



FFWA



**FLUORIDE
FREE WA Party**



**FLUORIDE
FREE WA Inc.**

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Newsletter

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An exciting year so far

In January 2017 the **Fluoride Free WA Party** was registered and was successfully included as a “micro party” in the WA State Elections held on 11 March this year. FFWA embarked on this process for several reasons. Firstly, this registration and election process requires a minimum of 500 members which was achieved within 12 months; secondly, the name **Fluoride Free WA** appeared on every one of the 1.384 million ballot papers used to cast votes on election day; and thirdly, it was hoped that creating a political party would increase media interest.

Although we failed to pick up a seat in the upper house, we gained more exposure and media coverage—and therefore greater awareness—than we have in FFWA's six years of operation. The media could no longer turn a blind eye to the issue and several articles were published about our cause.

As a direct result of registering this party and running in the state election, more people know about the controversial nature and potential adverse effects of water fluoridation. These dangers include dental fluorosis (up to 40% in Australia); the risks to infants fed infant formula reconstituted with fluoridated water; and a host of other possible side effects including hypothyroidism (under-active thyroid). This will be covered more in our next newsletter, in the mean time, for a comprehensive health-effects database visit: Fluoridealert.org



Reminder...

Membership renewals are due and are only \$10. Please visit our website to renew or join.

Fluoride Free WA Inc (FFWA) is a non-profit educational and advocacy organization, focusing on issues of fluoride toxicity and the medical ethics relating to mandatory water fluoridation.

Donations to FFWA Inc are welcome and will greatly assist our cause: To donate, please visit: www.fluoridefreewa.org

“ All truth passes through three stages. First, it is ridiculed. Second, it is violently opposed. Third, it is accepted as being self-evident. ”

Arthur Schopenhauer
German philosopher (1788—1860)

Honorary memberships

FFWA is pleased to announce a new level of membership offered to interstate and international individuals. Honorary membership is given to champions in the cause to end water fluoridation, for their past work and for their ongoing assistance and support of FFWA.

Dr Paul Connett (centre) and Dr Geoffrey Pain (right) were recently invited to become Inaugural Honorary Members of





FFWA and they have graciously accepted the title. They are both pictured with Maria Claudianos, NSW Dentist and anti-fluoride advocate.

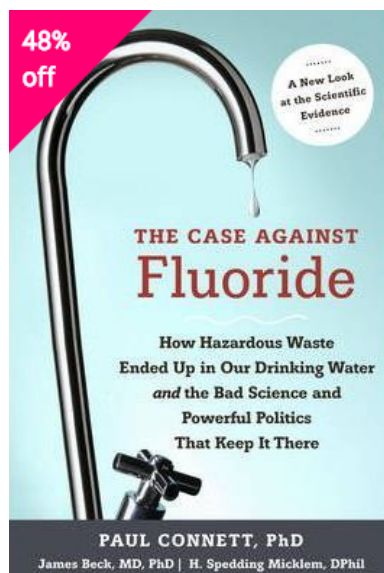
Paul Connett is Professor Emeritus in Environmental Chemistry at St. Lawrence University in Canton, NY.

Connett received a B.A. (Honors) in Natural Sciences from Cambridge University, England, in 1962; and a Ph.D. in Chemistry from Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire, in 1983. He is currently the director of the American Environmental Health Studies Project (AEHSP).

In 2004, Connett published the paper *50 Reasons to Oppose Fluoridation*. In 2010 he coauthored *The Case Against Fluoride: How Hazardous Waste Ended Up in Our Drinking Water and the Bad Science and Powerful Politics That Keep It*. (See book summary below)

Connett has researched the literature on fluoride's toxicity and the fluoridation debate for 21 years and has put his scientific knowledge to work by helping (without fee) communities around the world understand the science of controversial issues like fluoridation.

Dr Connett's knowledge, work and experience are indeed impressive. For a more detailed bio, please visit the [AEHSP web site](#).



The Case Against Fluoride. When the U.S. Public Health Service endorsed water fluoridation in 1950, there was little evidence of its safety. Now, six decades later and after most countries have rejected the practice, more than 70% of Americans, most Australians and around 50% of New Zealanders are drinking fluoridated water, despite increasing evidence that it is not only unnecessary, but potentially hazardous to human health.

