

‘1986: The Act’

A Special Interview With Dr. Andrew Wakefield

By Dr. Joseph Mercola

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

Welcome everyone, this is Dr. Mercola, helping you take control of your health. Today we are joined by Dr. Andy Wakefield who is on his tour for the new incredible documentary he produced, “1986: The Act.” He's currently in Wichita, Kansas and getting ready to engage in a very large gathering of over 1,000 people in support of the film, along with him and Del Bigtree and Robby RfK Jr. will be there. So it's going to be great, but we're going to go into the details of this film, which is the best documentary I've ever seen put together on this topic. It is really incredible, and congratulations to you, Andy. But before we go into the film I want to go in a little bit about you because just about everyone watching this should know who you are, but for the rare people who don't, if you can expand on that, because you certainly took the brunt of quite a bit of controversy, and I don't know if anyone has been more, and I think the term is appropriate, crucified than you in this movement. I mean, they took away your medical license. You've been vilified to the top, to the bottom, and it's just sadly tragic what they've done to you. Why don't you briefly summarize this story and then we can go into the details of the film?

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

Absolutely. Thank you very much, Joe. You're looking wonderful as ever. I trained as a classical physician, classical medicine. I graduated in 1981 from Royal Free Hospital in London. I had trained as a surgeon and went into gastroenterology. My principal interests were inflammatory bowel disease, and I ended up running a large research team, about 19 of us at the Royal Free Hospital in London, which is part of the University of London.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

I became interested in the possible viral origins of Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, and that led me to looking at measles virus, and then after publishing a paper in *The Lancet* in 1995, in the middle of '95, I got a call from a mother who said her child was developing normally, then had his MMR, (measles, mumps, rubella) vaccine and then regressed into autism very, very quickly after a period of what turned out to be encephalitis. He also had terrible bowel symptoms, gastrointestinal problems, failure to thrive, pain, bloating and diarrhea, and that was the reason she was getting in touch with me. She was convinced there was a link between the bowel and the brain. Well, these children – and she said there's an epidemic of this particular problem. So we took that very seriously, we investigated her child, she was absolutely right. We investigated a whole lot of children, and they indeed had an inflammatory bowel disease, and that was fascinating. The medical profession had dismissed it and said no, that's just part of autism. In fact, it wasn't. It was a genuine pathology, but more importantly when we corrected or ameliorated that pathology with diet or anti-inflammatories, then not only did the gastrointestinal problems improve, but the behavior and the autistic symptoms improved as well, and that was fascinating, Joe. That was like a sort of “Lorenzo's Oil.”

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

Being academics, we said that didn't happen, so we did it 180 times and it happened virtually every single time. So the parents were absolutely right. We had to take, therefore, the proposed link between the MMR vaccine and the regression very, very seriously, and that of course was anathema to public health, to the Royal College of Pediatricians, to the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), to just about the entire world of medicine, and certainly of course to the pharmaceutical industry responsible for making these vaccines, but that was neither here nor there. We had an obligation to the children and fulfilling that obligation led to an attenuation of my career prospect, but that's neither here nor there. We had a job to do and we did the job. I now, after they prevented me doing the job that I set out to do, I decided to become a filmmaker, because over the years, because of the stance I had taken, a lot of people had come to me from industry or from government with stories of terrible deeds, terrible acts on the part of those people who were not in the interest of the children who they were meant to be caring for.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

They would say to me, "We did something very bad, I can't live with it, here are the documents that prove it." So I had these extraordinary stories, and I thought now is the time to start telling those stories in film, and that is where I find myself now. So I look on myself now, Joe, as really continuing that process of education, which I started way back teaching individuals and medical students, and now through film, helping to educate at least in part many, many more people about what's really happened. "1986: The Act," the new movie, is really part of that process, a very important part of that process.

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

Okay. I want to delve a little bit more into your history just before we go into the film. That they disparaged you enormously and actually invested enormous amounts of resources to spin a counter-narrative and invested and actually had studies published to disprove your hypothesis, and I find it particularly odd that it doesn't rationally make sense that you could be vilified for supporting some hidden agenda. You had no financial gain involved in this at all, and there are many scams out there. I mean, that's part of the nature of being human and people do this routinely, but usually there's some financial motivation, some ulterior component to that. You had none of that. You were just seeking to communicate the truth, but for that they essentially made you an example and took away your license, and essentially caused you to leave your home country and then you migrated to the United States.

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

Now, I'm curious. I think you went to Texas initially for a while and now you're down in Florida, which I think is the best state in the country, so that was a good move. Did you get to Florida after you met Elle Macpherson?

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

I did.

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

Okay, that's what I thought. Yeah, because she lives down in Miami. I think I was at the event where you guys met, was at the ACIM meeting in November about two years ago. So why don't you just comment on that and then we'll go into the video?

