

Chris Taggart

From: bjhoy@localnet.com
Sent: Saturday, April 9, 2022 2:51 PM
To: Ravalli County Commissioners Office
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Children still being severely damaged

Dear Ravalli County Commissioners and Ravalli County Board of Health,

When someone kills wildlife, it is poaching. When someone kills domestic animals, it is stealing. When someone kills children, it is murder. If someone assists the people doing those crimes, aren't they considered to be an accomplice?

In 1997, I gave a presentation to the County Commissioners concerning the birth defects on the wild and domestic animals. I also told the County Board of Health about the increase in serious birth defects on human newborns. Nothing was done. In 2001, the Ravalli County Study Group which had as one of its members a member of the Board of Health, issued a report that the birth defects on the wild and domestic animals were occurring as I described them and gave a number of suggestions for what should be done. Again nothing was done. In 2002, our first study concerning the high prevalence of one of the birth defects was published in a peer reviewed paper and brought to your attention. Nothing was done. Ectopic testes on male animals is still occurring in a high prevalence (over 30%) on our study animal, white-tailed deer and is obvious on other grazing animals, especially bison. In 2011, our second study concerning the very high prevalence of disrupted facial bone growth was published in a peer reviewed paper and brought to your attention. Nothing was done. That birth defect has declined in prevalence, but is still high enough in prevalence to be concerning. In 2015, our third study on the multiple birth defects on wild and domestic animals and correlation with the same birth defects on human newborns was published in a peer reviewed journal and brought to your attention. Still nothing was done to save the children or the other animals from birth defects and death. Nothing has been done to actually address or try to mitigate the harm being done to newborns in all of those 25 years.

There is now a new study by Laubscher et al. 2022. "Multiple neonicotinoids in children's cerebro-spinal fluid, plasma and urine"

<https://doi.org/10.1186/s12940-021-00821-z>. They tested cerebro-spinal fluid (CSF) of 14 children. All CSF and plasma samples were positive for at least one neonicotinoid insecticide. Nine (64%) CSF samples and 13 (93%) plasma samples contained more than one neonicotinoid and found thirteen (93%) CSF samples had N-desmethyl-acetamidid the major metabolite (break down product) of acetamidid, a metabolite of neonicotinoids. Considering that just two seeds with imidacloprid on them cause adult birds to become disoriented and lost during migration and tiny exposures cause bees to become lost so they can't find their hive, it is highly likely that exposure to neonicotinoids to the brains of developing human fetuses and to growing children is also very damaging. Additionally, as you were told many, many times, human babies began being born with the same birth defects as the other animals the year immediately after 1994, when imidacloprid began being used in high amounts on fields in states upwind of western Montana. At that same time, small amounts began being used on fields in western Montana.

The cerebro-spinal fluid goes to the brain, thus having brain damaging insecticides in the CSF of a high prevalence of tested children would seem to warrant great concern. If this finding does not prompt you to at least ask the EPA to do something about the birth defects and other health issues on children and other animals in Ravalli County, I guess that will confirm that you are willing to be considered to be accomplices in the maiming and death that has happened to Ravalli County newborns since neonicotinoids, especially imidacloprid, began being used here and in states upwind.

Sincerely,
Judy Hoy

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