
From: Anna Sretching-Cole

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Subject: Water Fluoridation

Good evening Town Board,

First off, I just want to thank you all for all of your hard work and dedication to our town.

Due to prior engagements, I am unable to attend the meeting tomorrow evening, but I wanted to share my family's story and hope it could make it a little clearer as to why water fluoridation may not be the best for our town.

Let me start off by introducing myself. My name is Anna Sretching-Cole and this is our 6th year living in Yorktown (though my husband has been here for many decades--which is why he convinced me that Yorktown is where we had to raise our children).

We have two smart and beautiful daughters, Jordyn who is 9 and Jada who is 5. When Jordyn was about 3, there were many issues with her teeth--we saw many specialists and basically, her body was not producing what it needed to keep her teeth healthy and strong. Working closely with her doctors, we agreed a prescribed small dose of fluoride would be best for her. We have been able to monitor her intake with her doctors and over the years have been able to even reduce the prescribed amount she receives. She, and her teeth are flourishing. Our other daughter, Jada, on the other hand, has shown no signs of a deficiency like her sister and requires no prescribed supplement. With her diagnosis of alopecia, any "extra" supplements can actually cause a flare up.

Our fear with the potential fluoridation of Yorktown's water is that we will have no way of knowing if our oldest is getting exactly what she needs. We are also worried our youngest will be exposed to something she does not need. Our doctors already told us if the water fluoridation does go through, we would have to stop the medication for our oldest as she cannot have more than a certain amount or she may become sick.

As a parent, my number one job is to make sure my children are safe. If Yorktown moves forward with adding fluoride to the water, I will be unable to do my number one job as a parent.

I completely understand both sides of the argument, but knowing what I know and having two very different girls, I can see how water fluoridation is not the best solution for all. It is easy to get a prescription for fluoride from a doctor/dentist/specialist. What I cannot do, is measure the daily intake of fluoride each child might be exposed to at any given time.

Please help me do right by both of my daughters.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Anna C. Sretching-Cole

"It must be remembered that the purpose of education is not to fill the minds of students with facts... it is to teach them to think, if that is possible, and always to think for themselves."