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

Well, it's interesting. Joe, yes, you're absolutely right. They accused me of all kinds of things, of scientific fraud, of abuse of children. One qualification, and in respect of financial conflicts of interest, it was alleged that The Lancet paper was paid for by lawyers, it wasn't at all. This is one of the great lies that has been construed around this, that I was actually motivated to bring down the drug companies, the vaccine manufacturers while working as an expert on behalf of these children.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

Now, that started some six months after I'd encountered these children and initiated the program of investigation into their illness. Yes, I acted as an expert on behalf of these children in litigation against the pharmaceutical companies in the U.K. for some nine years, and that really was my undoing. They couldn't tolerate that someone would go against the system and act on behalf of the children. There was no criticism of those many experts acting on behalf of the pharmaceutical companies who were making a fortune. I should tell you that all I made, as an expert, went into an initiative to develop a new center at the Royal Free Hospital to investigate the disease in these children and improve their well-being. I made nothing out of it at all, indeed, I lost a great deal, but that's again, neither here nor there. I did that willingly, it was a conscious decision, and I did it in the interest of pursuing the science because it was absolutely sure, certain, that we were never going to get funding from any other source to pursue a possible link between a vaccine and a serious adverse outcome in many, many children. That wasn't going to happen. So if we were going to succeed in this scientific initiative, then we had to take it on ourselves and fund it ourselves, and that was the decision that I took.

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

Yeah. Thank you for having the courage and the personal integrity to pursue that, and it just still boggles my mind that anyone who was objective and looked at the facts couldn't come to any other conclusion that there was no ill intent here. I mean, you had no motivation to pursue, that there was no financial incentive. That's typically, as I said, the single largest motivator in areas like this.

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

So anyway, it kind of leads into the pronomic vision or view of life, which I tend to take, because you obviously had some really nasty things happen to you that really could've turned most people's lives upside down, and it sure did yours for a while. But we all get these challenges, every single one of us. Everyone watching this has life challenges, and if you could take that and turn it around for good and realize that even though it looks terrible and tragic at the time, there's some good purpose and outcome that's going to result from that tragedy. You've done that. You've actually produced this new movie, "1986: The Act," which is incredible. I mean, your previous movies, I know "Vaxxed." Was there a "Vaxxed II?"

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

I was in “Vaxxed II,” it wasn't my movie. I didn't make it.

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

Okay. Okay, all right. So “Vaxxed” was your movie though, right, and Del's, your and Del's?

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

I directed it and wrote it, and Del co-wrote it and produced it, yes.

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

Okay, yeah. Maybe you can briefly discuss that, but were there any other movies other than “Vaxxed” that you-

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

There was a movie before that that was called “Who Killed Alex Spourdalakis?” It was a tragic story of a child, a single child. The one thing about that movie, which convinced me of the power of the film, Joe, was that it was this story, ostensibly, of a murder-suicide where the mother had killed her own child. We had been filming the entire evolution of this process, clearly without knowing how it was going to end. When we made the movie about what really happened and about the abject failure of the medical system to help this child, in fact, to destroy him with 28 psychotropic medications and chain him to a bed. When the state prosecutor in Illinois saw the film he called her lawyer and said, "We cannot prosecute this case in the same way having seen this film. She will be released from prison next week." That was the first time in American history that a film had ever commuted what was, in effect, a life sentence. It was extraordinary, and that made me realize that film is something that can convey to a lot of people an extraordinary set of truths that can change their thinking about a certain topic.

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

Well, congratulations. That's certainly a great victory. Then you took it the next level with “Vaxxed” and disclosed this conspiracy within the CDC that would withhold information, but it was complex and I think in my view it was a useful film, but no, it doesn't come anywhere close as to “1986: The Act,” which provides – I mean, you've done such an incredible service to collate this information of the history, which really hasn't been done, because many people now – I mean, that was a long time ago. That was like 36 years ago when this happened, or 34 years ago. Many people today were not alive at that time, let alone old enough to understand what was going on. I mean, you and I were both at medical practice at the time, but it was an incredible governmental process that radically changed things forever. Why don't you – Now, I'll let you take it from here. You can discuss what motivated you to put this together and the processes you did. It must have taken a few years, because the documentation you have on there is just phenomenal. It is just a great historical description of what happened.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

Well, thank you, Joe. Yes, here we have a complex story of legislation, complex legislation, litigation and medical science. You've got this extraordinary challenge as a filmmaker to deliver

that to the public, many of whom know nothing about this, in a way that they will understand. That was a real challenge, and it took – I started four years ago trying to conceptualize this, and way into the movie I was still stuck for a narrative mechanism, a way of engaging the public, because it could've put even the most ardent fan to sleep in 10 minutes trying to tell that story. Therefore, how to do it? I was at a pop-up fundraiser in Los Angeles, and there was a celebrity couple there and they said, after I had spoken, "We really have to get behind this film and do everything we can for it." And I suddenly thought in that moment, "Oh my gosh, I now know what you can do and how to narrate this film. I will put it in your hands. You will be a husband and wife as you are and you're expecting your first baby, late in life, and therefore it is very, very important, very precious to you, and you go on a journey. Something sparks a concern in the mother, some ancient wisdom, some intuition that leads her on a journey, and she's taking her husband with her."

