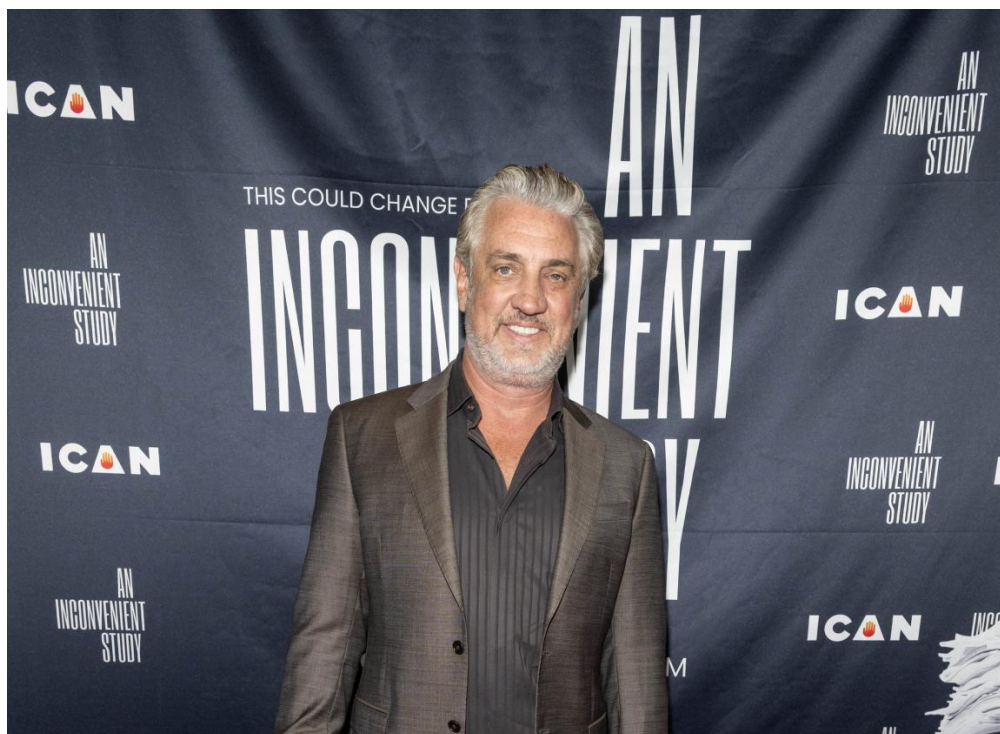


New documentary Del Bigtree puts a bomb under the entire vaccination program



Toine de Graaf | October 19, 2025



Producer Del Bigtree at the Malibu Film Festival on October 12, 2025, where the world premiere of "An Inconvenient Study" will be screened at the Directors Guild of America. Photography: Eugene Powers Photography | Shutterstock

Hidden study shows: unvaccinated children healthier than vaccinated ones

In 2020, renowned researchers at a well-known American institute conducted a major study showing that vaccinated children have significantly more chronic diseases than unvaccinated children. However, this explosive study was quickly shelved. This is revealed in the new documentary "An Inconvenient Study" by American medical journalist Del Bigtree, which premiered last Sunday at the Malibu Film Festival. The documentary has sparked shocked reactions. "This is going to have a global impact," predicts Door Frankema, author of the book "Vaccin Vrij!" (Vaccine Free!).

The US government has been emphasizing for years that its extensive childhood vaccination program—the most comprehensive in the world—is safe. US health authorities have denied any link between the numerous vaccinations children receive and the steady increase in allergic conditions like asthma, autoimmune diseases, and neurodevelopmental disorders like autism that American children suffer from. Critics have long urged proper research comparing the health of vaccinated children with that of unvaccinated ones. Smaller studies have been conducted in the past, showing that vaccinated children were sicker over time than unvaccinated children, but these have consistently been dismissed by government agencies as "flawed." The authors of these studies also immediately ran into problems, sometimes losing their medical licenses overnight, such as Portland pediatrician Paul Thomas, who was forced to close his practice. In his new documentary, "An Inconvenient Study," medical journalist Del Bigtree reveals that a major study on this sensitive topic was indeed conducted in the US in 2020 by uncontroversial scientists from a prestigious research institute, the Henry Ford Health Institute (HFH) in Detroit. This study also showed that unvaccinated children are healthier than vaccinated ones. However, this new study was never published. The documentary, for which the Malibu Film Festival rolled out the red carpet last Sunday, explains why. The film was originally scheduled to premiere on October 3rd, but when the festival management approached Bigtree, the choice was easy. His patience has since been rewarded, as his documentary became the festival's big winner.

Malibu Film Foundation founder David Katz didn't have to compete with competitors, for the simple reason that no other festival management would have dared to program this documentary. "An Inconvenient Study" is too explosive for that. Katz and his creative director Nikki Carbonetta had long been fans of Bigtree, known for his online platform The Highwire and making a name for himself in the previous decade with the film "Vaxxed," in which a whistleblower from the CDC (the American National Institute for Public Health and the Environment) stated that his institute committed "scientific fraud" with vaccine safety studies.

