

## **Masking- Evidence Grows that Masking Children Does More Harm than Good**

Around the world, tens of thousands of children who have been allowed back in the classroom following the COVID-19 pandemic have been forced to mask themselves. Evidence strongly suggests fearful adults are damaging children's education as well as their physical and psychological well-being.

A [large survey](#) of the side effects of masking children began in October 2020 in Germany. More than 17,000 parents submitted data for 25,930 children. It is the world's first registry to record the effects of forced masking of children. More than two-thirds of the students, 68%, reported impairments caused by the face coverings and 66% of the adults reported personally observing those negative effects. Thousands of German students have been physically, psychologically and educationally impacted according to this one survey alone. Impacts include headaches, learning impairment, shortness of breath, dizziness, concentration difficulties, increased fearfulness and more.

The conclusion? "A precise benefit-risk analysis is urgently required. The occurrence of reported side effects in children due to wearing the masks must be taken seriously and requires a precise clarification of the accompanying health circumstances, the situation of wearing the mask (duration, breaks and mask type) and the school situation."

A benefit-risk analysis was completed by the World Council for Health, a group of doctors, lawyers and health care experts from around the world. The Council notes they do not accept funding from the pharmaceutical industry. Their research, "[Face masks – the risks vs benefits for children](#)" stated,

"In view of the associated risks, mandates being seen around the world for children in schools to wear constant nose and mouth coverings are disproportionate to the risk of Covid-19 to healthy children and school staff as well as to the risk posed by so-called asymptomatic (ie healthy) children to other vulnerable children or vulnerable school staff."

In the United States, a July 2021 [article](#) from the Leonard D. Schaeffer Center for Health Policy & Economics at the University of South Carolina claimed "Mandatory masking of School Children is a Bad Idea." Drs. Neeraj Sood and Jay Bhattacharya shared vital statistics about children and the virus that should influence school administration decisions about masking. For example, the survival rate among American children with confirmed cases is near 99.99%. Other studies show even higher survival rates. When comparing the low death rate of children to the long-term harm from mask wearing, Sood and Bhattacharya claim the mask dangers are

“potentially enormous.” Those negative effects include psychological stress, disruption of learning, reduction in ability to communicate between teachers and students – especially of vital nonverbal cues, to name a few. The doctors believe, “...it is likely that masking exacerbates the chances that a child will experience anxiety and depression, which are already at pandemic levels themselves.”

Boards of Education and Legislators are encouraged to arm themselves with these vital facts when considering whether to mandate masks for children.