

The Complex Problem of Vaccine Hesitancy



[www.freewebs.com/edward_jenner/
the_cow_pock_large_cartoon.jpg](http://www.freewebs.com/edward_jenner/the_cow_pock_large_cartoon.jpg)

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Conflicts of Interest

No financial conflicts to declare

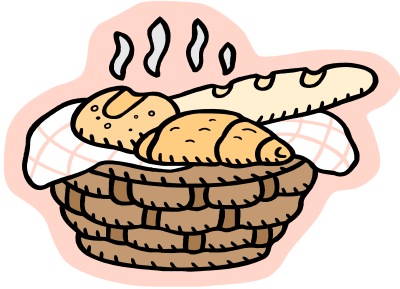
My Biases:

- Consultant to Canadian Paediatric Society
Imm/ID Cmt
- Consultant/Advisor to WHO HQ
Immunization/Vaccines and Biologicals
- Canadian Centre for Vaccinology:
Health Policy and Translation Group

**I believe vaccines are safe, effective,
serious diseases can occur if not
immunized**

Simple

Following a Recipe



- Recipe essential
- Reliable recipes
- No expertise
- Standard products
- Certainty of same result

Complicated

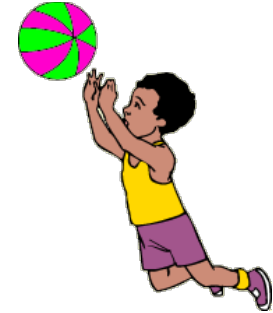
A Rocket to the Moon



- Formulae essential
- Success leads to more success
- Need many experts
- Rockets similar
- High degree of certainty