The new documentary was a long time in the making, but was ultimately produced in just a few months. The first seed was planted in 2016 during a dinner in Detroit, Michigan, as Bigtree explained last week in a video interview with Vaccine Safety Research Foundation (VSRF) founder Steve Kirsch. While American children were getting increasingly sicker according to official figures and critics were pointing the finger at the vaccination program, no one seemed willing to undertake a large-scale comparative study of vaccinated and unvaccinated children. "What we need is an uncontroversial researcher who strongly supports vaccination and wants to work with reliable data," Bigtree and his team fantasized. It seemed like searching for a needle in

a haystack until, through Vaxxed, he connected with Dr. Marcus Zervos, chief of infectious diseases at the highly regarded HFH Institute in Detroit.

During their dinner, Zervos acknowledged that no safety study had been conducted on the vaccination program to date. Bigtree asked him if he would be able to do so. Zervos confirmed, citing HFH's extensive database. Bigtree further warned Zervos that he would come under fire if he conducted such a study. Zervos dismissed the warning and declared that he would follow the science wherever it led.

In 2018, Bigtree and Zervos met for a second dinner. This time, the vaccine injury lawyer Aron Siri, with whom Bigtree had long collaborated in the Informed Consent Action Network (ICAN), which he founded, also joined them. Together, they challenged Zervos: "Prove us wrong. Show that vaccinated children are healthier than unvaccinated ones. You'll be a hero for finally silencing the anti-vaxxers." Zervos replied: "I'll do the study." And: he would publish the findings, whatever they might be.

But in 2020, Bigtree received a shocking phone call from Siri: Zervos had completed the study but wasn't going to publish it. Siri was given access but was not allowed to do anything further with it. The results were consistent with the earlier, smaller studies. Bigtree and Siri reached the same conclusion: due to the unfavorable outcomes, the study should not be published. Had the results been the opposite—vaccination makes children healthier—they would have been shouted from the rooftops with great fanfare, with the help of the media. They had no doubts whatsoever.

We now know exactly what Zervos and his three colleagues at HFH investigated and found. They conducted a so-called "retrospective birth cohort study" using the health data of 18,468 children from the state of Michigan, born between 2000 and 2016. Of these children, 16,511 received at least one vaccine, and the remaining 1,957 remained unvaccinated. The children were followed for ten years: afterward, 57 percent of the vaccinated children had at least one chronic condition (often multiple), compared to 17 percent of the unvaccinated children. Bigtree notes that the 57 percent figure is uncomfortably close to the official percentage of children in the US with a chronic disease: 54 percent.

In their conclusion, the authors wrote: "This study showed that exposure to vaccination was independently associated with an overall 2.5-fold increase in the risk of developing a chronic condition, compared with children who were not exposed to vaccination. This association was primarily driven by asthma, atopic conditions, eczema, autoimmune diseases, and neurodevelopmental disorders. This suggests that exposure to vaccination may increase the risk of developing a chronic condition in certain children, particularly one of these conditions."

For five years, the explosive study sat in a drawer at HFH. Nothing changed there, but it did in Washington: Republican Senator Ron Johnson persuaded independent presidential candidate Robert Kennedy Jr. to join forces with Donald Trump, who won the election at the end of 2024 and appointed Kennedy as his Secretary of Health. Johnson, in turn, thanks to the Republican majority he secured in the Senate, became chairman of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations (PSI). In that capacity, he organized high-profile hearings on (coronavirus) vaccination in recent months.

Perhaps the most sensational PSI hearing took place on September 9th. The topic: the corruption of science and how it has influenced public perception and vaccination policy. Johnson took this opportunity to publish the Zervos study in its entirety on the Senate website. Siri testified under oath about the study during the hearing. He explained, among other things, that Zervos and his colleagues were so surprised by the findings that they conducted several additional analyses. However, the results remained valid. During the hearing, Johnson mentioned the upcoming documentary. Not only that, but he also showed the trailer for "An Inconvenient Study." Bigtree was a witness, sitting in the front row.

That same day, HFH informed Bigtree in an email that the study had not been published because it "did not meet the rigorous scientific standards we maintain as a leading medical research institution." In doing so, the institute rejected the conclusion of Bigtree, and others, that the study had not been published due to the unfavorable findings. This initial reaction was followed by a letter from HFH's lawyers accusing Bigtree and ICAN of "false, misleading statements and defamation." They argue that the data and methodology used by Zervos are "defective" and that Bigtree and ICAN are liable for all (reputational) damage suffered by HFH.

Bigtree responded with a new trailer in September. Only then did it become clear to the outside world that Zervos had been interviewed and filmed by Bigtree with hidden cameras during a third dinner, which took place on June 5, 2022. This footage forms the central thread of the documentary, as we have known since its premiere. During the dinner, Zervos, along with a colleague, defended his study, the results of which he described as "important." When Bigtree asked if the study contained "flaws," he replied, "Not that I know of." Zervos previously confirmed that he had stated that he would publish the study regardless of the results, but said he had changed his mind. "If I publish something like that, I might as well retire. Then I'm done."