Geoff Pain received a Ph.D. in Chemistry from Monash University, Melbourne, in 1979. He is currently CEO at Elder Market Research and is a Consultant Scientist specializing in Analytical Chemistry, Atmospheric Chemistry and Biochemistry.

According to Researchgate.net, Pain has published many articles, technical reports and conference papers on the dangers of fluoridation. These include:

- *Submission to Health Select Committee New Zealand Parliament calling for Cessation of Water Fluoridation and Permanent Immobilization of Toxic Fluoride Waste from Phosphate Fertilizer Manufacture*. Technical Report March 2017.
- *Fluoride is a Developmental Nephrotoxin*. Technical Report January 2017
- *Toxicity of Fluoride*. Conference Paper April 2016.
- *Fluoride is a bio-accumulative, endocrine disrupting, neurotoxic carcinogen – not a nutrient*. Technical Report December 2015.

For more details on Geoff Pain's work on fluoridation, please visit: [Researchgate.net](#)

Lead contamination

In a Media Release dated 20 June 2017, FFWA warned of the possibility of widespread lead contamination as a result of water fluoridation. It claimed that fluoride could be leaching lead from brass fittings in water pipes at public facilities such as Perth Children's Hospital and referred to a letter sent to the Health Minister advising him of 13 references and six published reports demonstrating that fluoride can leach lead from brass.

The media release also warned of fluoride's reported neurotoxicity: "Like lead and arsenic, fluoride is also classified as a neurotoxin. There are at least 23 human studies and more than 100 animal studies demonstrating this neurotoxicity."

To view a copy of this media release, [click here](#).

The authors begin by explaining that the fluoridation chemicals added to drinking water are not even pharmaceutical grade, but rather a hazardous waste product of the phosphate fertilizer industry. It is illegal to dump this waste into the sea or local surface water, and yet it is allowed in our drinking water. This book is a must read for both proponents and opponents of water fluoridation. For more details, [click here](#).



Legal proceedings in the US

On 22 November 2016, a coalition including US-based *Fluoride Action Network* (FAN), the *American Academy of Environmental Medicine*, *Food and Water Watch*, *Organic Consumers Association*, *International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology*, *Moms Against Fluoridation* and several individuals, filed a petition with the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) to ban the addition of fluoridating chemicals to drinking water under the provisions set in the *Toxic Substances Control Act* (TSCA).

The petition was accompanied by a 2,500-page scientific paper on the dangers of water fluoridation to human and animal health and specifically that fluoride is a neurotoxin at levels now ingested by many US children and vulnerable populations. Studies presented to the EPA with the petition also show that fluoride has little benefit when swallowed, and, accordingly, any risks from exposing people to fluoride chemicals in water are unnecessary.

As at September 2016, a total of 57 studies had investigated the relationship between fluoride and human intelligence. Fifty of the 57 human studies found that elevated fluoride exposure is associated with reduced IQ, while 45 animal studies have found that fluoride exposure impairs the learning and/or memory capacity of animals. The human studies, which are based on IQ examinations of over 12,000 children, provide compelling evidence that fluoride exposure during the early years of life can damage a child's developing brain.

After conducting their own study, and reviewing 27 other human IQ studies, a team of scientists from the *Harvard School of Public Health* in 2012, stated: "Children in high-fluoride areas had significantly lower IQ scores than those who lived in low-fluoride areas." They also concluded that fluoride's effect on the young brain should now be a "high research priority." (Choi, et al 2012). Other reviewers have reached similar conclusions, including the prestigious *National Research Council* (NRC), and even scientists in the Neurotoxicology Division of the Environmental Protection Agency (Mundy, et al).

On 27 February 2017, despite the substantial weight of evidence presented, the EPA denied the petition. This was ironical, given the statement by former EPA senior scientist William Hirzy, Ph.D., who specialised in risk assessment. He published a risk

assessment in the journal *Fluoride* in 2016, stating; "The significance of this peer-reviewed risk analysis is that it indicates there may be no actual safe level of exposure to fluoride."

