

CHAPTER 11

A RESPONSE TO DR. PAUL OFFIT'S BOOK: AUTISM'S FALSE PROPHETS

First I want to thank Paul A. Offit for his book, which purports to prove scientifically that autism is not linked to vaccinations, because it actually confirms that I am on the right track. For example, he cites research comparing the effect of vaccines preserved with thimerosal (mercury) versus vaccines preserved with another neurotoxin, aluminum(hydr) oxide. Children vaccinated with both types have the same rate of autism, and Offit incorrectly concludes that vaccination is not the culprit. Instead, this research supports what I maintain in this book: that there are multiple causative factors, with mercury being only one of them. In fact I cite in this book the case of an autistic child who had never had any vaccinations but whose autism was cured only with the detoxification of his prenatal exposure to his mother's smoking and medications.

Paul Offit gives a different explanation for the cause of autism: genetics. But then how is it possible that autism has increased so dramatically in the last decades? A genetic disease can only increase 3 to 4% in a generation (30 years). Instead we need to look at epigenetics, the factors that can switch a gene on or off during a person's lifetime. Apparently there are many conditions in our modern life that can switch on the genes for autism, and that is the entire focus of my therapy. How to switch these genes off again? Most people, including most medical doctors, believe that genetic diseases are incurable. Certainly that is true of some genetic diseases like Down's syndrome, Duchenne, and many others.

But in autism there are real cures, which Paul Offit denies in his book. He claims that such cures are just temporary, and that shifts in the behavior of autistic children are common. The cases in this book are convincing evidence otherwise. A real scientist is interested in cases which contradict his beliefs, because they are what can lead to the discovery of something completely new.

Offit presents himself as a skeptic who only accepts what is scientifically proven. But reality is not limited to what science has proven. Science is not reality, it is just a perception of reality. The earth was round even while scientists believed it to be flat. Homeopathy has already been curing people for 200 years, demonstrated by clinical research, even though science still has no explanation for how it works. Homeopathy's healing power is a reality even though scientists who cannot explain it try to deny that it works. But this is backwards: it is the job of scientists to explain reality, not to deny reality based on their limited science. Scientists cannot be limited by their beliefs or by their self-interest, whether money or fame. Paul Offit, by the way, is the co-inventor of the rotavirus vaccine, although he has stated that he no longer profits from it.

Paul Offit has his own beliefs, as manifested in his book. He is entitled to his beliefs but not to claim that they are truth. He gives us a nice example. A mother feels that her son, on the other side of the world, has burned his arm. Offit calls it coincidence, but he is apparently unaware of the extensive research documenting such extrasensory phenomena, much of it conducted by the American government. This research is summarized in Lynn McTaggart's *The Field* and by the documentary *The Living Matrix*, a film by Greg Becker and Harry Massey

Paul Offit also disbelieves in alternative medicine, but he seems confused about what it is. He lumps together every therapy not applied in conventional medicine. Alternative medicine is non-toxic and stimulates