A RURAL WV DEMOCRATIC VIEWPOINT

SCIENCE, POLITICS, LIFE & DEATH

I read this on page 2 of my local paper last week:

"It was noted that the m-rna vaccines make the recipients GMO organisms, that is to say the folks who took the jab have had their DNA changed and there is no reversal. According to government figures there are now at least 600,000 vaccine related deaths in America."

Do you laugh? The first sentence sounds both scientific and dire. But it is meaningless gibberish. Or do you cry? The second sentence is not just false; it is an inflammatory lie that is preventing people from getting a simple shot that may keep them - and the rest of us – alive.

I can't believe I have to say this, but a Covid shot does not make you a GMO – a "genetically modified organism."

Genetic modification involves isolating a gene in a laboratory and inserting it into the DNA in the nucleus of a single cell.

When you get the Covid vaccine, you are not exposed to the virus. Instead, the mRNA vaccines consist of a small piece of a protein from the Covid virus. That piece of protein teaches our cells how to make a protein that triggers our immune response when we are exposed to the Covid virus.

The mRNA from Covid-19 vaccine never enters the nucleus of any cell, which is where our DNA is kept. The mRNA does not affect or interact with our DNA in any way. Getting the jab does not make you a GMO.

The more outrageous and totally insupportable claim is that 600,000 people have died after being vaccinated for Covid-19.

The CDC has a self-reporting system about adverse reactions and death after vaccination. Anyone can enter a report. This is a resource for researchers examining possible vaccine-related deaths. 18,533 deaths after vaccination have been reported.

Of those reports, the CDC has confirmed just 9 deaths being actually *caused by* Covid-19 vaccines, all due to rare blood clots caused by the Johnson & Johnson shot.

There have been 1,147,253 US deaths due to Covid-19 as of Oct 7, 2023. And nine deaths due to Covid vaccination.

The outrageous claim that 600,000 have died from Covid vaccination is a far right-wing invention that came from no government source ever. Sadly, the link between politics, health, and death is glaringly clear.

Democratic-leaning states were more likely to enact vaccine mandates. Republicanleaning states resisted these measures citing "freedom."

Live free & die became a serious choice.

The failure to get vaccinated has led many more Republicans than Democrats to die of Covid.

Throughout the pandemic, excess mortality has been at least 15% higher for Republican voters than Democratic voters after Covid-19 vaccines were available.

This is a place where Republican & Democrat really shouldn't matter.

Vaccination can keep you from getting Covid. If you do get it, your case is likely to be much lighter. It is the safest strategy for avoiding hospitalization, bad long-term health outcomes, and death.

There are no longer vaccine mandates. You want freedom? You are totally free to choose to take one shot, just like a flu shot, to protect yourself, your family, your church, your community.

Be a Good Moral Organism (GMO). Get the jab. No one at Walmart will ask how you voted.

~Deirdre Purdy, Chairperson, Calhoun County Democratic Executive Committee