

Why Many People Are Not Getting a COVID Vaccine: Part VI

With great fanfare, the first dose of a COVID vaccine was given on December 14, 2020.[1] Vaccine centers were set up all over the country in order to make it easy for anyone who wanted a vaccine to get one - for free! The U.S. government is paying for COVID vaccines for all Americans.

For the last 6 months, the media has dutifully reported the government's propaganda regarding COVID vaccines, falsely claiming that the vaccines are safe and effective (see previous newsletter articles posted in the Health Briefs Library). The media has also reported that most people want the vaccine, that most adults have received at least one dose of a COVID vaccine, and only a tiny percentage of "vaccine-hesitant" lunatics like me are saying "no." If this is true, then why is the government spending so much money to convince people to get a COVID vaccine that is free to any and all who want it??

On March 25, 2021, the White House announced that it would be investing \$10 billion dollars to increase, among other things, "vaccine confidence." [2] On April 6 2021, the Centers for Disease Control decided to spend \$3 billion on an ad campaign designed to address skepticism about COVID vaccines. The CDC enlisted 275 partners to help to push the jabs, including NASCAR, The Catholic Health Association and the North American Meat Institute. The partners are collectively called the COVID-19 Community Corps and were chosen because of the trust Americans have in those organizations. The CDC hopes leveraging the relationships these groups have with the public will result in more people getting vaccinated.[3]

Apparently months of promotion prior to the arrival of the vaccines, and \$13 billion dollars combined with endless free advertising by the state- and vaccine-maker- supported media was not enough to convince Americans to get the jab. In mid-May, Ohio emperor Mike DeWine announced a \$5 million dollar lottery with cash prizes for adults and another lottery awarding 4-year college educations to teens as incentives for getting vaccinated. Five "lucky" adults will receive \$1million each and 5 teenagers will receive a 4-year scholarship to any Ohio-based university that includes tuition, room and board, and books.[4]

Not to be outdone in the sweepstakes category, and anxious to ensure his legacy before being recalled, California's Emperor Gavin Newsome announced that \$15 million in prizes would be awarded to people who agreed to the jab. All who get vaccinated will receive a \$50 gift card and be eligible for a weekly \$50,000 drawing and also a drawing for a grand prize of \$1.5 million. All California residents age 12 and older are eligible for the prize money after receiving at least the first dose of the vaccine.[5]

So what is really going on? It is clear that resistance to these vaccines is much more significant than the government would like to admit. Hence the government not only has made the drug companies richer by paying for the development of these vaccines and purchasing hundreds of millions of doses; it has also set itself up as an advertising agency for them, spending billions of dollars and recruiting "trusted partners" to coerce people into getting vaccinated.

I think that this is a good sign. A growing number of people do not trust the government, the drug companies, or the media. According to a February survey, 56% of Americans said they agreed with this statement: "Journalists and reporters are purposely trying to mislead people by saying things they know

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are false or gross exaggerations."**[6]** Another survey showed that 57% of people think that government officials are deliberately misleading them.**[7]** And a March 2021 poll showed that only 34% of Americans had confidence in public health officials and the public health system.**[8]**

This distrust cannot be resolved with lotteries and advertising campaigns and "trusted partners." Trust can only be restored with open scientific debate, full disclosure and transparency, and freedom of choice.

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[1] Ben Guarino, Ariana Eunjing Cha, Josh Wood, Griff Witte. The weapon that will end the war: First coronavirus vaccine shots given outside trials in U.S. Washington Post December 14 2020

[2] <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/03/25/fact-sheet-biden-administration-announces-historic-10-billion-investment-to-expand-access-to-covid-19-vaccines-and-build-vaccine-confidence-in-hardest-hit-and-highest-risk-communities/>

[3] Annie Karni. Biden Administration Announces Ad Campaign to Combat Vaccine Hesitancy. New York Times April 5 2021

[4] <https://www.hpnonline.com/infection-prevention/crisis-planning-outbreak-response/article/21222654/ohio-governor-mike-dewine-offers-ohio-vaxamillion-chance-for-covid19-vaccinations>

[5] <https://covid19.ca.gov/vax-for-the-win/>

[6] Andy Meek. Fewer Americans Than Ever Before Trust the Mainstream Media. Forbes Feb 20 2021

[7] <https://www.edelman.com/trust/2021-trust-barometer/press-release>

[8] <https://www.cagw.org/thewastewatcher/lack-trust-public-health-authorities-will-impact-debate-medicare-all>