

RADIO CHURCH OF GOD
Box 111
WORLD HEADQUARTERS
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG
PRESIDENT and PASTOR
Broadcasting
The WORLD TOMORROW

Publishing
The PLAIN TRUTH
a Magazine of UNDERSTANDING

August 17, 1962

Mr. Mason Reardon, Chairman
Sabin Oral Polio Vaccination Committee
P. O, Box 254
Gilmer, Texas

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to your letter of August 10, I would like to state briefly our position regarding the Administering of oral or other vaccines.

As you may know, we do believe thoroughly in the Bible doctrine of Divine Healing. We are not, however, a Church that unduly emphasizes healing, nor do we make it a primary part of our message to the world in our world-wide evangelistic effort.

Privately, however, and as a Church, we encourage members to trust in God for their protection and their healing should sickness or disease occur. If a member is weak in faith, there is no arbitrary decision made for him, nor is there coercion by any member of the Church upon any other member as to whether he seeks the aid of organized medicine.

We have in our possession, gathered by our world-wide news bureau, with wire services directly into Ambassador College campus, thick sheafs of statistical evidence which completely render as false some of the claims connected with the sabin oral vaccine. What is considered "satisfactory results" with this vaccine?

For example, in the Dallas Morning News, for July 13, this year, an article appeared which stated out of nine polio cases, six had received Salk shots, in some cases all three of them.

Meanwhile, in New York, where sabin vaccines were being administered, more polio victims were being counted. A clipping from the New York Daily News said, "Three of those stricken had received Sabin oral vaccine during a mass immunization program." Headlines in the Oregon Journal said recently, "5 in state get polio despite vaccine use." The article reported ALL of the cases followed administration of the second dose of Sabin oral polio vaccine. One of the stricken had also taken the Salk shot.

In the Springfield Daily News, on November 16, 1961, families were seriously warned that polio serum can infect unvaccinated persons. That is, that the vaccinated person becomes a carrier of the live virus, and that members of his own family can and actually HAVE contracted the disease simply from being in close contact with a vaccinated person.

In a clipping from Atlanta, September 15, last year, it was noted that eleven persons had been stricken who had just recently taken Sabin vaccine. In a world affairs conference in Colorado, a noted biologist said plainly (reported in the Rocky Mountain News) that the Salk vaccine may ultimately "kill millions of Americans." He said it particularly may "destroy the human kidney" and that it would be "ten years from the first use of the vaccine before anyone knows." Let me quote him further. His is not the stand of religion, but of his own profession. "The Salk vaccine is frankly a mess. We rushed into the program without any real reason to believe it was effective, and without taking precautions." Richard L. Meier, research associate in behavioral science at Michigan University, said those who decided to use the Salk vaccine knew not only the theoretical risks, but also the demonstrated risks.

This is only the beginning of the mass of evidence, some of it starkly frightening, all of it decidedly revealing. One frankly frightening article appeared in the Chicago American recently. It said, in part, "Children with four, five, and six shots have been known to develop polio. While such cases are few, their increasing number in the last few years -- national figures show that 23 percent of paralytic polio is now occurring in persons who have three or more doses of vaccine -- is of grave concern to health officials."

Just last year, Massachusetts' children, after 150,000 of them had been inoculated, had ten times the amount of polio than EVER BEFORE!

The statistics are endless, it seems -- and they are absolutely frightening in their implications. Health officials argue there is only a small risk. But the fact remains -- there IS A RISK! The final paragraph on the mimeographed form you enclosed should in itself be an acknowledgement of this fact, that "there is no responsibility on the part of the administering officials for any reactions."

I take the time to thoroughly explain our position on this particular point, Mr. Reardon, so you will understand. We are not "faith-healing fanatics." We thoroughly believe in "proving all things," however, and have seen clear proof from the medical profession itself that the risk involved in taking live virus from infected monkey kidneys into the human system can result in unpredictable ways. We, therefore, candidly lay these facts before Church members, and let them know of the dangers and risks involved.

