



**FFWA**  
Newsletter  
August 2018



**FLUORIDE  
FREE WA Inc.**



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[fluoridefree.org](http://fluoridefree.org)

#### Annual General Meeting

Our AGM will be held at 6pm on Thursday 11 October at the Leederville Sports Club. All welcome.

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- Fluoride Free WA Party runs for Darling Range by-election

#### Become a member

It only costs \$15 to become a member of FFWA. Please visit our [website](http://www.fluoridefree.org) to renew or join.

[Fluoride Free WA Inc](http://www.fluoridefree.org) (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

We depend on your donations. To donate visit: [www.fluoridefreewa.org](http://www.fluoridefreewa.org)

# Newsletter

## Legislative Assembly Dental Health hearing

### FFWA gives evidence

On 1 May this year Fluoride Free WA received an invitation from the Legislative Assembly’s Chair of the Education and Health Standing Committee to give evidence at a hearing in relation to dental health and specifically water fluoridation.

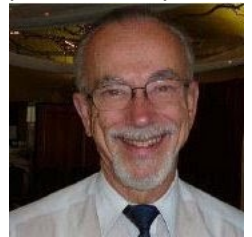
On May 9, with little more than one week’s notice, Andrew Parry (FFWA President) and John Watt (FFWA Vice-President) attended the hearing at Parliament House and gave evidence in relation to water fluoridation, highlighting the following issues:

- Fluoridation in Australia may comprise indictable offences
- Fluoridation is NOT an effective method of preventing or reducing tooth decay
- The lack of public consultation in areas where fluoridation is/has been proposed
- The lack of access to information regarding decisions of the Fluoridation of Public Water Supplies Advisory Committee

Astoundingly, the scope of the Dental Hearing did not include potential harms of fluoride. The full transcript of the FFWA evidence can be found [here](#).

### Chair of Fluoridation Committee admits major dental health study is poor quality

During the Hearing, the Chair of the Fluoridation of Public Water Supplies Advisory Committee, Dr Richard Lugg (pictured) admitted that the WA Health Department’s major dental health study, *“Dental Health Outcomes of Children Residing in Fluoridated and Non-Fluoridated Areas in Western Australia”* (Crouchley, K. & Trevithick, R; 2016) is of poor quality. This study has been used to support the proposal to fluoridate public water supplies in the South West region of WA.



Following is Dr Lugg’s comment followed by the response from the EHSC chair:

**Dr LUGG:** *Commenting about the local study, yes, this is not a study that would be accepted by Cochrane and it would not even be a study that would be accepted by the NHMRC. The only reason I quote it is because of its consistency with all the other results. If this was giving inconsistent results, you would probably say that it is not a very good study, but actually it is consistent with everything else, so it is probably —*

**The CHAIR (of the EHSC):** *So, you disregard it if it gives you inconsistent results, but if it gives you consistent results, you embrace it wholeheartedly!*

Fluoride Free WA had earlier pointed out that the study is an unreliable study and that WA Health pursued an improper political purpose in choosing to report a specifically selected ratio of odds—1.6 times the odds of matching or exceeding 1.0 DMFT—instead of reporting the epidemiological relevant measure, which is the percentage difference in dental decay.

The full transcript of Dr Lugg’s evidence given at the hearing can be found [here](#).

The final report produced by the Education and Health Standing Committee as a result of these hearings can be found [here](#).

FFWA will respond to this report in due course.

#### What can you do to make a difference?

- Follow/like us on Facebook and share
- Become a member of FFWA
- Donate to FFWA
- Get involved in our range of activities
- Send this newsletter to your friends
- Educate others about the risks and dangers of fluoride
- Help with behind-the-scenes projects



## Fluoride Free South West Campaign

Fluoride Free WA is aware of plans to fluoridate public water supplies in the South West region of WA. The area involved is quite large, extending from Eaton just north of Bunbury down to Margaret River in the south and inland to Bridgetown. Funds are needed for an advertising and publicity campaign to bring awareness to the south-west communities.

Please help us to develop this campaign by [joining Fluoride Free WA](#) and also by following our [Facebook page](#) and especially sharing with friends and residents in the South West area.

But most of all, your donations will make a huge difference to the success of this campaign. To [donate](#) to Fluoride Free WA Inc. using Pay Pal, click on PayPal icon on the home page, or via bank transfer to Fluoride Free WA, BSB 016498, ACCOUNT 393398805.

## NZ Supreme Court rules “compulsory medication”

On 26 June 2018, the New Zealand Supreme Court ruled by a majority vote that water fluoridation is compulsory mass medication, in breach of human rights. It confirmed that:

- fluoridation is a medical treatment.
- It is not a supplement “just topping up natural levels” as claimed by the NZ Ministry of Health.
- the impracticality of avoiding fluoridated water makes it compulsory in practice.
- the science is NOT settled

Chief Justice Sian Elias then held that fluoridation was not prescribed by law (i.e. is unlawful), applying section 6 of the Bill of Rights Act. That was clearly the correct decision.

However, the rest of the majority held that it was prescribed by law, and it was then necessary to apply a balancing test to determine if the breach of the right – not to be subject to medical treatment without consent – was justified in the case of fluoridation. Justice Glazebrook held that it was for a local authority to do this when making its decision, potentially taking into account specific local circumstances.

Importantly, the Court held that this question of whether fluoridation is justifiable is to be determined on the balance of probabilities. There is no requirement for absolute proof of harm, as long-maintained by the New Zealand Ministry of Health. With the overwhelming weight of scientific evidence that water fluoridation is ineffective and poses significant health risks, this opens the door to end the practice at any time.

