitary conditions were much poorer than they are today.

Further, most years from 2003 to 2018, there have been less than 200 cases of measles per year (with 2011 and 2018 being exceptions, with 1,024 and 667 cases, respectively). In the year 2019 (which isn’t over yet), there have been 1,250 measles cases. Percentage-wise, that is a significant increase, though the number is still negligible when considering the population of the United States.

I am not in favor of mandated vaccines, or even the measles vaccine itself. However, I don’t necessarily discount vaccines altogether. I wonder why the author didn’t calculate that the measles mortality rate from 2003-2019 to 54 per 100,000? That would seem to be a significant data point. The article certainly suggests that the number of vaccines administered and the early ages that they are administered is a problem, which makes sense to me.

Michael Wolf
Sent via e-mail

The Rule of Law

Adolf Hitler was a strong proponent and supporter of it; crazy Bernie Sanders and Hillary Clinton just about adore it; and even Rush Limbaugh has mentioned it positively many times. However, our Founders were not really enamored with it — actually rebelling against its use by the English Parliament and its promulgation by King George. Of course, I am talking about the “rule of law.”

Our Founders were very cognizant of the reason why the Roman Republic morphed into the Roman Empire, a dictatorship. This happened when voters in the Roman Republic passed laws that resulted in the Republic becoming a dictatorship. For this reason our Founders were mistrustful and even fearful of a pure democracy. This is one reason that “the rule of law” cannot be found in the Constitution.

Some will say that “the due process of law” means “the rule of law.” But they are not the same.

The first refers to wording found in the Sixth Amendment and can be described as an “impartial jury.”



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“Law” in “the rule of law” refers to the ability of the legislative process to change the law. If the rule of law was found in the U.S. Constitution, there would not need to be a procedure to amend the Constitution — which there is. To change the Constitution with “the rule of law,” we just have to change the law, not amend the Constitution.

The function of our Constitution, especially the bill of rights, is to protect the unalienable rights that were granted to us by our Creator, not subject us to a legislative process controlled by men.

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