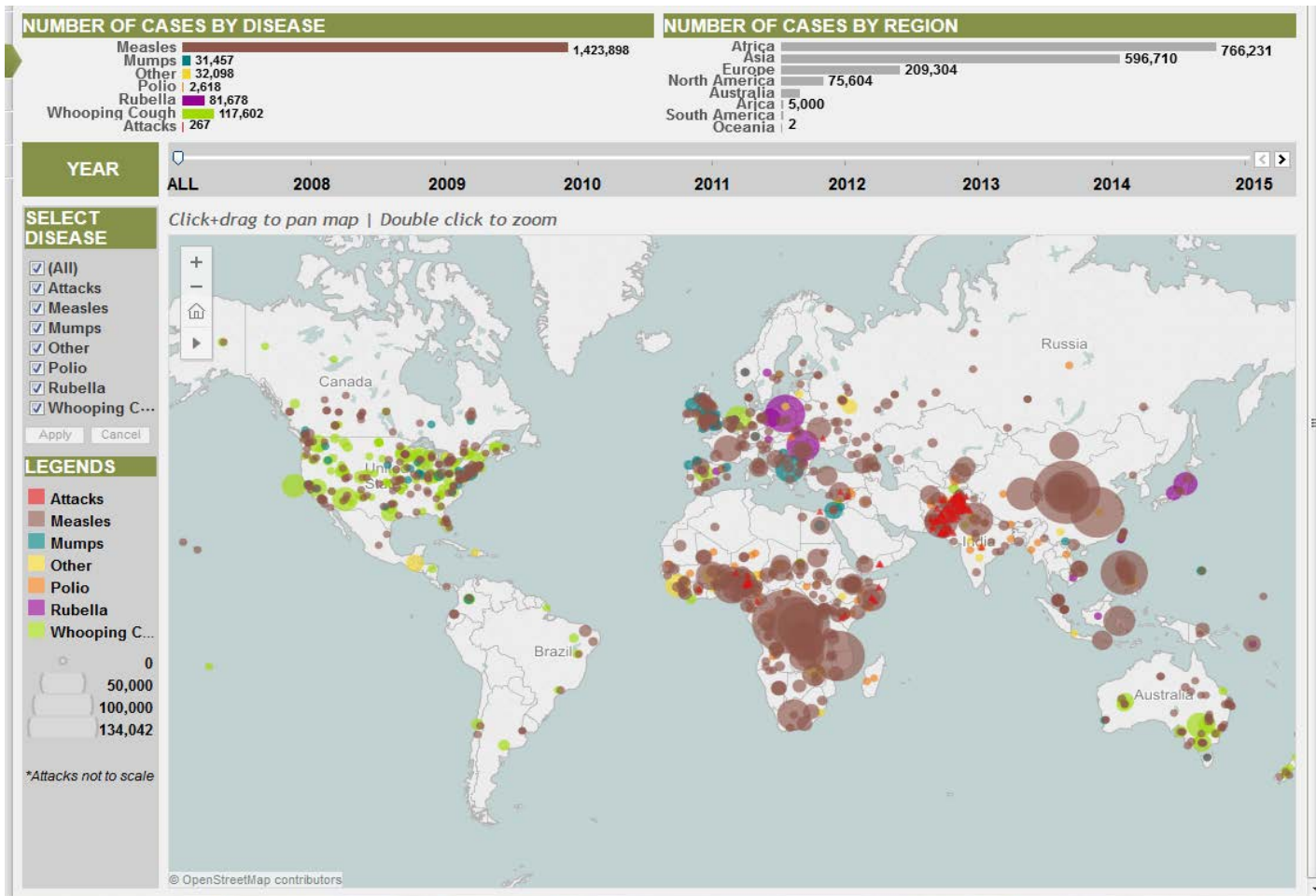
Complex

Raising a Child



- Formulae: limited application
- Success unpredictable
- Relationships key
- Each child unique
- Uncertain outcome

Vaccination not Vaccines Save Lives



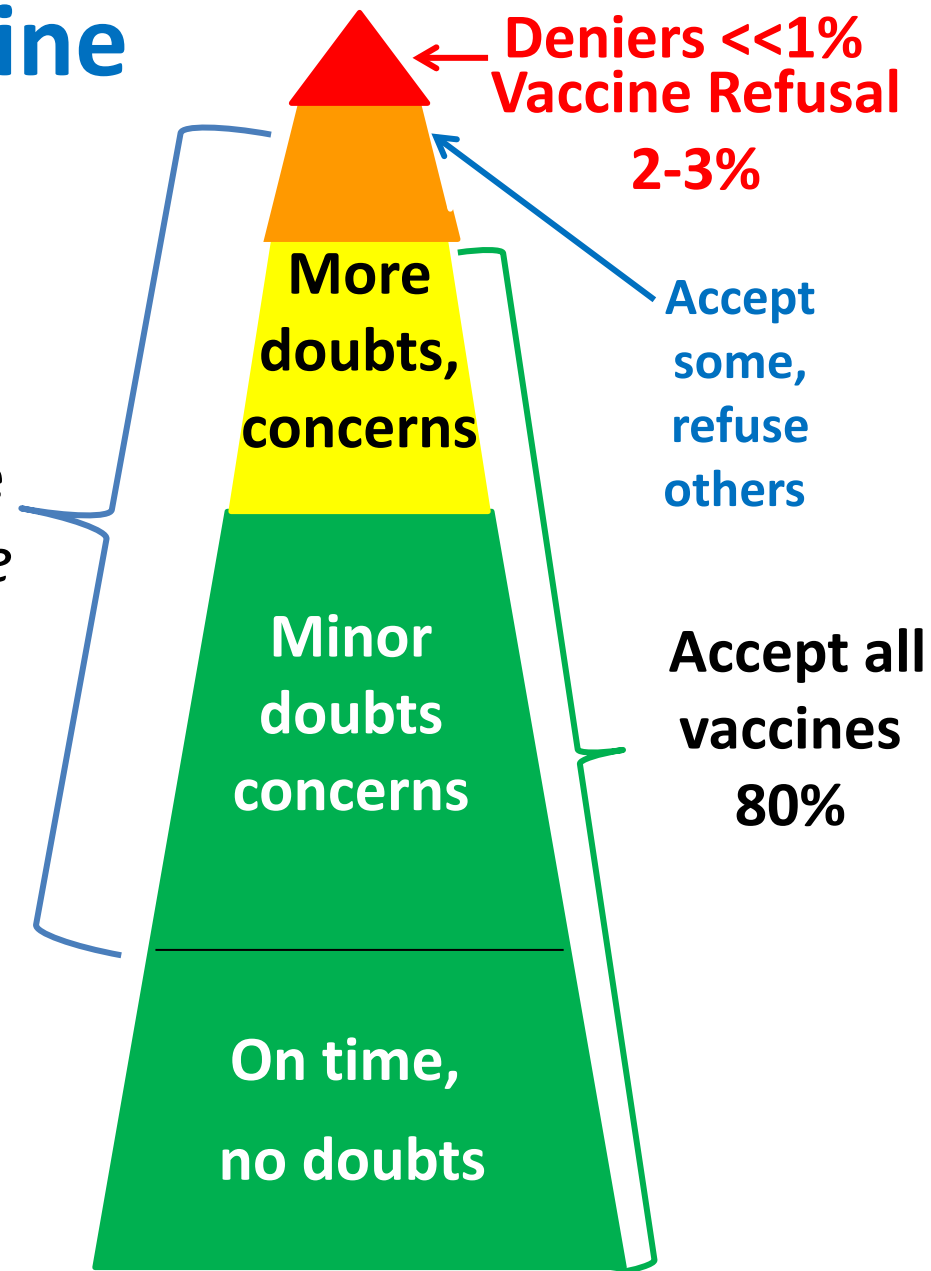
http://www.cfr.org/interactives/GH_Vaccine_Map/index.html#map

