

# OPEN LETTER to VICTORIAN HEALTH MINISTER CALLING for ACTION to END WATER FLUORIDATION

Dear Health Minister Daniel Andrews, and the Victorian Parliament Assembled

We, the undersigned Victorian residents from Geelong and other regions, are present at Parliament House Melbourne on **29<sup>th</sup> July 2009**, with a much larger delegation of citizens and also representing many from our hometowns who cannot be here today. We instruct you, our representative Health Minister, to investigate, understand and act upon our instruction that the practice of Water Fluoridation must End, due to it being:

**UNETHICAL & UNFAIR, UNSCIENTIFIC, UNSAFE, and UNNECESSARY**

## **UNETHICAL & UNFAIR (& ILLEGAL according to international Covenants)**

- a) It is very wrong to force medical / health care treatment (chemical treatment in the case of water fluoridation) upon non-consenting subjects. This principle is enshrined in the *Nuremberg Code*, the *International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights*, and Victoria's *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities*. This principle is incumbent upon all doctors when treating even a single patient, let alone treating an entire community without examining or consulting any of them.
- b) Furthermore the Geelong community received an election promise (2006 and prior) that fluoridation would not proceed unless the community agreed to it. You failed to ask the community. Your department has failed to ask other regional communities, or Melbourne over the last 30 years.
- c) Almost all countries across Europe reject water fluoridation for the official reason that it is **WRONG** to mass medicate people.

## **UNSAFE (health damage to consumers)**

- a) Already many water consumers in the Geelong region are experiencing and reporting illness symptoms since the introduction of fluoride, around the start of July 2009. The illness conditions being publicly reported are generally the typical fluoride toxicity symptoms (skin rashes, fatigue, digestive system pain, joint pain & more) that are well reported in Medical Literature. *Barwon Freedom from Fluoridation* has previously sent you extensive reference lists of this scientific literature Mr Andrews. This enforced treatment of people who suffer fluoride symptoms makes their expectation of leading a normal life no longer possible.
- b) Recent, major reviews of the scientific literature have also identified serious, long-term health risks for many subgroups of vulnerable people, including infants, at daily intakes of fluoride that people **DO** achieve when their water is fluoridated at 1ppm (the standard Victorian amount).
- c) Summaries of this evidence of harm are presented by the approximately 2,600 scientists and medical personnel that have signed the International 'Professionals' Statement to End Water Fluoridation'. See **[www.fluoridealert.org](http://www.fluoridealert.org)** for the Statement, with its evidence base, and the professional signatories including the Nobel Prize winner for medicine (2000) and an Australian Dental Association president. On the same site see the 28 minute video entitled 'Professional Perspectives on Water Fluoridation' in which a number of these scientists, and the Nobel Laureate, explain why fluoridation must end.

## UNNECESSARY (of no benefit)

The reports that the DHS quote, claiming they show that fluoridation is effective in controlling tooth decay, are flimsy, funded by compromised sources, and based on poor quality studies.

The major worldwide review of fluoridation effectiveness is the British Government's '**York Review**' (2000). It found that there is NO high quality evidence showing that fluoridation reduces tooth decay. In addition, the World Health Organization's tooth decay data for the large number of Non-Fluoridating countries of Europe, and elsewhere, demonstrate that Non-Fluoridation is equally effective, or more so, than fluoridation. The DHS refuses to produce, upon request, scientific tooth decay studies comparing regions like Shepparton (fluoridated through the 1980s till now) with non-fluoridated towns like Geelong or Ballarat. The only School Dental Service data available shows that Shepparton experiences worse tooth decay than Geelong.

**Conclusion:** it is probable that fluoridation damages teeth.

## OUR INSTRUCTIONS TO YOU

1. Cease water fluoridation of Geelong and surrounding districts immediately.
2. Move in Parliament to have the *Health (Fluoridation) Act, 1973* repealed and made invalid; and accordingly cease fluoridation across all of Victoria.
3. Correct the failure in *duty of care* of the Department of Human Services by implementing the following study programs (which should have been implemented at commencement of fluoridation decades ago):
  - a. A public call for citizens suffering fluoride side-effects, followed by thorough, independent & transparent testing, reporting and compensating of these sufferers (**as called for by the NHMRC in 1991**),
  - b. Systematic survey of fluoride toxicity biomarkers across the population, plus concentrations of fluoride build-up in bones (**as called for by the NHMRC in 1991**), blood, hair and other tissues, across a large sample of citizens from a wide range of locations, ages, health status and medical conditions.
  - c. Thorough study of Total Fluoride intake from ALL SOURCES (environmental, foods, medicines, pesticides, dental products etc.) across fluoridated and non-fluoridated regions of Victoria,
4. Kindly present this Petition / Letter of Instruction in Parliament immediately.

Yours sincerely

[ The original is signed by the President of *Barwon Freedom from Fluoridation Inc.*  
& six other individuals on this page,  
& and many more Rally attendees on accompanying attached pages ]