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Parents Oppose Jenny McCarthy's Hiring on The View; Declare September 9 "Do Anything Except Watch *The View* Day"

After more than 12,000 people signed its [petition asking producers at The View to pass on hiring anti-vaccine actress Jenny McCarthy](#) pro-immunization organization Voices for Vaccines is declaring the first day of McCarthy's appearance on the show to be "Do Anything Except Watch *The View* Day." The organization is asking its members and friends to photograph themselves *not* watching The View on September 9th, and to send these pictures to Voices for Vaccines by email and Facebook or Twitter.

Jenny McCarthy has been the most visible proponent of the long-debunked vaccine-autism myth, once saying: "If you ask 99.9 percent of parents who have children with autism if we'd rather have the measles versus autism, we'd sign up for the measles." Recent measles outbreaks have occurred across the country, due in large part to under- and unvaccinated individuals. In late August, Tarrant County, Texas suffered a [major measles outbreak](#) that began in a church whose pastor had repeated such anti-vaccine rhetoric.

The petition's signees were passionate about the dangers of Jenny McCarthy's message. Leela Goldberg wrote, "If people listen to this woman's views, and fail to get their children vaccinated, children will die. Does ABC want to be a part of that?" B. Levine wrote, "As the mother of a child on the Autism Spectrum, I have watched Ms. McCarthy do so much harm for the autism community. She must not be able to have a larger platform on a daily basis to misinform more individuals about the cause of autism. "

Voices for Vaccines delivered the petition and its 12,302 signatures, as well as the comments made by signees, to *The View* producers Bill Geddie and Donald Berman via email on August 28, 2013. The group plans to publish the photographs its members post on **Do Anything Except Watch *The View* Day** on September 13, 2013 via a special email newsletter and on its social media networks.

Voices for Vaccines (VFV) is a parent-driven organization supported by scientists, doctors, and public health officials that provides parents clear, science-based information about vaccines, as well as an opportunity to join the national discussion about the importance of on-time vaccination. Led by parents Karen Ernst and Ashley Shelby, Voices for Vaccines seeks to provide the tools pro-vaccine parents need to join the fight for child health. Read more at www.voicesforvaccines.org.

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