The Mature Minor Doctrine – What it Means For You & Your Child

The Mature Minor doctrine incorporated into BC’s Infant’s Act in 1993 and Ontario’s Health Care Consent Act in 1996, allows minor children of no specific age, to make their own medical decisions without parental knowledge or consent.

The Mature Minor doctrine gives children the same basic right as adults enjoy, namely the right to voluntary informed consent when considering a medical treatment, and the right to refuse it. Unfortunately, public health officials are given free rein to conduct vaccine clinics in Canadian schools without any oversight, and have for many years ignored the informed consent ethic as it applies to underage children. Children as young as 10 or 11 can be vaccinated without parental knowledge or consent.

The legal and ethical right to voluntary informed consent without coercion is regularly abused by public health nurses conducting vaccination programs in the school setting in several ways – especially in Ontario.

1. When parental consent has not been obtained, (even if a legal vaccine exemption is on file), minor children of no specific age may be told by public health nurses that they have the right to make their own vaccine decision, and do NOT need their parents’ permission to get the shots.
2. Children are NOT given full vaccine risk information as disclosed by manufacturers’ information sheets.
3. Students without an exemption on file are threatened with school suspension if they don’t submit to the vaccines being offered, creating a climate of fear, intimidation and coercion.
4. When children are coerced to submit to vaccination under threat of school suspension, the accepted ethical parameters of the basic human right to voluntary, informed consent are violated.
5. Vaccine compliance elicited from children under threat of suspension and who are not informed they have the legal right to refuse vaccination, constitutes an extreme form of bullying and coercion and is construed under Canadian Medical Law as a “battery” as well as a violation of our Charter rights.

The “Mature Minor” doctrine usurps parental authority giving governments the power to coerce children into making health care decisions that conflict with family values. Every reasonable person knows that a 10 or 11 year old child does not have the maturity or life experience to evaluate the risks or benefits of receiving one or multiple vaccines. A child this young is incapable of making an informed decision about complex medical issues. Added to this insult is the pro-vaccine propaganda disseminated in the public school system which paints a rosy picture of vaccines without disclosing the very real risks of injury associated with all vaccines.

At best, school based vaccination programs could be described as ‘assembly line’ medicine that overrides and ignores children’s legal right to make a voluntary, informed decision about the vaccine treatment they are submitting to. At worst, the Mature Minor doctrine applied to children who are captive to public health dictates in the school setting, is a profound violation of the spirit and intent of ethical and legal norms in medicine. The Mature Minor doctrine enables public health employees to prey on the vulnerability of minor children in order to impose its vaccine agenda. It enables public health officials to override all normal ethical and legal rules governing medical treatments that carry a risk of injury and death.

Children in the school setting are NOT told that vaccination is VOLUNTARY in Canada as confirmed by Health Canada in this statement: “Unlike some countries, immunization is not mandatory in Canada; it cannot be made mandatory because of the Canadian Constitution.”

When students are not adequately informed of the documented risks associated with vaccines as outlined in Section 38 of Ontario’s Health Promotion and Protection Act or as disclosed in vaccine product monographs, when they are not informed of their legal right to refuse this medical procedure as stipulated by both the Health Care Consent Act and the Immunization of School Pupils Act, we have a complete abandonment of protection of the legal rights of minor children and imposition of medical tyranny on a captive population.

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Immunization 2020 – What it Means

In December, 2015, the Ontario government unveiled its Immunization 2020 Modernizing Ontario’s Publicly Funded Immunization Program.¹

Immunization 2020 is a road map describing in detail how the Ontario provincial government plans to increase vaccine uptake across the broad spectrum of society. Its goal is to maximize vaccine uptake for every man, woman and child from birth to death. Everyone is targeted for vaccination with all currently licensed and future vaccines. Think “cradle to grave” vaccination for all.

Bill 87, the legislative amendment which will narrow parents’ access to vaccine exemptions for their children is built into the Immunization 2020 plan and is the first of many moves that will move our society towards mandatory vaccination for all. Immunization 2020 is a plan that’s been simmering behind closed doors for many years. It is the brain child of the pharmaceutical industry - a prime example of how government policies and health regulators have been captured by the drug industry.²

Immunization 2020 flaunts this tired old canard; “Immunization has saved more lives in Canada than any other health initiative in the last 50 years, and is widely acknowledged as one of the greatest achievements in public health.” Anyone who has studied the history of infectious diseases recognizes this statement as pure propaganda. Medical historians acknowledged long ago that mortality declined dramatically BEFORE mass vaccination programs were implemented. Mass vaccination programs started AFTER mortality from infectious diseases had already declined by 95-99.9%. The dramatic decline in mortality is attributed to basic public health improvements such as less crowded housing, better nutrition, clean water, sanitation. These are the measures that underpin the great declines in mortality, NOT vaccination.

Immunization 2020 tells us that, “Immunization is one of the most cost-effective health interventions we have. By keeping people healthy and preventing disease, immunization reduces the burden on the health care system and has a positive effect on the economy.” Absent is a comprehensive assessment of the real cost of aggressive vaccination policies on human health. Studies comparing the long term health outcome of fully vaccinated people with those who have not been injected with these complex biochemical drugs have NEVER been done. Absent is any concern about the chronic diseases now afflicting increasing numbers of children; autoimmune disorders, chronic debilitating diseases like asthma, allergies, anaphylaxis, neuroimmune disorders, youth mental illness, epilepsy, intractable seizure disorders, learning disabilities, autism, diabetes, cancer, now evident in the legions of fully vaccinated but chronically sick children who are now the new norm.

And this Orwellian statement, “Together, we will make Ontarians healthier for generations to come by reducing vaccine-preventable diseases through a high performing, integrated immunization system”. Intensified vaccination will predictably lead to an overall reduction in the quality of human health, will increase the burden of chronic debilitating diseases, will decrease life expectancy, and costs to our healthcare system.

Immunization 2020 plans to intensify pro-vaccine messaging aimed at children. “We will collaborate with the education sector to develop an immunization teaching module that public health units could offer to interested schools....[and]....“by explaining the benefits of immunization to children and youth early in schools, they will make more informed immunization decisions when they become adults and parents.” Today school children in Ontario are prime targets of pro-vaccine messaging delivered by public health nurses who violate the moral, ethical and legal parameters of informed consent as set out in public health laws meant to protect people from medical and government over reach.