

**From:** [Katie Matteson](#)  
**To:** [Joseph P. Filippi](#)  
**Subject:** State Board of Health Meeting Regarding mandating Covid Vaccine for College Campus  
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My name is Katie and I'm a parent of 6 children, the oldest being 19. If I were to name the most economically vulnerable generation during this pandemic it would be those who are currently in college. Their housing is the most expensive it has been and most don't own homes and are trying to move out for the first time in their lives. Gas prices have soared and now we threaten their ability to get a college education. They have been deprived of their school experiences for the last 2 years (almost) and as if that wasn't enough we are now considering a vaccine mandate for them to continue their education. Taking away their choice as if everybody is one size fits all is beyond unconstitutional.

If we want people to fulfill expectations we desire then we must appeal to their objections. Force has never been the answer especially in a free democratic republic and continues to not be in the situation of vaccinations. If what you want someone to do carries a risk to their life and health then there should ALWAYS be a choice and the choice should be from the person receiving the vaccine. So educate, inform, plead, ask, educate some more, appeal to questions, be honest in statistics, etc. BUT DO NOT assume that because everyone isn't jumping to the vaccine that it mandates coercion, manipulation, and appeals to the desperation of our most vulnerable age group who have been deprived of school and milestones for the last 2 years. What a world we'd have if we'd empower this generation in Nevada to choose for themselves. Educate them and let them govern themselves! Most will probably choose it on their own and for those that don't, know that THEY were okay with the possibilities and risk. Risk is an unknown hazard that does not need government protection.

My oldest had an acute autoimmune reaction last year that almost killed him. He had just completed his associates degree not 3 weeks before. He did not enjoy online schooling (that he didn't get a choice to do otherwise) but made it work anyways. He was looking forward to finally attending in person college starting in January 2022 as he works towards his bachelors. My son has no comorbidities that would increase his risk to contracting Covid-19 and faring well, but he does have factors that increase his chances of reactions to the vaccine. HE SHOULD BE ABLE TO CHOOSE THAT FOR HIMSELF and also choose to attend college....not a doctor deciding for him, not a college board, not the state of Nevada. This is HIS choice to make about his body and he should still be afforded the opportunity to attend in person school UNVACCINATED if thats what he chooses. Lets show our kids that we trust their abilities and freedoms to choose and that the constitution is still stronger than the government's desires to control and coerce a people. We the people should not also include the words, until the government decides otherwise.

Don't you dare start by taking this away from the Nevada college students. Who's going to stand for them to be able to choose? ME! I can see the desperation in their eyes to get back to normal.....but how dare you exploit that and abuse their fragile state.

They may be considered adults in your eyes (and they certainly are in mine too) but they aren't so far removed that I've dismissed my mama bear instincts to call out on the board exploiting their vulnerability.

BACK OFF!

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Katie Matteson