

Crane, Nancy T

6/6/02

From: John Polifronio [counterpnt@earthlink.net]
Sent: Saturday, August 31, 2002 2:01 AM
To: Crane, Nancy T
Subject: Codex?

02-022N 02-022N-665 John Polifronio

I have become aware of a federal government plan to interfere with our access to nutritional supplements. I'm not a person that easily engages in controversy, but I can assure you, that I and millions of others will not remain silent in the face of what can only be called authoritarianism.

Someone always profits dishonorably from authoritarianism; though you wouldn't know it from official government pronouncements. Who is it that is behind this nonsense? Who is it that profits from it? Why are the people of this nation having this "forced" on us? You can't even make good sense when you provide us with a food pyramid. Nutritional science is a matter of staggering complexity. The vast majority of nutritional supplements are, not simply harmless, but frequently enhance human health, and do so with little or no potential for abuse. You ought to be encouraging the masses to achieve a higher level of health, self-reliance, rather than insulting us with Big Brother tactics.

I have been informed that you intend to force us to get a doctor's prescription before we can buy more than the RDA of, say, vitamin C!!! I assume you intend to do this "for our own good," inasmuch as you have "research" showing that a few nutritional supplements exhibit a potential for harm. Corn Flakes have a potential for harm if you eat enough of to cause vomiting. Is it possible that you use such an argument with a straight face? Consider the number of common foods which, when consumed even in ordinary quantities, can injure and kill; seafood and contaminated meat, poultry and eggs, are perfect examples. Does overuse of sugar or salt have harm potential (what are diabetes and high blood pressure)?

Millions of tons of various packaged foods are recalled daily, because of contamination. Yet you allow us to buy and consume these foods, without legal restraint. You intend to force us to obtain prescriptions, to buy food supplements, from medical practitioners that operate in a system where pharmaceuticals and medical practices are causing 100,000 deaths annually? How many deaths have resulted, yearly, from the use of food and herbal supplements?

I don't believe that the federal government has done near enough to stop nicotine and alcohol abuse and use. Why are you wasting time and resources invading our right to uncomplicated access to food supplements? Why are you seriously considering making it vastly more expensive to obtain supplements? If you want a "Codex" for vitamins, why can't you do it in a manner that doesn't take more money out of the pockets of your victims, in this preposterous scheme of yours?

If you intend to trample on our freedoms in this manner, you will see an opposition from the people of this nation, that you may be underestimating. You will be giving me something to truly fight against.

John Polifronio
Los Angeles