To Our Legislators,

Several vaccines are now cultured in human tissue. This is extremely immoral and medically questionable. It is also unnecessary. Vaccines were not manufactured in this way prior to the late 1970's.

Instead of trying coerce parents who have legitimate religious and safety concerns regarding vaccines, lawmakers should address those concerns in a constructive way. Lawmakers should mandate that vaccines be made available that are not grown in human tissue. We should be able to administer vaccines one at a time so that we can have a better understanding of which vaccines cause more reactions. If a child has an adverse reaction to a vaccine, they should be exempt from future doses. Vaccines manufacturers should also be required to eliminate aluminum and mercury from vaccines.

Three cases of measles in Connecticut does not warrant this draconian response. Parents should have the right to evaluate risks vs. benefits for their children and they should not have to compromise their religious beliefs to have their children educated in the schools. Lawmakers have rather flippantly stated that unvaccinated children can be homeschooled. We DO homeschool our children and we are fortunate to be able to do so. Many parents don’t have the resources to educate their children at home. As a part of a community, we support our public schools, we vote for the school budgets, and we protect people whose opinions are in the minority. This is one of the reasons we have a representative republic and NOT a strict democracy where the majority bullies those with different beliefs. It is also extremely difficult to obtain a college degree at home.

My body, my choice ~ only applies if you want an abortion? Where is our moral compass?

Jennifer and Aaron Benham
New Hartford, CT