


# Position: Nurses who Refuse Vaccination for Non-Medical Reasons Should Have their Licenses Suspended

**Patrice Ellen Rancour\***

*Patrice Ellen Rancour, Glenn Avenue, Columbus, Ohio, USA*

**\*Corresponding author:** Patrice Ellen Rancour, 1978 Glenn Avenue Columbus, Ohio 43212, USA

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## Introduction

If you are a nurse working today, it is assumed that part of your basic educational preparation was in learning the germ theory of disease, that infection and infection control are very basic to one's knowledge of public health. When we license, we do not have the freedom of choice to agree or disagree with scientific principles that guide practice. For example, I cannot choose to disbelieve in the concept of inflammation while I provide care to people with diabetes, arthritis, cardiovascular disease, etc. As health care professionals, we take an oath to protect the public trust by engaging in personal and professional health care practices that promote the general welfare. That is why we are recognized as licensed professionals, and actually, as nurses, we have received the very top grade almost every year as the one discipline the public trusts the most. Apparently that is about to change.

When nurses publicly refuse to self-vaccinate, and instead, stage walk-outs to protest such vaccination, they are clearly indicating that they do not recognize the germ theory of disease, a very basic premise upon which modern health care is based. The reason we no longer talk about polio is because decades ago, an entire population took it upon themselves to adhere to scientific principles designed to protect the common good. This involved health care providers taking the vaccine as well. I know a retired colleague who bemoans the fact that she can't locate a health care provider who knows how to care for her post-polio syndrome. This is because polio is not taught in medical or nursing curricula anymore as it has been

effectively extinguished by vaccination. We should be working similarly to ensure that in years from now, no one will be needing to learn about covid as we strive towards making covid extinct. At this point, it will be us who becomes extinct.

If you are a nurse who has politicized this virus, I would encourage you to take a good look at what is motivating such a need to so link your identity with a microbe that you are willing to participate in the genocide of your society. If you believe in evidence-based care, I am not sure how much more evidence you require to make your license count for something. Think about what you entered into the profession to accomplish and decide to make your license count for something larger than your own identity politics.

If you are a nurse who insists that this is an issue of personal choice, I am asking you to reevaluate that premise. Driving while intoxicated is a personal choice, however as a society, we decided that the fatalities associated with such choices were unacceptable. The fatalities associated with the current pandemic make drunk driving pale by comparison. Where do your rights end and the rights of others begin? I feel alarmed that your personal choice is not to run into the burning building as a first responder, but instead to burn it to the ground.

As I look at the numbers of children who are now requiring ventilator care, I am begging you to reconsider. I just hope that one of those children won't be mine. Or yours.



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