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

Initially it's the same debate that so many families around the kitchen table every night are having in every country of the world right now, and that is, "What do we do about vaccination?" There's so much controversy, there's this for, and that against, and my friend says this, and my sister says that. Put the film, the narration, the narrative in the hands on the parents. Now, we, the audience, are suddenly engaged because this couple are us. They have been where we have been. They are asking the questions that we have asked, and suddenly we care. We care because their journey is our journey, their outcome is our outcome. So we're sitting forward in our seats, wanting to know more, and it becomes so much more engaging, and that was a real challenge. Never been done before combining fictional narrative, even though this couple was based upon the sort of constellation of the thousands of parents that I've interviewed over the years with documentary footage. It could've ended up like an ice cream sundae, and yet I think it worked, and from what you say, Joe, at least it worked for you, so thank you very much for that. Suddenly it becomes a real story that we care about.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

So in a filmic sense that was the challenge, which we seem to have dealt with in some way. We didn't get the original celebrity couple, I could never get back in touch with them, such is Hollywood.

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

Oh, that was unfortunate.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

But we did get-

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

Yeah, the actors.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

-some very fine actors to help us with it. The story is really, there are two elements to it, Joe, and one is it's a story of what happens when you take an industry and products out and away from the

constraints of the free market. And you will understand as well as anyone that the free market in this country operates to promote the success of good products and where a product is bad or unsafe, it will sink to the bottom and either the companies improve or they perish. When you take a product out of that free market, away from those constraints such that there is no incentive for safety, where there is a mandated market and no liability, then you have a catastrophe. For the industry you have a perfect business model. All they can do is make a massive profit. They don't have to do the safety studies properly, they don't have any liability, and doing safety studies properly is disincentivized. Why? Because you don't want to put money into identifying a serious adverse event that might affect your bottom line. So you're not going to do those safety studies, and this is a situation we face now in this country, but it's worse than that, Joe.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

What “The Act,” the movie, shows is how when this act was passed the regulatory agencies, the CDC, FDA (Food and Drug Administration), NIH (National Institutes of Health) did not want it. They didn't want it because every time a child was compensated it meant, “Vaccines can do this, they can harm, they can kill, and we don't want the public to know that. So how are we going to prevent that?” So they conspired with the industry to demolish, to sabotage everything that Congress had put in place to ensure proper regulation, proper safety studies be done, proper ascertainment of severe adverse events, of adverse events in general, and making vaccines safer. There was none of that.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

So right now we find ourselves in this extraordinary situation where in the face of a new pandemic, COVID-19, we have the threat of global vaccine mandates for everybody, without exception, and no safety studies of any merit whatsoever. In fact, the few safety studies that are being done already turning up serious neurological adverse events, and absolutely no chance for compensation for anyone damaged by those vaccines in what is now the PREP (Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness) Act, which is superseded or carried on from the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act and is even worse. No liability for anyone in that chain of supply of these new, untested and dangerous Frankenstein vaccines, which are already proving to be troublesome.

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

Yes, indeed. I was particularly fond of the documentary because it highlighted one of my heroes, and yours too I'm sure, is Barbara Loe Fisher. You recognize her brilliance and commitment and dedication for over the 35 years that she started it, the co-founder of NVIC (National Vaccine Information Center) and really documented what she did like no one else has done previously. It was really incredible.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

Barbara is absolutely extraordinary, and this film did not set out to be an homage to Barbara, but that's the way it's turned out. Her role in this and everything that she's done has been to some extent, misrepresented and misunderstood. As you said, many people don't know the history. So it was essential to tell the true history of how this woman really led the charge and has continued to lead the charge for so many years. Then we came into the final scene and it was extraordinary.

There was that event at the mall in Washington, a big protest, and we took our actors there and filmed them there, they were part of it. That was part of that final sort of push into this vaccine safety arena. I was going to take, as a filmmaker, little clips from Bobby, and Del, and other people, and a little bit of Barbara. I didn't have to go near it. Barbara delivered one of the most extraordinary speeches that I've ever heard. One of the most extraordinary motivational speeches that have ever taken place in that town, in that city. So as a filmmaker she gave me everything I wanted, everything I wanted in that final speech. It was an extraordinary end to the film, and certainly not an end to Barbara's contribution to this work. Yes, bless Barbara. What an extraordinary job she's done.