“..... high vaccine coverage is required to have a positive impact on the burden of disease.” Baker L. SAMJ 2015; 105: 881-2

Continuum of Vaccine Acceptance

Vaccine Hesitancy (WHO)

- refers to delay in acceptance or refusal of vaccines *despite availability of vaccine services*
- Hesitancy is **complex and context specific** varying across **time, place and vaccines**
- *HIC, MIC, LIC problem*



MacDonald NE and SAGE Working Group on Vaccine Safety. Vaccine hesitancy: Definition, scope and determinants. Vaccine 2015; 33:4161-4.

Vaccine Hesitancy Determinant Categories

Trust in vaccines, in delivery system, in the policy-makers who decide which vaccines are needed and when.

Complacency

Perceived risks VPD low; vaccination not deemed a necessary preventive action. Other life /health responsibilities higher priority at time

Confidence

**Antivaxers
May influence**

Convenience

Physical access-availability, affordability, willingness to pay; geographical access, ability to understand (language, health literacy); appeal of immunization services





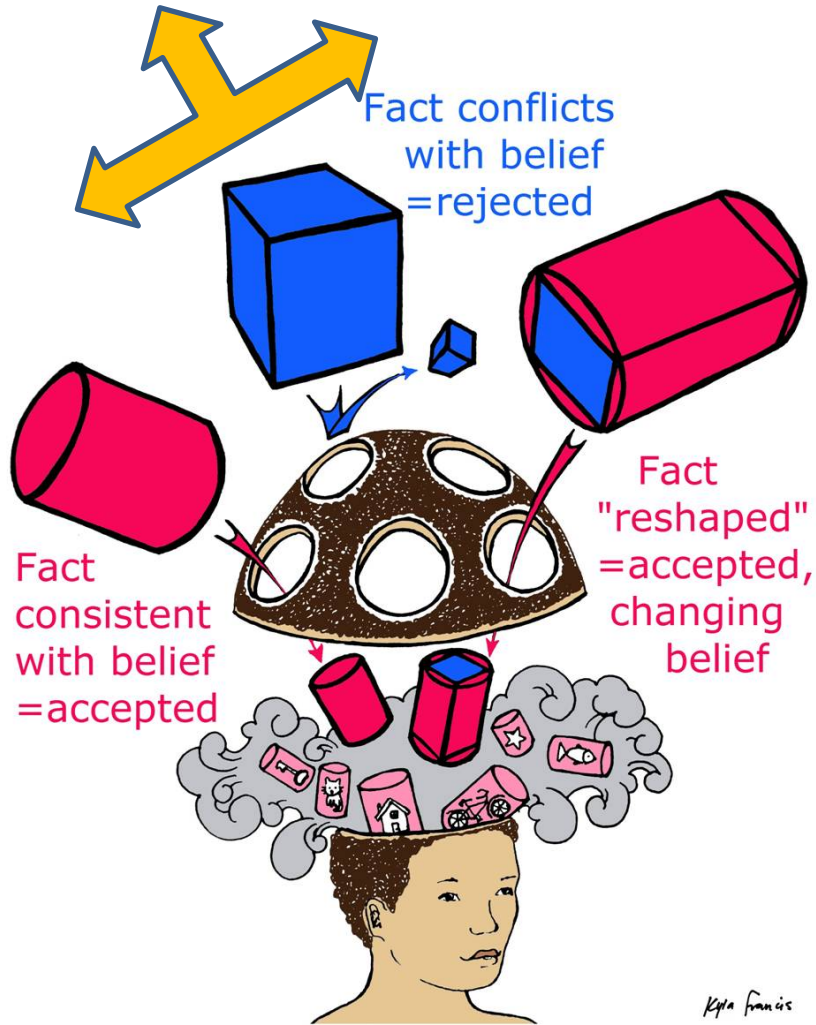
Vaccine Concerns & Reluctance to Immunize Outweigh VPD Concerns