In the documentary, several doctors comment on Zervos's work. For example, the aforementioned Thomas, who published a smaller study in 2020 with James Lyons-Weiler that was immediately retracted, speaks of a "really thorough study" with the same findings. He challenges doctors and scientists to replicate Zervos's research: "Look within your dataset, within your system, for those who are unvaccinated and compare them to the vaccinated group."

Harvard Medical School physician Sylvia Fogel, visibly moved by Zervos's findings, also urges replication studies in the film: "We are morally and ethically obligated to repeat this study again, again, and again, and find out if this is accurate and true." Joseph Ladapo, the chief medical officer (surgeon general) of the state of Florida, also believes the study provides "important knowledge" and that other healthcare institutions "really need to replicate this analysis." Meanwhile, Senator Johnson wonders how many children are suffering from chronic illnesses they might not have had if this information had been released earlier. Bigtree emphasizes, however, that the HFH study doesn't yet prove that vaccines caused an epidemic of chronic diseases. "A retrospective study doesn't prove causality," the filmmaker qualifies. At the same time, he sees a safety signal, a "red flag" that indicates: "Houston, there might be a real problem here."

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Aluminum in the dock

In Zervos's study, vaccinated children were more than four times as likely to develop asthma, three times as likely to develop atopic diseases (a subgroup of allergic conditions), almost six times as likely to develop autoimmune diseases, and more than five times as likely to develop neurodevelopmental disorders than unvaccinated children. All these conditions have been linked in studies to the aluminum compounds (adjuvants) in vaccines, but this remains undiscussed in both the Zervos study and the Bigtree documentary.

Earlier this month, the highly regarded Danish physician and researcher Peter C. Gøtzsche, in an article on the Brownstone Institute website, described aluminum as a "highly neurotoxic metal," meaning it is highly toxic to the brain and nervous system. "Aluminum should be avoided in vaccines," Gøtzsche concludes. Aluminum adjuvants have been linked to autism in studies by, among others, the British aluminum expert Professor Chris Exley. Aluminum adjuvants have been used for years in so-called "non-living vaccines" to enhance the immune system's response. This mechanism can also contribute to allergies, including asthma. The book *Vaccines & Vaccine Technologies*, published in 2015 and edited by José Ronnie Vasconcelos, explains that aluminum adjuvants can lead to "increased IgE production." The abbreviation IgE stands for "Immunoglobulin E." Immunoglobulins, also called antibodies, are an important component of the immune system. They are produced in response to invading antigens (foreign substances). The observation about increased IgE production is supported by sources from 1993 and 1994. However, more recent sources also exist. For example, in 2013, American scientists reported that aluminum adjuvants carry the risk of adverse allergic reactions, especially in people genetically susceptible. Increased IgE production plays a crucial role in this, the authors explained.

Adjuvants are also linked to autoimmune diseases. Israeli immunologist Professor Yehuda Shoenfeld even defined a separate condition: "autoimmune/inflammatory syndrome induced by adjuvants" (ASIA), also known as "Shoenfeld's syndrome."

RESPONSE TO DOCUMENTARY

Frankema: "This documentary exposes how rotten the system is."

Frankema, author of the bestseller "Vaccine Free!", felt the same way watching the documentary "An Inconvenient Study" felt as watching "Vaxxed," the film Del Bigtree made ten years earlier. All those mothers and fathers who said, "It doesn't feel right," and therefore didn't want their children vaccinated, received enormous support at the time. Unfortunately, there were also parents who called me and asked, "Can autism be caused by vaccines?"

They had a healthy child, went to the child health clinic to "protect" them, and watched them slip away before their eyes into an autistic, epileptic, or other condition, caused by a damaged nervous system or a dysregulated immune system. I've heard so much pain from parents that I

often cried along with them. The realization that "it didn't have to happen," and that you, as a parent, were unable to see through the lies of governments and industries, must be unbearable at times. This is made worse by the fact that all the authorities—the media, doctors, the Netherlands Pharmacovigilance Centre Lareb, the government—all shroud themselves in silent denial when things go wrong. "Vaxxed showed for the first time that lifelong serious vaccine injury isn't a rarity, but a problem of enormous proportions," says Frankema. "But of course, a feeling, and even an 'unproven' experience, can still be dismissed. Meanwhile, 70 percent of parents in the US with an autistic child believe it's caused by the shots, and more than 50 percent of American children have a chronic condition. Despite this, the government has consistently refused to conduct the study comparing vaccinated and unvaccinated children."

That's why the Henry Ford Health study is so important, according to Frankema. This study will have a global impact. No matter how hard governments and the media try to ignore it or discredit the results, it will undermine the very foundations of global vaccination programs. The documentary about this study is well-designed and mercilessly exposes the rottenness of the system. In fact, lead researcher Marcus Zervos has done exactly what's necessary to further erode already-faltering trust. He lets slip that he would publish the study if he didn't have to fear for his career. And also that, by scientific standards, it's a well-conducted study with important findings. But because this study undermines the "safe and effective" narrative, he "can't" publish it, because that would cost him his job. For a program that demands blind faith in the medical community, that's fatal.