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

Yeah. Speaking of her, you and I will both be participating in her international conference, which occurs in October. I believe your film is being shown for those who register for the event, and it's almost free. It's so inexpensive, it's well under a \$100, but there will be 38 other speakers. You, me and Bobby Kennedy will be given 45 minutes thankfully to share our story, and it's going to be available online. You don't have to watch it live, you can watch it delayed on video, but it will be incredible. So I'm just so delighted. I'm saddened that we won't be able to connect in person at that event, which is an outcome obviously of the pandemic and the social isolation restrictions, but it is what it is, and the information will be solid.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

We'll make the most of it until we get to a point where we can get back to having those conferences. But the people who want to watch the film now Joe, it's available online at 1986TheAct.com, 1986TheAct.com, and you can stream it, you can download it, and you can order the DVD, which will be available very soon, which will be available in multiple languages. So people, no need to delay, it will be free at Barbara's meeting sometime down the line, but for those who want to watch it now, please go to 1986TheAct.com and there you can see it.

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

Yeah, it's great. What type of feedback have you received from the film so far?

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

Well, from people who've watched it, they loved it. For those partners in relationships whose attention span is perhaps less than optimal, we've done a "chapters" version where we've broken it down online into chapters. So you can grab eight to 10 minutes as you go through the film. You will know from having seen it, Joe, that it's divided into chapters. That you can grab that chapter format. So it's available in a variety of ways for people to watch. We've had wonderful, wonderful feedback. We were hoping of course that there would be another Tribeca moment as there was for "Vaxxed," that we would submit it somewhere and get it censored, and that would cause worldwide outrage and a huge number of people wanting to watch the film. Of course, that didn't happen this time, and COVID changed the entire distribution dynamic. Censorship is there on the main platforms, so we're seeing the emergence of new platforms that are uncensored, and that's the wonderful thing about the free market. If people like Facebook censor themselves effectively from this debate, this discussion, including the film, then other people will step in and say, "Thank you very much. I've had this idea for a new platform for 10 years and you've just

provided me with the opportunity of launching it." So that's the value of the free market, and we're seeing those new platforms emerging now.

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

Yeah, it'll take a while for them to compete with the big giants like Google, and Facebook, and Twitter, but to climb any mountain you got to climb the first steps.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

[crosstalk 00:24:58].

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

I wanted to go back into the pandemic component and "The Act," which was obviously in 1986. The swine flu of 1976, 10 years previously, is one of the closest similarities as COVID-19 with respect to affecting large numbers of people and then as a response to the infection, the rush to market of a vaccine that really wasn't properly safety-tested. It wasn't a mandate, but a pretty strong encouragement along with radical release of governmental ads and propaganda to get the vaccine, to catalyze action to everyone get this vaccine, and that's what they did. In '76, I don't know if it's the end of '76 or beginning of '77, they started the vaccine, and did they have complications.

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

There are a number of people who died, many dozens of people were seriously injured with Guillain-Barre and neurological complications, literally this was six – eight years before the 1986 act that was passed. So there was no insulation from liability, and I believe they awarded over \$3 billion in damages from that vaccine, which of course would never be done today. They could have exponentially more damages, 100 times, 1,000 times more damage and they don't have to pay a penny. So I'm just wondering your thoughts on that swine flu pandemic and vaccine reaction and relative to the new one that's coming.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

Absolutely. Just by a way of background, it was crucial. It was critical because it was pivotal in the perception of politicians and drug companies alike. What happened was there was a single case of what they considered to be swine flu, H1N1, similar to the swine flu, the 1917 global pandemic that killed millions of people. That was the CDC's claim. There was one case at Fort Dix, New Jersey. Based upon that one case and three other cases, all at Fort Dix, New Jersey, the CDC declared this is identical to the virus that was seen and killed so many people in 1917. We need to vaccinate 95% of the U.S. population right now. Vaccines were rushed to market. The insurance companies refused to underwrite those vaccines because they'd been rushed to market, and the pharmaceutical industry said to the Ford administration, "If you want people to have this vaccine then you have to underwrite liability." Now, there is nothing that terrifies politicians like a plague, because they don't understand it. They're not virologists or epidemiologists, they are entirely dependent on their experts. As we've seen with COVID, this is the death of experts. We've had so many expert opinions which have been absolutely wrong that've led to catastrophe, and this was no different.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

So the Ford administration was persuaded that this was going to kill millions of Americans if they didn't rush forward with this vaccine that hadn't been tested, and the industry demanded liability protection, and this was the first blood in the water. Ironically, it was the outbreak of legionella, a bacterial infection in Legionnaires coming home from Philadelphia, from their annual convention, deaths in those that suddenly the media, and here is the role of the media, hyped as, "Here it is, the flu is here." No, it wasn't, it was something completely unrelated, but that panicked the government into signing off the first liability protection for the industry.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

