A long time ago people crossed the ocean to arrive on the East Coast of what we now call the United States of America. They came for many reasons.

But as the Declaration of Independence points out the British ruler was, "unfit to be the ruler of a free people. Many early Americans sought a life where they could have more control over their destiny. Where they could be independent, think for themselves and have control over their destiny.

Today from everybody of government there is an endless quest to create new laws. Many of these laws are framed with the idea that they will benefit people but often they come with a loss of freedom for some. Does the idea that something is okay because it's for that greater good hold water? Besides who gets to decide what the greater good is?

Some Americans still want to be independent, to think for themselves and have control over their destiny.

Our country seems confused as though it was beginning to fray and fall apart. More rules are not the solution. They never have been and they never will be.

At a time when we kill thousands of babies via abortion, how is it that we then have great concern that people might get sick because some people are not vaccinated? This does not seem logical. This does not make sense. It feels like someone's agenda.

Yes, some people do mental gymnastics and claim it's a fetus, not a baby. One can play any number of mental games to ease their conscience and justify their aims. It does not change reality.

Yes, you might say that one child being aborted does not affect many people. The idea that an unvaccinated person may become sick and infect numerous people as possible. But what gifts to the world are being killed when a baby is aborted? What might that person have given to the world, to the people it would've interacted with and helped?

In a world where we like to say science rules and that we got here by accident, what does it matter if a child or an elderly person dies from a disease? It's just chance that they happen to be here.

What really drives the desire to pass laws to ensure that more people are vaccinated?

Would research indicate that vaccination was not all it's been claimed to be even change the opinions of people who make billions in the industry?

There has been technology to greatly reduce our reliance on fossil fuels for years. However huge corporations that stand to lose millions if we shifted our energy requirements quickly have suppressed these technologies. Why? Because it was for the good of the people or because it was good for their bottom line and the bottom line of their investors.

Most large fossil fuel companies give lip service to green energy because our culture is demanding it. So to the pharmaceutical companies are mostly interested in what will bring profit to their companies. Their primary interest is not the well-being and the welfare of the people.

Both industries have clearly shown that if they can get away with something they will absolutely do it. There are better ways to prevent disease just as there are better ways to reduce our needs for fossil fuels and to create a more sustainable lifestyle for our planet.

One must consider when rules are sought who will benefit monetarily. Corporations are skilled at hiding the real motivation. They create third-party groups that appear to be independent and encourage them to promote their agenda often without them even realizing they're promoting the corporations' agenda.

The pharmaceutical companies routinely offer benefits to doctors, researchers, and legislators because it creates reciprocity bias. They don't do it because of charity. They do it because it helps them grow their business.

When any system has money as a motivator motive almost always become misaligned with what is best.

Oregon already has a very high vaccination rate. This law will hardly change vaccination rates but it will infringe on the liberties of some people. People who value and desire to live in a country in a society where they can think for themselves and make choices for themselves and their family without the government controlling what they do.

I'm sure that the lawmakers supporting this bill honestly believe they're doing what is right. I want to believe that. But just because they think they're doing what is right does not make it right.

It's easy today to take advantage of a measles outbreak and blow it up in the media. While the powers that be cannot control what we think they can control what we think about. If the media is flooded with stories lamenting the woes of the measles outbreak it becomes what people think about. It takes on a life that is bigger than it really is. It also creates a great opportunity to leverage the heightened awareness created by the media in order to push new legislation if you believe that's what should be done.

It is vital for the health of America that we stop creating more laws. We need to educate people to think and reason from cause to effect so that they may make principled choices and decisions.

Empower the people versus telling them what they must do is the issue at stake.

Yes, everyone's choice will impact other people for as they say no one is an island. But governments will never be able to create enough laws to make a perfect world. In fact, it is my opinion that by trying to they simply are making matters worse.

## I oppose House Bill 3063. Let people make their own choices.

Some may feel that one person's choice to not vaccinate could cause others to die and that might be true. But every day hundreds of thousands of Oregonians get in a car. When they get in a car they placed their lives at risk, it's a choice.

We don't take away someone's driver's license thus taking away their choice to drive because they might cause an accident that could kill numerous people. And yet we know there will be accidents and that people will die every month.

When you go out in public you take a risk that you may become infected with a disease. It's just a part of life you cannot legislate absolute safety. There are actually much more important issues to take our time and energy.

If we're not careful we'll ruin this planet and it won't even be able to support people whether they are vaccinated or not.

Trevor Wilson --Trevor