

Environmental Health and Safety

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Vaccinations

Mandatory vaccinations are required for children entering public schools in all 50 states.

There are no federal laws requiring mandatory vaccinations.

Due to vaccination, an estimated 732,000 lives of American children were saved from death between 1994 and 2014.

Each year since 1990, there have been 30,000 adverse reactions to vaccines reported in the United States.

Every vaccine is tested for safety by the Food and Drug Administration, and tested again by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.



A vaccine is a mixture of biological materials that is entered into the immune system, in order to cause an immunity to a specific illness or infection. It is important to become aware of the potential for a vaccine to prevent infectious diseases.

It is also important to know why many people have beliefs behind not using vaccines. One of the main reasons people are anti-vaccine is because some ingredients contained in vaccines originate from animals. It is a violation of vegan values to have any animal materials enter the body in any way.

Vaccines can also violate religious values. Some religions believe that the body must be healed by a higher power, with no assistance from chemicals or the blood and tissue of animals.

In order to become educated about vaccines, we must be aware of why they both should and should not be used.

Pros

- Vaccines can save lives.
- The ingredients in vaccines are used in safe amounts.
- Major medical organizations, including the CDC and FDA, state vaccinations are safe.
- Adverse side effects to vaccinations are very rare, the most common being allergic reactions.
- Vaccines protect future generations by providing pregnant women the opportunity to keep unborn children healthy.
- Smallpox has been eliminated by vaccines, and Polio is almost eliminated as well.

Cons

- Vaccines can cause serious and sometimes fatal adverse reactions.
- There are potentially harmful ingredients in vaccines.
- It is not the right of the government to make personal medical choices.
- Mandatory vaccines intrude on constitutionally protected religious beliefs.
- Vaccines contain ingredients that can be considered immoral.
- Some of the diseases targeted by vaccines have practically disappeared, making the vaccinations unnecessary.



Resources

[Pros and Cons of Mandatory Vaccinations](#)

[Cultural Perspectives on Vaccination](#)

[Vaccine Safety: The Facts](#)

[Six Reasons to Say No to Vaccination](#)

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Don't learn safety by accident