As you say, Joe, firstly the virus was not the same as the 1917 virus. It was a mistake, good lord. A mistake by the CDC, yes, absolutely. There were only ever four cases, there was no pandemic at all, and the vaccine was a catastrophe. Many children, many were paralyzed, many died as a consequence of that vaccine, and the industry escaped liability altogether, it costed the taxpayer.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

That created several things. In the minds of the industry they realized how powerful a motivator, a marketing tool, fear was. If they could engender fear in politicians they could get their way in anything they wanted, and we've seen that time and again since. It also was, as I say, the first blood in the water for liability protection. "If we can do this for flu vaccine and the government wants children to have all these other vaccines, we can do it for those other vaccines as well and we can avoid liability." So when it came to the pertussis, the wholesale pertussis vaccine, which was the big problem at the time causing death and brain damage in children, they said, "Okay, if you want children to have this vaccine it's not a big profit incentive for us. We're going to pull out of the market unless you give us liability protection, because we've made it as safe as we can." That was the lie that was told the government, and of course once again, the fear of the resurgence of whooping cough and the possible death of children led the government to be coerced, to be blackmailed by the industry into signing the 1986 National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

The important thing about the film, that it discloses through discovery documents from Mike Hugo, who was a plaintiff's lawyer in vaccine court after the act and in vaccine litigation before the act. In discovery documents we realized that the whole thing was based on a fraud, on a grand lie. They hadn't made it as safe as they possibly could, they had a patent for a safer vaccine back in 1937 but it was going to cost them a fraction of a dime to make that vaccine, but it was cheaper. It would save them money if children went to the wall, if children died and were injured, and they kept supplying the wholesale pertussis vaccine. It's an extraordinary story, and people need to see it to understand the character of the industries that we are dealing with, because we are now facing the same kind of situation where everybody sensing blood in the water, all of these industries, from AstraZeneca, to GlaxoSmithKline, to Merck, to Pfizer, they're all launching into this to bid for the COVID vaccine to clean out globally when we don't need a vaccine at all. Indeed, it's turning out to be a disaster.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

But if we are to understand where we're going with this, we need to understand where we've come from, we need to understand that this has happened time and again, and it will go on happening as long as we remain terrified of the notion of a plague delivered to us by the CDC and the industry in a smart, very simplistic marketing move. We've got to understand the issues, and the film helps understand the issues.

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

Yeah, it was great to see Mike Hugo in the film. I'd never seen him before in person, I certainly never met him, but I read about him quite a bit in Judy's two books, Judy Mikovits, and what an amazing individual and a pioneer in protecting the injured children of the time using the legal system, because he was really instrumental before the act was passed. I believe, if I'm not mistaken, he had some reservations about this act and wasn't convinced that it was the wisest thing to do.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

Yeah. He actually in the end, it was an extraordinary situation because they came to him, Barbara's group came to him with the request that they support tort reform, and of course to the lawyers at the time involved in prosecuting the companies. The idea of tort reform was unthinkable, but in this instance Mike said, "Look, what we're dealing with here is brain-damaged children. We're fighting these cases, it's taking six years, 10 years in some cases. They're getting compensation after the child, they're waiting for these children to die. They're dragging it out until these poor children die. If we can get them a dollar today it's worth so much more than a dollar in six years' time." So ultimately even the legal bar were persuaded through representations of Barbara and others that they should get behind tort reform, which they did. He says, "Now, of course, I regret that to my soul." Not because of the intent of the original act, which was good, but because it has become perverted and corrupted by the joint initiatives from the federal agencies who were there to protect American children and the drug companies who the federal agencies are actually protecting.

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

Yeah, thank you for summarizing it so eloquently and perhaps you can give some specific examples of how it's been perverted and corrupted over the 34 years since it's been enacted. To the point where not it is virtually useless, it's worthless. It doesn't provide any protection or benefit, virtually no protection or benefit.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

Certainly, Joe. I mean, just as an example. The best way of protecting yourself from liability as the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act, as the compensation program intended, you don't tell people about it. Nobody knows it exists, their child is injured, they're dealing with a child who is regressing into autism or whatever it may be, their lives are upside down, it's catastrophe. They are meant to know through representations of HHS (Health and Human Services) that this system exists for compensation, but HHS refuses to advertise it, refuses to fulfill the mandate of Congress and notify people of the existence of this program. They keep it quiet because they know if they tell people that vaccines can actually do this harm, then people would resist

vaccination. So right out of the gate they have taken the intent of Congress and thrown it back in the face of Congress.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

