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**Conversation:** bisphenol A comments  
**Subject:** bisphenol A comments

I am writing to you because I am extremely concerned about the inescapable presence of bisphenol A (BPA) in food and food-related products. As I am sure you are already aware, studies on BPA have shown that it can have harmful impacts on children and prenatal humans. Studies show that 95% of Americans have this chemical present in our urine, and scientists are now suggesting links between this chemical and obesity, breast cancer, and prostate cancer—three of the fastest growing health issues in American today! It is a monumental understatement to merely say that this is cause for alarm.

The plastics industry naturally declares that its studies show that all levels of likely human exposure to BPA are safe. To quote from <http://www.thegreenguide.com/doc/114/bpa/3>, however:

“Vom Saal counters that the studies showing BPA is safe are ‘profoundly flawed and in some cases exhibit outright fraud.’ Last year, he published a paper showing that 100 percent of the industry-funded studies, 11 in all, found no harmful effects from BPA, while 90 percent of government-funded low-dose studies, 104 in number, found harmful effects. ‘Among people who have actually read this literature there is no debate, just an illusion of controversy,’ he says.”

I am gravely concerned about the government at large, and especially the FDA's, failure to protect its citizens with the necessary safeguards. The FDA ought to err on the side of public safety in all instances, not on economic benefits of keeping some questionable or “controversial” products on the market. At the very least, all products that may contain BPA need to be labeled as such! This is a basic logical implication if the government finds that BPA may be unsafe for children or pregnant women and their fetus. If the government agencies that are supposed to protect us willfully fail to do so, then we the people, at the least need to be armed with proper information if we are going to protect ourselves and make enlightened consumer decisions and avoid chemicals like BPA. It would be an egregious limitation on our very freedom

(for truly the ignorant are not free) if we were not armed with this vital information as consumers.

Matthew Lopresti