Referenced Statement Barbara Loe Fisher Co-founder & President National Vaccine Information Center U.S. Senate Event sponsored by Senator Ron Johnson What Are They Hiding? Feb. 26, 2024

Thank you Senator Johnson for this opportunity to talk about how vaccine victims have been blamed, shamed and betrayed over the years by doctors and scientists paid by federal agencies and industries, and by some members of Congress working especially since 2019 with political operatives and corporate media to silence anyone who criticizes vaccine science, policy and law so the truth can be hidden, and public conversations about vaccine risks and failures can be shut down. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Today, everybody knows somebody who was healthy, got vaccinated and was never healthy again. ⁹ ¹⁰ Of all developed nations in the world, America has the worst infant and maternal mortality rates and is home to the most highly vaccinated, but the sickest and most disabled child and young adult populations. ¹¹ ¹² ¹³ ¹⁴ ¹⁵ ¹⁶ ¹⁷ ¹⁸

That inconvenient truth, that failing public health report card bankrupting our nation, 19 is central to what we are talking about today.

Demonization of and discrimination against those who decline to get a government recommended vaccine - or talk publicly about how they or a loved one were injured or died after vaccination - has been going on since the 19th century. ²⁰ But what is happening in the 21st century in the name of disease control, national security and "the greater good" is escalation of an historic denial of vaccine risks and failures that has become a dangerous assault on freedom of thought, speech and conscience, and poses a grave threat to the biological integrity and natural rights of the people. ²¹ ²² ²³ ²⁴

It has been 44 years since my two year old son was brain injured by his fourth DPT shot, ²⁶ and 42 years since I watched the Emmy award winning documentary *DPT: Vaccine Roulette*, ²⁷ and then joined with other parents of pertussis vaccine injured children to establish the charity known today as the National Vaccine Information Center at NVIC.org. ²⁸ ²⁹ Our mission is to prevent vaccine injuries and deaths through public education. We do not make vaccine use recommendations. We defend the ethical principle of informed consent to medical risk taking and the legal right for adults to make voluntary vaccine decisions for themselves and on behalf of their minor children without being coerced or punished for the decision made. ³⁰ ³¹ ³²

I worked with parents and Congress to secure safety and informed consent provisions in the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986. ³³ It was an historic law, the first official acknowledgment by government that federally licensed and state mandated vaccines can and do injure and kill some children.

On Jan. 4, 2024, my eyewitness perspective on how and why child vaccine victims and their parents were betrayed after that law was passed 38 years ago was featured in a

two-hour conversation I had with Del Bigtree on "The Highwire." ³⁴ I encourage everyone to watch it and learn how parents trusted that the five years of work we put into that 1986 Act - to successfully secure life-saving informing, recording, reporting and research provisions; and to protect the legal right of vaccine victims to sue vaccine manufacturers for product design defect and to sue negligent doctors for medical malpractice; and to create an expedited, more just, less traumatic federal vaccine injury compensation system alternative to a lawsuit - were destroyed by congressional amendments, ³⁵ federal health agencies ³⁶ and the U.S. Supreme Court ³⁷ after the law was passed.

Following that betrayal of trust, Congress directed federal agencies to create lucrative public-private business partnerships ³⁸ with the pharmaceutical industry, a business deal that has broken America's public health system. Legislation enacted in the 1990's ^{39 40 41 42 43} and after Sept. 11, 2001 ^{44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51} laid the groundwork for the rise of a public health empire, which is funded and operated by government and the wealthiest and most politically powerful individuals, corporations, and public and private institutions in the world. ^{52 53 54 55 56} Now those operating that empire are threatening our legal right in this constitutional republic to exercise freedom of thought, speech and conscience. ⁵⁷

Past is prologue. The betrayal of the public trust during the COVID pandemic could not have happened if many of the leaders we elected had not long ago abandoned rational thinking, and succumbed to fear based propaganda tactics requiring us to give up the natural right to autonomy for an illusion of safety. ⁵⁸ ⁵⁹

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