

Presentation to
Special Committee on Cosmetic Pesticides
November 8, 2011

Toxic Free Canada



Contact:
Mae Burrows
mburrows@telus.net
604.916.9026

First Call: BC Child and
Youth Advocacy Coalition



Contact:
Adrienne Montani
Amontani@fsgv.ca
604.873.8437

Unnecessary use of cosmetic pesticides

There's many alternatives

Why create unnecessary exposure?



Pregnant women and young children particularly vulnerable

Chemicals in pesticides affect developing fetus

And

Young children whose brain and other organs are still developing



Chemical exposure during critical periods

Could affect brain cells



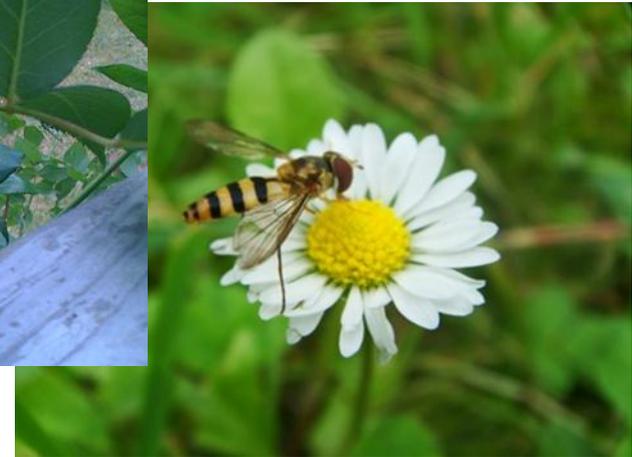
Send false signals to developing reproductive organs



Precursor to cancer



Frogs, birds, salmon, bees are vulnerable





Evidence – manufacturer’s own ingredient lists identify carcinogens, neuro-toxic, endocrine disrupting & reproductive chemicals

Use according to directions





Drift

Evidence that spraying reaches less than 10% of intended target
Can drift 100 metres



Bees give us 1 of 3 of our food sources





Bees native to BC

Particularly like dandelions and clover



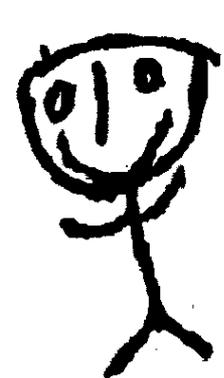
Neurotoxins in pesticides affects brain and nervous system

1. Interferes with enzyme cholinesterase which is essential for normal functioning of nervous system
2. Pyrethroids affect transmission of impulses along nerves
3. Damage myelin shield insulation covering spinal chord and nerves



Dr. Elizabeth Guillette Study Pesticides in Mexico

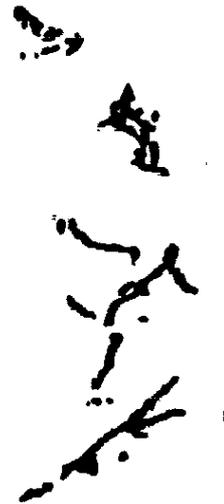
Drawings of a person by 4 year old children



54 months
female



55 months
female



54 months
female



53 months
female

Drawings by children
not exposed to pesticides

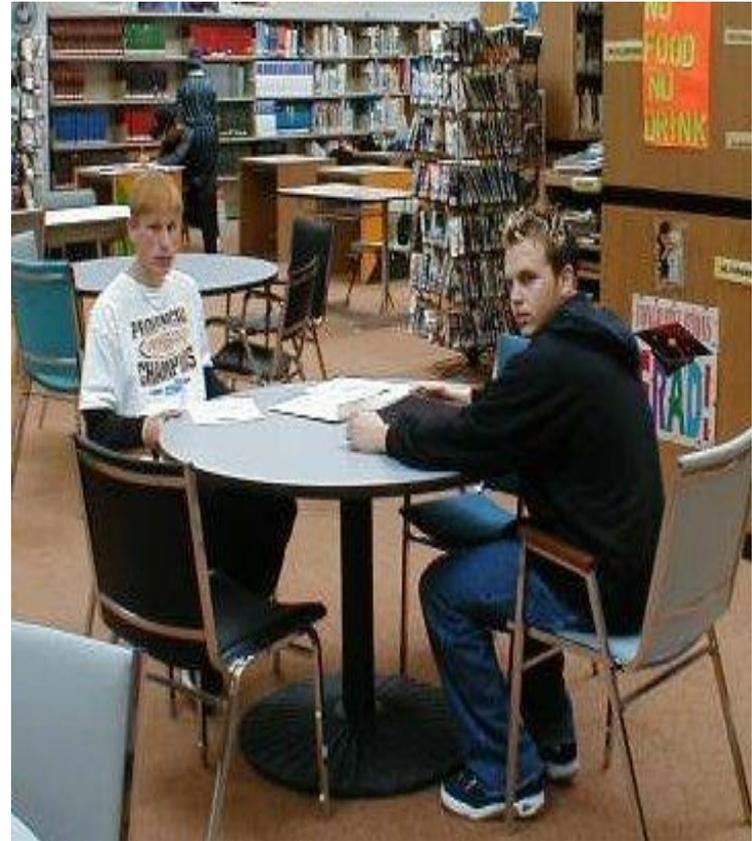
Drawings by children **exposed**
to commonly used pesticides

Learning disabilities

On the increase

Children classified with learning disabilities and placed in special ed programs

Conservative estimates
– LDs 3-5% of population



Health Canada slow to act to protect children

Low dose exposure

As low as 1 part in 4B

Lead in children's toys

Bisphenol A



BPA

Identified as a xenoestrogen 1936

Can cause cell changes at extremely low doses

Invitro exposure induces changes in mammary gland very early - associated with breast cancer

Health Canada still hasn't banned BPA

Only in bottles and sippy cups for under 18 months old - no consumer labelling



copyright Michele Taras



IPM doesn't change the culture and habits

Does not eliminate use of cosmetic pesticides. Some increases noted in studies

Does not prevent pesticide abuse – spraying in wind, rainy when run-off is high

Does not protect areas with a buffer zone



Workability of IPM????

\$\$\$WHO will monitor:

Accreditation

That it is the last tool?

Enforcement & compliance

Will the government use:

WorkSafe Officers?

Forest Lands and Natural
Resources Officers

New corp of officers?

How can this piece-meal
regulation be monitored for
public health and safety?



Time to ban unnecessary use of pesticides

Move to a new health-based paradigm



Banning smoking used to be called “Junk Science”



วิ
จะทำร้ายลูก
บุ



Environmental exposures in community – no right to know



It's time to ban unnecessary exposure to our children

