

INTRODUCTION

In his autobiography, one of America's most famous Founding Fathers Benjamin Franklin expressed his regret and sorrow at the loss of his four-year-old son, Franky, who died of smallpox in 1736. Although initially against inoculations, Franklin ultimately bitterly acknowledged that he made the wrong decision in refusing to vaccinate his son. He chose to share this story as part of his autobiography in the hopes that it would serve as a warning to others who shied away from vaccines. While Franklin and his fellow colonists did not have a national panel of expert physicians making recommendations regarding vaccines, modern-day American parents do, and it is called the American Pediatric Academy. People should follow the American Pediatric Academy's vaccination schedule as it is the best way to prevent or eradicate serious disease, has no impact on brain development, protects those who are willing but unable to be vaccinated, and is more cost effective than treating or combating disease that has become established.

Commented [LM1]: Draw in the reader with something that will hook them – an example, a scenario, etc.

Commented [LM2]: Transition to the thesis statement

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CONCLUSION

Following the vaccination schedule recommended by the American Pediatric Academy is one of the surest ways to keep children and adults healthy. Vaccinating children has eradicated or significantly decreased the occurrences of once deadly diseases throughout the world. There is no credible evidence that vaccines cause or worsen autism in children despite many claims that this is the case. Additionally, there are children who have compromised immune systems who cannot be vaccinated even if they wished to be; vaccinating children who *can* tolerate vaccines helps protect those who *cannot*. Vaccines are also cost effective. In other words, it costs far less to prevent disease than it does to treat it once it is established. Epidemics that would otherwise be difficult to contain due to the ease of movement from city to city, state to state, country to country, and continent to continent, may be prevented beginning with childhood vaccinations. A victim of the time period in which he lived, Benjamin Franklin might be forgiven for not vaccinating his son against smallpox. After all, vaccines were new and completely unpredictable. However, today's parents should look for no such pardon.

Commented [LM4]: Explain my stand, which is usually the first half of the thesis statement...the part before you list your arguments.

Commented [LM5]: State Argument 1

Commented [LM6]: State Argument 2

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Commented [LM9]: Explain why anyone should care. Imagine that someone read your paper and responded with "Who cares?" or "Why should I care?" Your answer to those questions is what you address here.

Commented [LM10]: Wrap up with something that bring a sense of closure.