Then they have an ascertainment system for vaccine adverse events that picks up less than 1% of the true adverse events, and say, "Look, we've got this monitoring system in place and we're capturing these adverse events." No, they're not, and they know they're not because they did a study with Harvard Pilgrim to automate it, to computerize it. When they did that they picked up a vast number of adverse reactions, such that 1 in 50, more than 1 in 50 were suffering adverse reactions to vaccines that were being reported, and these were never being recorded in the government system that said "Oh, it's only 1 in 10,000, 1 in 100,000." No, it wasn't, it was vastly. When the CDC learned of those true results, then they killed the program. They didn't institute the program in the interest of American children, they killed it dead so there was no further ascertainment of this. Then they took the vaccine injury table, which is a table where the government said at the beginning when the act was passed, "Here are those injuries that we know to be caused by vaccines." They will make a table of these injuries and if a child has a certain vaccine and within a certain time after that vaccine they develop this injury, then we don't need to fight that out in court, we will simply compensate that child. The discussion will be about the level of compensation.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

Well, the CDC hated that. That was salt in their wound. That was automatically acknowledging that vaccines could cause serious injury and death, and children would be compensated. So when Donna Shalala took over as head of Health and Human Services, she gutted that table. Completely at odds with the intent of Congress, she gutted the table and took out the injuries that were common so that they were not automatically compensable, so that the parents would have to prove to a very high degree of legal certainty that their children had suffered this injury as a consequence of the vaccine. How could they do that? How could parents pit their knowledge such as it was, such as it is, against the might of the drug companies and the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Department of Justice? They couldn't do it, and it was almost a predetermination that there was never going to be any compensation, and the one mistake they made, the one big mistake they made was in the case of Hannah Poling, where they did award a child compensation for a novel injury. They created a precedent and they had no idea how common that precedent was. That she had a mitochondrial disorder or a mitochondrial predisposition to developing a severe serious adverse reaction to the vaccine. They had no idea how many children with autism had the same mitochondrial dysfunction, disorder.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

So they'd written a blank check, and what they had to do then, the Department of Justice then did in my opinion in collusion with the special masters who are in charge of vaccine court is they deliberately manipulated the documents, legal documents, where it states that this is an off table injury, a precedent, one that might open Pandora's box for HHS by identifying thousands of children who were automatically entitled to compensation. What it did is to say that never happened. They changed the small print so that it then became just ordinary, old vaccine brain damage, nothing special, nothing new, not a precedent. That was deliberate, that was the most extraordinary risk on the part of senior lawyers and others in the Department of Justice to take

that risk of behalf of the vaccine program and deny children compensation. There needs to be accountability, Joe. There needs to be prosecution. These people need to be held up as a disgrace to America, to their profession, to their government role in protecting the citizens of this country. It's absolutely appalling, and it goes on and on.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

I mean, the film is full of the most heinous acts of fraud, deception, lies at the highest level, and it really — the key to this film is that it leads to accountability. This cannot simply be allowed to be brushed under the carpet, and therefore it has to be made as public as possible and it has to have an influence upon the upcoming election. It has to influence politicians in the way that they now have to act on behalf of the interest of the children that they represent and not the drug companies who are paying for their campaign fees. That is absolutely essential, and that will be my direct message on the road to all Americans. Is that you must vote in the next election for your children and for your grandchildren, that means voting for the leaders who will stand up for your children in the face of pressures, financial pressures, political pressures from pharmaceutical industry lobbyists. That has got to change.

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

In an ideal world I couldn't agree more, but we don't live in an ideal world. We live in a world that is essentially surrounded but filled with narratives of the mainstream media, and one of the biggest narratives is that vaccines work and if you're anti-vax you should be jailed for killing people needlessly. That's a major risk to any politician who seeks to initiate this type of strategy, and I'm wondering what your thoughts are in overcoming that challenge.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

Well, Joe, I've been in this debate, let's call it a debate, for 30 years now.

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

Yeah.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

And I've seen a dramatic change. What I noticed is, I mean, when I was a scientist and published 150 papers they could dismiss all of it, they could ignore of it. It never got into the public domain. But when we took "Vaxxed" to Tribeca and it was censored and then went worldwide it had an extraordinary effect. They made a huge error, and that was censorship, because that made people want to see the film they were being told they couldn't see, and a lot of people saw that, and it had an effect of unifying groups, vaccine safety groups, vaccine safety awareness groups, health freedom groups who had become fractionated, disparate and broken up because they'd undergone years and years of siege mentality that they'd forgotten that the enemy was outside the gates and they were looking internally for "Why have we got no food and ammunition, and why are we falling apart?" Surely it must be something we're doing ourselves. So that unified people and it also did another thing, it made the lobbyists, the public health people and the doctors, they realized that they'd made a huge mistake and film was therefore the key, that they could not control, they couldn't exert the same authority over film, the same kind of censorship as they could over scientific debate, for example.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