In response, FAN and its coalition recently filed a lawsuit in the US District Court (for the North District of California), **against the EPA as a rebuttal to the government agency's denial of the petition.**

FAN and its coalition members believe that an impartial judge reviewing this evidence will agree that fluoridation poses an unreasonable risk.

FAN's attorney and adviser, Michael Connett, said "This case will present the first time a court will consider the neurotoxicity of fluoride and the question of whether fluoridation presents an unreasonable risk under the *Toxic Substances Control Act*. And, in contrast to most other legal challenges of agency actions, TSCA gives us the right to get the federal court to consider our evidence 'de novo' – meaning federal courts are to conduct their own independent review of the evidence without deference to the EPA's judgment."

We will keep FFWA members and the WA media informed of the outcome of this groundbreaking legal action.

"The significance of this peer-reviewed risk analysis is that it indicates there may be no actual safe level of exposure to fluoride."

William Hirzy, Ph.D.

Former Scientist,
Environmental Protection Authority, USA.

NHMRC Public Submissions

The *National Health and Medical Research Council* (NHMRC) has released the draft *Public Statement 2017: Water fluoridation and human health in Australia* for public consultation.

In this statement NHMRC recommends community water fluoridation as a **"safe, effective and ethical way to help reduce tooth decay across the population"**. NHMRC supports Australian states and territories fluoridating their drinking water supplies within the range of 0.6 to 1.1 milligrams per litre (mg/L).



The NHMRC is inviting the Australian community to provide comments on the draft Public Statement. It is intended for use by policy makers, water providers and members of the public.

The aims of public consultation on the draft Public Statement are to obtain feedback on:

- whether the information is presented in a format and manner that is useful and easy to understand;
- whether the boxed 'NHMRC statement' (page 1) is clearly justified;
- options for disseminating the Public Statement once finalised.

John Watt, from FFWA, believes that the NHMRC panel are predominately pro-fluoride and therefore will remain biased in their findings, while ignoring a substantial volume of international research from many independent bodies demonstrating the *significant dangers and risks associated with fluoridation*. "NHMRC have cherry picked the data available to reinforce their 50-year-old mantra 'safe and effective'", said John.

[Draft NHMRC Public Statement 2017 on fluoride](#)

The FFWA Committee is hoping to lodge a submission providing comments regarding the NHMRC's draft Public Statement. Members will be advised of this submission and the results in due course.

Critical mass: creating a professional network and attracting new members

As American teacher, author and lecturer Marianne Williamson said; "When an idea reaches critical mass, there is no stopping the shift its presence will induce."

Our success in convincing authorities and governments not to fluoridate drinking water rests largely on our ability to develop a critical mass and to present scientific information in an objective and professional manner. When enough people are aware of the neurological and physical health risks and dangers associated with water fluoridation, authorities and governments in Australia will make the same decision that the majority of countries worldwide have already made: fluoride does not belong in drinking water!

To achieve this critical mass, we need more members joining FFWA. In particular, we need more dentists, doctors, scientists, academics, researchers and other

medical or health professionals joining our cause who are willing to stand up, present the facts, and say "No more fluoride!"

If you know anyone who would like to join FFWA, please inform them of our activities, web site and other online presence and encourage them to join as members and become actively involved in making Western Australia fluoride free.

New positions at FFWA

FFWA is pleased to announce three new committee members; Andrew Parry as Media Liaison, Nita Thakrar as Membership Secretary and Sharika Bisnath as Events Coordinator.

FFWA is always on the lookout for possible new committee members with any specific skills that will strengthen our cause.

Membership renewal

Annual memberships to FFWA are now due. Membership of FFWA Inc only costs \$10 for the financial year. To renew your membership, or to join as a new member, [click here](#).

Donations

FFWA depends on public support and financial donations for our various events, projects and ongoing awareness campaigns. Your contribution is essential to achieving our goals.

If you would like to donate, please visit the [web site](#).

AGM details

FFWA's Annual General Meeting will be held at the West Leederville Sporting Club at 6pm on Thursday 19 October. All members are welcome.



FLUORIDE FREE WA
DRINK WATER NOT WASTE

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Fluoride Free WA

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