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LA 2 HR 1

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The Big Debate

To vaccinate or not, that is the question. The recent 'comeback' of so-called vanquished diseases like the measles, mumps, and rubella has caused a stir among Americans. According to Monica Anderson of Pew Research Center, "Today measles cases are extremely rare, but the CDC reported a spike in 2014, with more than 600 measles, the first jump in more than a decade" (Anderson 1). This spike could have been prevented by those individuals who chose NOT to vaccinate their children. Scientists and doctors worked diligently to create the vaccines that would eventually take Americans to the forefront of medicine. Parents should vaccinate their children because the benefits outweigh the risks, unvaccinated individuals are a main contributor to spread of disease, and there is no proof that vaccines cause autism.

① The benefits of vaccines far outweigh the perceived risks. Many parents are misinformed when it comes to the dangers of vaccinations. In an article written by Dr. Sanjay Gupta, he states, "That you are 100 times more likely to be struck by lightning than to have a serious allergic reaction to the vaccine that protects you against measles..." (Gupta 1). Dr. Gupta is explaining how unlikely it is to have any of the side effects associated with vaccines. There is such a small chance of a reaction that it is not worth taking the chance of not vaccinating your children.

↑
- Now, do this one more time in Body 1 !

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Body 1. Besides the risks from vaccines being low, parents should vaccinate their children so they don't spread preventable diseases.

* Transition to Body 2

Proof (2) Unvaccinated individuals are often the main cause to spread of disease. Many diseases are preventable with a simple vaccination. Children who are unvaccinated can often catch a disease and spread that disease to others. Introduce Quote In an article written by Monica Anderson of the Pew

Research Center, she informs us that, "As the number of measles cases linked to the California outbreak climbs to over 100, health officials are urging parents to properly immunize their children, citing unvaccinated individuals as a main contributor to the disease's spread"

DATA
EVID.

P. (Anderson 1). The spread of the measles is something that the U.S. hasn't seen in decades.

Reasoning

The research shows that unimmunized children are putting other individuals at risk and causing preventable diseases to resurface. Further proof that unvaccinated individuals are often the main

cause to spread of disease is... One more example of data/evidence needed for Body 2. Even

though the evidence supporting vaccines is astounding, some people may believe that

vaccinating your child is a parents' choice.

* Transition to Counter Arg.

Even though the evidence supporting vaccines is astounding, some people may believe that vaccinating your child is a parents' choice.

*Transition to Body 3
(Counter Arg.)*

Allowing parents to choose to not vaccinate their children is something that people may support. The problem with this choice is that many parents are not well-educated or well-

*Counter
* Arg.*

informed enough to make this decision that affects not only their child, but everyone's child who comes into contact with the unvaccinated individual. Many parents who choose not to vaccinate

make this decision out of fear that their child will develop autism from the vaccines. Fortunately,

there is no proof that vaccines cause autism. ** Introduce Quote* According to Dr. Gupta, "Studies including a meta

analysis of 1.2 million children this past December, show no link between vaccines and autism

** Evidence*

(Gupta 2). This common worry by parents is completely false. There has been medical research conducted proving vaccines do not cause autism in children. Most of the fears that parents

** Reasoning*

develop are due to lack of information or even inaccurate information often posted on the

Internet by those who lack experience and knowledge on the topic. Valid information is available

for parents at any pediatrician's office. Educating oneself on the benefits and risks of vaccines is

one of the most important things a parent can do when making the choice to vaccinate or not.

** Wrap-up*

** Rebuttal*

P.C.