- Pertussis – SIDS
- Hep B – demyelinating dis
- MMR- autism
- Thimerosal- ASD
- Alum- inclusion myositis
- HPV-lowers sexual debut, more sexually active
- Multiple vaccines as cause of – cancer, diabetes, multiple sclerosis
- Multiples vaccines overwhelm immune system
- Natural infection is better than immunization
- POTS, Chronic regional pain complex - HPV vaccine

NOT NEW

Vaccination is Counter Intuitive

Do NOT Disturb



Vaccination: encompasses

- a) acceptance of being vaccinated – **beliefs key**
- b) actual performance of vaccination

spread of vaccination chiefly depends on the *spread of beliefs about vaccination and vaccine preventable diseases*

Assimilation Bias & Heuristics

Post Modern Town Square: Social Media

**Web2.0 “everyone,
anyone is an expert”
now big audience for
“fringe” views**

Websites, Blogs

Accessing *vaccine critical*
websites, blogs *changes*
risk perception

Exposure to conspiracy theories:
hidden impact on beliefs

Kata A. Vaccine 2012; 30:3778–89

Betsch C et al J Health Psychology 2010 15:446-455

Nan X, Madden K. Health Commun. 2012 27(8):829-36 .

Douglas KM, Sutton RM. J Soc Psych 2008;148:210-222



- HPV - 30% users exposed to a majority –ve tweets.
- Leads to > probability post –ve tweet

Dunn AG et al J Med Internet Res. 2015 ; 17: e144



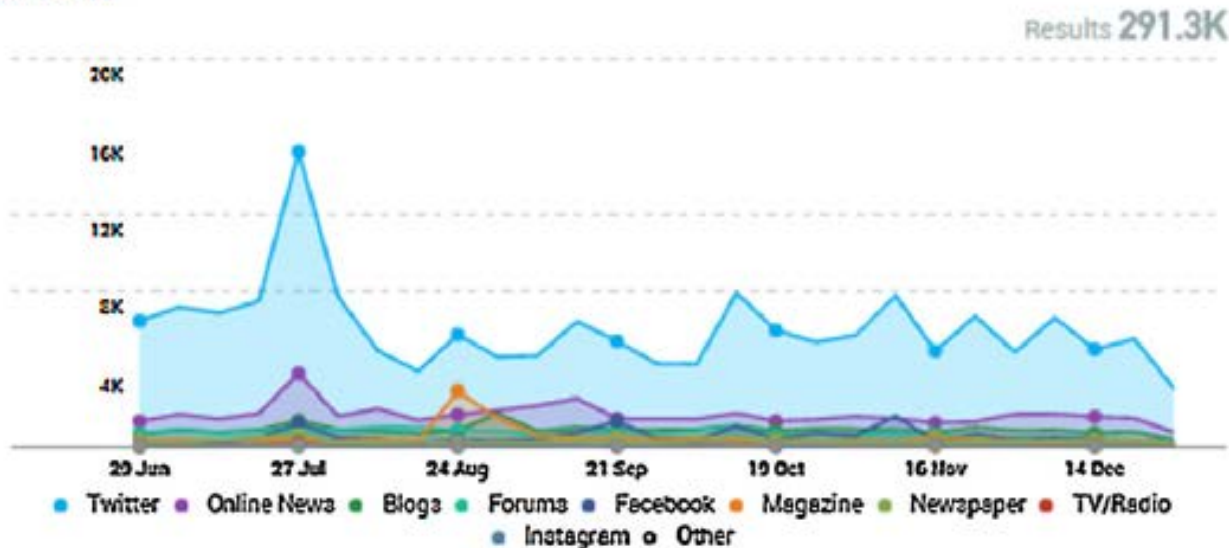
- analysis 800 vac related pins over 3 d in 2014- 74% anti-vaccine most linked to non medical website

Guidry JPD et al. Vaccine 2015; 33:5051–5056

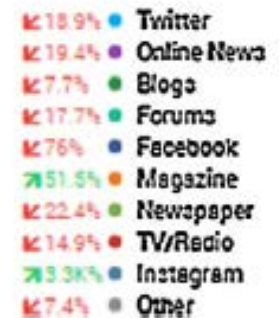
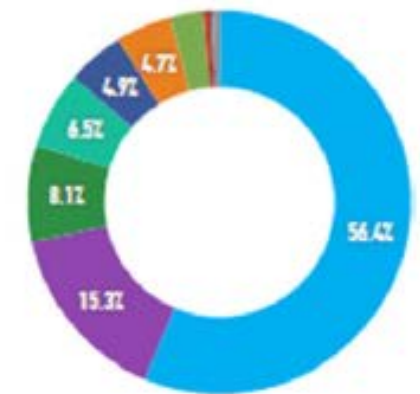
Media Content Related to Vaccination: France July 1 – Dec 31 2015

