



S.T.O.P. – Safe Tables Our Priority
Working Together To Make Safe Food A Reality

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STATEMENT OF ANGELA BABOSH

**Prepared for the FSIS Public Meeting on the Draft Risk Assessment for *Listeria* in Ready-to-eat Meat and Poultry Products
February 26, 2003**

At this meeting there is so much time spent going over the technical aspects of listeriosis and how it is making its way into food, please take a moment to look at how it is affecting people and their lives.

My name is Angela Babosh and my daughter Morgan died from a *Listeria* infection. She was small and defenseless and suffered her whole little life. I delivered Morgan at 28 weeks gestation after being terribly sick. I was so sick that I had a 102 degree temperature, horrible body aches and a headache that made it impossible for me to keep my eyes open. I did not leave my bed for 2 weeks. Although I was told that I had a really bad flu, it was eventually determined I had a *Listeria* infection.

It is impossible to explain the guilt I felt having consumed something that caused the death of my own child. I was careful to follow all of the doctor's directions, but it did not matter.

Please keep in mind that many people are being sickened by *Listeria* and people like those of you at this meeting are the ones who can prevent it from continuing to be a problem.

Keep in your mind the faces of those stricken, the pain suffered, and the loss of the ones you love.

Do not let it continue.

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