I believe one more factor is important. The doctors have plainly said that vaccinated persons pose far more threat to UNvaccinated persons so far as possible carriers of the disease is concerned. Therefore, the people of Big Sandy will have nothing to fear whatsoever from our un-vaccinated Church members. We cannot recommend to our Church members that they join in the vaccination program.

Thank you very much for your candid letter. Please be assured this is our private belief and conviction, and that we do not engage in any active public condemnation of any vaccinations, nor attempt to thwart the free practice of others who, just as we do, enjoy the matchless privilege of living in the great country which guarantees complete freedom of religion! We have always had very happy and convivial relationships with our fine neighbors in Big Sandy and Upshur County.

Very sincerely yours,

Garner Ted Armstrong

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
UPSHUR COUNTY

P.O. Box 254
Gilmer, Texas

Radio Church of God
Herbert W. Armstrong
President and Pastor
Box 111
Pasadena, California

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

We are writing in regards to the new Sabin Oral Polio Vaccine, which is sponsored by the Upshur County Chamber of Commerce and authorized by the Upshur County Medical Association. We would like for you to let your people of Big Sandy, Texas, know if it will be all right for them to have this vaccine.

Enclosed you will find a copy of the program. We feel that it is a vital need for everyone to have this vaccine. We believe that by all having it, we will not only help keep down the disease but also help those who are carriers.

Please notify us what you decide and also your church in Big Sandy. We plan to have the first vaccine administered September 15th. The people there in Big Sandy endorse it wholeheartedly and of course the Medical Association does also, in fact they are mostly responsible for people having this opportunity.

Hoping to hear from you at an early date.

Sincerely yours,

Mason Reardon, Chairman
Sabin Oral Polio Vaccination Committee

FACT SHEET - SABIN ORAL POLIO VACCINE

IS POLIO ALWAYS CAUSED BY THE SAME VIRUS?

There are three different known types of polio virus which cause poliomyelitis. In order to be protected against polio, an individual must be protected against all three types. There are separate oral vaccines against all three types of poliovirus.

WHAT IS THE ORAL VACCINE?

It is a live virus vaccine which helps the body develop immunity. Unlike many other vaccines, however, it can be taken by mouth.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SABIN ORAL VACCINE AND THE SALK VACCINE?

The Salk vaccine is a killed virus vaccine. Although the three types are combined into one vaccine, four shots are given over a period of 9 to 15 months. With Sabin Oral Vaccine, each type is given separately by mouth, four to eight weeks apart. The vaccine works fast, usually within a week.

HOW EXTENSIVELY HAS THE SABIN ORAL VACCINE USED?

The Sabin vaccine has been given to more than 100 million people throughout the world with satisfactory results reported. Millions of doses have been given in the United States.

HOW EFFECTIVE IS THE SABIN ORAL VACCINE?

The oral vaccine acts to produce an intestinal barrier against poliovirus as well as antibodies in the bloodstream. Thus, it is expected that the vaccine will help prevent vaccinated persons from carrying the disease as well as help protect them against poliovirus.

SHOULD YOU HAVE ORAL VACCINE IF YOU HAVE ALREADY HAD SALK VACCINE?

Yes, it is wise to take the oral vaccine. It will increase your protection and help you protect other persons in the community.

HOW IS IT GIVEN?

A dose of vaccine can be mixed with distilled water and taken by cup or spoon; it can be given to infants by dropper or put on a sugar cube for older children and adults.

WHO MAY TAKE THE ORAL VACCINE?

The vaccine may be given to persons six weeks of age or older. In this immunization program, vaccine will be given to all ages.

WHERE WILL IT BE GIVEN? _____

WHEN WILL IT BE GIVEN? _____

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST? _____

I hereby request that the Upshur County Medical Association give me and my minor children (listed on this page below), a polio vaccination for a small donation of 25 cents or more per person.

I am asking this voluntarily and will not hold the Upshur County Medical Association responsible for any reaction I or my minor children may have as a result of the vaccination.

MINOR CHILDREN

Signature