So that's what convinced me of the power of film and the need to pursue this. I think that now there are some extraordinary films coming out and there are so many people now who are aware of this, not least of which because of COVID. So many people who are aware of the vaccine mandates that we see in polls around the country the majority of people now moving towards the majority saying, "We are not going to have a vaccine forced upon us. We will not take this vaccine. You have not convinced us that it's safe." And these are not just rabid anti-vaxxers as they would seek to portray us. These are people who studied, who understood. These are people who have spent years trying to understand what is actually going on. I've never met a more sophisticated group of advocates and activists in terms of their knowledge.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

Take Barbara, for example. Barbara knows more than any public health official, any doctor about the safety profiles of vaccines. So they're losing. This is the key message, they're losing. Their losing manifests as anger, resentment, more and more newspaper articles, news articles about how bad we are, but at their core they're losing, and the World Health Organization had a meeting not long ago to discuss this, "Why are we losing? Why are we so bad in social media convincing people? Why are they so good? The other side they must be funded by their own George Soros." Something like this, absolute nonsense. The difference is very simply that we are telling the truth and they are not, and they've lost the hearts and minds of the public, they will never get that back, never. So they need to come to the table and sit down and discuss this rationally, or they will lose for all time, and when they do they will only have themselves to blame.

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

Well, thank you for expanding on that and gives us some hope. I wanted to respond, maybe end with the fact that the only disappointment I have with your film was one that really wasn't result of your actions or any actions, or any failures, but the timing, in that you finished the production just as the crazy pandemic was going full force. So there is a mention of it at the very end of the film, but my guess in an ideal world, you would've had six more months to integrate the COVID-19 response into this. I am wondering if you could maybe add an addendum here as the writer-producer of the film of how you would change it if it had been produced six months later.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

You're absolutely right. It would've been part of an ongoing narrative of public deception, of "Here we go again. We've done this with the 1976 swine flu debacle, the 2007, 2008 swine flu debacle that never was that Sharyl Attkisson unearthed. We've done with Ebola, we've done it with Zika, we've done it now with COVID. We've threatened the public time and time again with this and they've seen through us." I think we would've – I mean, the value. The latest initiative on behalf of COVID-19 and COVID-19 vaccines is interesting. It's thrown up a few new things because never before in the history of the world has there been such attention on safety trials, for example.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

In the past, a company like AstraZeneca could've got away by virtue of their study design would suddenly the emergence of a case of Guillain-Barre syndrome or transverse myelitis in one of the study patients, them having to stop the trial as a consequence having invested probably billions of dollars in such a product. Now the eyes of the world are upon them and they cannot get away with it. We've seen experts get up and get it wrong. We've seen the annihilation of the global economy for no reason at all. When we look at countries like Sweden, we've seen what we should have done. We've seen the same Gompertz mortality curves for Sweden, the same as every other country. Nothing that we did, social distancing, mask, anything, made any difference to the mortality trajectory, which is the best measure of the severity of a disease, in any country.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

Sweden stands out as an example of a country now that has a lower mortality from COVID than the United States having taken none of these precautions and has achieved a level of natural herd immunity in the population that has protected it, which we in America do not have as a consequence of the policies, the mistaken policies that have been adopted. It's not that there weren't people out there saying, "Don't do this, Dr. Fauci, don't do this." This is not the right approach.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

The original Imperial College data were way in excess of what the mortality should've been. It is that, "We are the experts, we'll tell you what to do. It doesn't matter if it applies to us or not, we won't follow our own expert advice, but you must because you're the proletariat and you don't understand these things." Yes, people do, people really do understand them. I'm astonished by the quality of people's understanding, the depth of people's understanding of these issues. So it would've made, and it will make, for somebody, or us, or many of us, taking a look at it from different angles, a great new movie, an extraordinary new movie about the lessons of COVID.

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

It'll be very interesting to see future documentaries about this. This is the new, I guess, fear initiator introduced into the population 20 years, nearly 20 years after 9/11. This is the new one, this is the silent invisible terrorist that's leashed into the population. We know how many documentaries were produced after that, and I can't imagine there won't be as many after this one. I want to discuss some of the side effects and what you think will be the worst case scenarios. I have my own impressions, but I'd be curious as to what yours are, because just last week we had AstraZeneca suspend their trial because of an incidence of transverse myelitis, which is eerily reminiscent of the swine flu. It's surprising because it's a completely different model of a vaccine, but it's odd that they got the same darn side effect. They've of course resumed it after examining it more carefully and no justification as to why they've resumed it, but nevertheless they did.

