

Subject: Genistein and Soy Formula

Date: Thursday, November 23, 2006 3:02 PM

From: James McPherson [REDACTED]

To: "Shelby, Michael (NIH/NIEHS) [E]" <Shelby@niehs.nih.gov>

Conversation: Genistein and Soy Formula

Dear Dr. Shelby:

As we all know the world is over populatedI and I am pleased to see that at last someone is trying to do something about it. Specifically, if the Genistein and Soy Formula method of feeding newborns in third world countries becomes common then this will go a long way toward alleviating the over population problem. Of course, it should be banned in the civilized world except for the lower elements. I am sure you agree.

Sincerely,

James

McPherson

I am deeply concerned about the expert panel's conclusion that soy infant formula should be considered "safe until proven otherwise." Although the panel raises valid questions about the quality of many of the studies they examined, the failure of researchers to prove absolute danger does not prove safety, and many studies indicate that safety must not be assumed. Over the years, expert independent scientists -- including leading toxicologists from the FDA's and NIEHS's own laboratories -- have expressed serious concerns about the effect of soy phytoestrogens on brain, thyroid and reproductive development. We need to take their conclusions seriously.

I believe the United States should follow the examples of the Israeli Health

Ministry and British Dietetic Association to warn parents and pediatricians about the potential dangers of soy infant formula. NIEHS should recommend that babies not receive soy infant formula except as a last resort. Better yet, we should also follow the example of the French Food Agency, which will soon require manufacturers to remove almost all the isoflavones from soy infant formula. These actions would help protect our babies.

I personally know of the dangers of soy infant formula because _____ (please briefly state what happened to you, your children or friends' children etc. i.e. allergies, learning disabilities, digestive distress, premature puberty, infertility, menstrual disorders, etc). I am making this a part of the public record in the hope of saving other babies from this fate.

I hope this letter will encourage the panel to reconsider its conclusions and to commit to the precautionary principle of "better safe than sorry."
Thank you,

(Your Name and Address)

[Redacted signature and address]