

In Objection to Covid Passports

All Downside, No Upside Benefits

Dear Councilmembers,

Instituting a vaccine passport will present no upside benefits. This is plainly evidenced by what we saw happen in Antarctica as reported by the BBC in January:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-59848160>

Eleven people in total tested positive, according to the IPF. Three left the station in December while eight remain there - at present there are 30 members of staff at the station.

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All residents at the base are required to be vaccinated before arriving and undergo several PCR tests.

Despite the most stringent vaccine and testing requirements on Earth, Covid still spread to the stations in Antarctica. So, any Covid passport that you present will be ineffective, because vaccinated people still contract and spread Covid.

The downside of vaccine passports is that it will devastate already stressed retail businesses. Their costs will increase due to training and the extra time it will take to vet people. Their insurance costs are likely to increase, as this puts the responsibility on them as the enforcers of County policy. Also, as we've seen in other areas of the USA that have instituted this, it will create a further strain on police as they are called to settle disputes.

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/crime/embattled-boston-police-sergeant-founder-of-anti-vax-mandate-group-spars-with-police-over-vaccine-passport/ar-AASQnti>

"I'm enjoying a product that I purchased here so you're going to leave me alone or I'm going to sue you each individually," Cottone said in an exchanged captured on video with two officers who asked to see her vaccine card while she sat with friends unmasked inside a Pizzeria Regina on Boylston Street.

I understand that you feel that you have to take proactive steps to address the ongoing pandemic. But, I would hope that you would follow the tenant of the Hippocratic Oath: first, do no harm. Instituting vaccine passports will damage the community greatly.

Keith Hogan
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