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

So the vaccines will be here, and I'm wondering, and you are so right in suggesting that the polls show. You're right, maybe less than 10%, I know 5% of the population would consider themselves anti-vaxxer or pro vaccine safety, and there's 50% of the population who refuses to get the vaccine. That's just an incredible testimony to the fact that they're not going to get away

with this. But assuming there are – they've introduced so much fear to the population that there is a large percentage of the population, maybe a quarter or more, who are going to rush to get this vaccine. So I'm wondering what your predictions are as to what are the worst-case scenarios?

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

I think we already saw with the Moderna vaccine, we saw a very high rate of adverse reactions, moderate to severe adverse reactions with the higher doses in particular of the vaccine, which are of course the doses that are going to need to be given to elderly people who have this immune senescence to need a bigger dose to produce an effect. So we're going to see serious adverse events in the elderly, who are the particular population that they're seeking to protect.

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

Yeah, [crosstalk 00:52:01].

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

I think the worst-case scenario-

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

[crosstalk 00:52:03] But it's interesting that the target population is the elders suggest, but that wasn't the population they tested.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

That's right. Yes, they started in the healthy. So we're seeing these serious adverse events in healthy, healthy individuals. That's very concerning. The other thing about the AstraZeneca vaccine is transverse myelitis is a table injury. It is a recognized compensable table injury for a vaccine. So there it is, there's no denying. You can't deny that this healthy person in the middle of this trial suddenly develops this serious neurological adverse event and it's not the vaccine that did it. You can't do that. That should, in effect, be the death of that vaccine right there, because you can extrapolate from that one case to a global population receiving that vaccine and see millions of people paralyzed and killed, rather like, as you say, with the swine flu 1976 vaccine.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

So if I were in that trial I would be saying right now, "Thank you very much, I've changed my mind and I won't be having it after all." Now, what I heard, and I'm interested to hear you say this, Joe, I heard that it had restarted in England, but not yet in the United States, that was still up in the air. You may know more than I do.

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

I just read it this morning, so I think they did. It may have been a superficial story and weren't specific as to the location that it was started, but they did resume it somewhere, for sure.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

But if they certainly resumed it in England, but I tell you, if I was part of that trial I'd be backing away from it just as quickly as possible. I have grave misgivings about these vaccines. We're

looking at short-term complications. You and I know that autoimmune diseases, other autoimmune diseases do not start perhaps for months, years after the exposure, but you are primed to develop that autoimmune disease by virtue of vaccine exposure, and still we're going to see an accumulation of adverse events in healthy young people as we move forward.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

Now, as you say, some people will still rush to get that vaccine because such is the level of their fear engendered by the media and the government that they will go for it. All I can do, Joe, is wish them luck, but in the sort of harshest of sort of neo-Darwinian terms, I'm afraid that is the way of the world. Anyway, I'm a great believer in natural immunity. I'm gunned to believe that we are here on this earth and we are robust. Our immune systems are, at least were, until they were assaulted by vaccines, robust enough to deal with these kind of insults, and there are many other ways of protecting a population that do not involve going anywhere near a vaccine.

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

Yes, indeed. We certainly highlight many of those strategies in our site for people who want more details. We're not the only site that does this, but I couldn't agree more. It's enhancing your body's natural immune response is the solution for this, and to recognize that this fear is being engineered. The real risk there is relatively minor to what is being portrayed.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

Well, it appears that Fauci recognized it as well, Joe.

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

Yeah.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

There he is admitting that he's on vitamins D and C. I mean, really. The hypocrisy [[crosstalk 00:55:35](#)].

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

Yeah, that was this interview with Jennifer Garner, yeah. I think they changed the headlines at it. Initially as a response to the interview with Garner and he was saying it was a response to the COVID-19, but then they just generalized it to viral respiratory infections, upper respiratory infections. So the media doesn't want to give an inch, that's for sure.

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

All right, so "1986, The Story." That's the title [[crosstalk 00:56:03](#)].

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

"1986: The Act."

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

The Act, I'm sorry, The Act. So "1986: The Act," you can get it at 1986TheAct.com if you want to stream it or buy the DVD. It'll be available there. If you want to see it as part of our presentations at the Fifth International NVIC Conference that'll be in October, you can see it there too, but obviously it's more of a limited timeframe and it's going to be a while out. So great documentary. Congratulations in all your hard efforts and work in bringing the truth out so people can understand it, bring more knowledge and awareness and information so they can really make an objective, rational decision as to what is the best strategy for them and their family to choose.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

Joe, it's been a pleasure being on. Thank you so much. You're doing a wonderful job. Thank you to all those on my team and others who've helped with this film, and in particular thank you to Barbara Loe Fisher.

Dr. Joseph Mercola:

Yeah. But definitely a debt of gratitude to her, so no question. All right, thanks, Andy. Keep up the good work. We'll see you at some point.

Dr. Andy Wakefield:

See you soon. Bye, Joe.