RESULTS OVER TIME

by media type

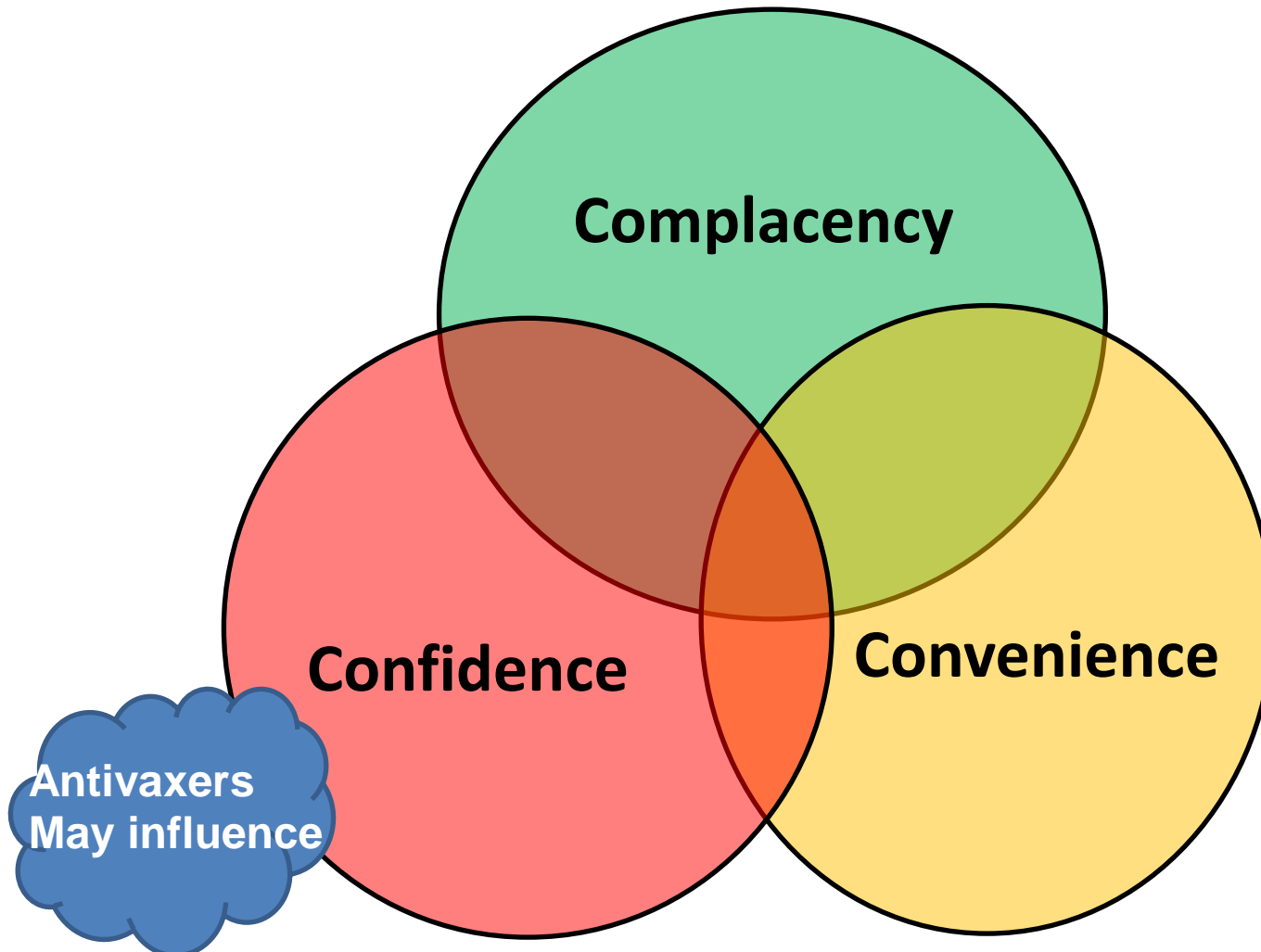


SHARE OF MEDIA TYPES



*Stahl et al Médecine et Maladies Infectieuses
online March 2016*

Vaccine Hesitancy Determinant Categories



SAGE Working Group on Vaccine Hesitancy Final Report

www.who.int/immunization/sage/meetings/2014/october/SAGE_working_group_revised_report_vaccine_hesitancy.pdf?ua=1