As the Supreme Court has ruled fluoridation is medical treatment without consent, and with the mounting evidence that it is ineffective and carries significant health risks, it is time for politicians and the health sector to rethink the practice. Its days are clearly numbered following this judgment.

More information on this important ruling can be found at the [Fluoride Free NZ website](#).

## Two recent major studies

### “Impact of Drinking Water Fluoride on Human Thyroid Hormones: A Case- Control Study” Kheradpisheh et al. (2018)

This recent landmark publication is published in *Nature*, the world’s most prestigious general science journal. The authors utterly demolish the remaining ruins of NHMRC’s claim that fluoridated drinking water causes “no harm”. This study reveals more proof that fluoridation can damage the human thyroid gland.

This case-controlled study conducted by Iranian scientists, found that fluoride impacts human thyroid hormones, especially TSH and T3, even at concentrations of less than 0.5 mg/L.

Researchers, Kheradpisheh et al., compared people with hypothyroidism (underactive thyroid) to those without thyroid disease and found that fluoride in drinking water impairs thyroid hormones even at 0.5 milligrams per Liter (mg/L) – much less than the WA Health Department and organized dentistry’s recommendation of 1.0 mg/L to ostensibly reduce tooth decay. This has major implications for the people of Western Australia.

The study clearly demonstrated an association between increased fluoride intake (due to increased water consumption) and increased TSH values (greater impairment of thyroid function).

They write:

“The major finding of this study is that TSH values [thyroid stimulating hormones] are higher with a higher fluoride concentration in the drinking water, even for generally low fluoride concentrations. This is seen both in cases of untreated hypothyroidism and in controls.”

In fact, “Some studies have discovered the relation between dental fluorosis and thyroid disease,” write Kheradpisheh’s team.

The authors recommended the application of household water purification devices to remove fluoride for hypothyroidism.



### **“Prenatal Fluoride Exposure and Cognitive Outcomes in Children at 4 and 6–12 Years of Age in Mexico” Bashash et al. (2017)**

This landmark longitudinal IQ study, was published last year in Environmental Health Perspectives, the world’s leading health science journal. The funding agencies for this study were U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH), U.S. National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), National Institute of Public Health, and the Ministry of Health of Mexico.

This study was completed by a team of distinguished neurotoxicity researchers who have produced over 50 papers on the cognitive health of children as related to environmental exposure to other toxins like lead and mercury. The researchers were from highly respected Universities in North America such as Harvard, Toronto, McGill and Michigan and Public Health in Mexico.

The study reported that for every 0.5 mg/L increase of fluoride in the urine of the mothers there was a statistically significant decrease in average IQ of the children of about 3 IQ points. A fluoride level in urine of 1 mg/L could result in a loss of 5 – 6 IQ points. This is particularly relevant to the Western Australia where fluoridation is carried out at 0.6 mg/L to 1 mg/L. To put this into perspective with the fluoride levels ingested by the Mexican mothers and the levels ingested in fluoridated parts of Western Australia, the average fluoride intake in the Mexican mothers was about the same as that in women in Western Australia.

This important study confirms the results of 50 prior Chinese, Indian, Iranian and Mexican studies concerned with the effect of fluoride exposure on IQ. The NHMRC has ignored or dismissed these prior studies. The leading authors among Bashash et al. are Canadian and US academics affiliated with renowned universities in those countries. Their work cannot be dismissed on the basis of prejudice against scholarship in developing countries.

## **A tribute to Nobel Prize winner, Dr Arvid Carlsson.**

Dr. Arvid Carlsson passed away on 29 June 2018 aged 95. Dr Carlsson was a Swedish neuropharmacologist. His research on the brain's chemical signals and the resulting treatment for Parkinson's disease earned him the 2000 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. He won many other awards including Israel's Wolf Prize in Medicine (1979), the Japan Prize (1994) and Italy's Feltrinelli Prize (1999). He was elected as a member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences in 1975.

Dr Carlsson led the successful fight against fluoridation in his country in the 1970s and kindly offered his support to other campaigns in efforts to bring solid science to the fluoridation debate.

In 1978, he gave a prophetic warning that the baby’s developing tissues, including the brain, might be affected in infants fed formula made with fluoridated water.

In a 2005 interview, Dr. Arvid Carlsson noted that “fluoridation is against all modern principles of pharmacology. It’s obsolete. I don’t think anybody in Sweden, not a single dentist, would bring up this question anymore.”



Dr Arvid Carlsson talks about the absurdity of water fluoridation

## **Fluoride presentations**

Committee members of Fluoride Free WA are available for public talks or private presentations to your group. If you would like a speaker from FFWA to give a presentation on water fluoridation, please [contact us](#).

Pictured below is FFWA president Andrew Parry, giving a presentation to the Rural Water Council of WA in Narembeen in July 2018:



## **Fluoride Free WA Political Party**

As Fluoride Free WA Party is still a registered political party, it was decided to run a candidate in the Darling Range by-election ensuring the name Fluoride Free WA Party appeared on every ballot paper. This proved to be an effective and low-cost form of advertising to the electorate. John Watt gave a 15-minute radio interview on 107.3HFM and engaged in “Meet the Candidate” forums where he gave brief overviews of the aims of FFWA.

Fluoride Free WA Inc. and Fluoride free WA Party are separate entities.