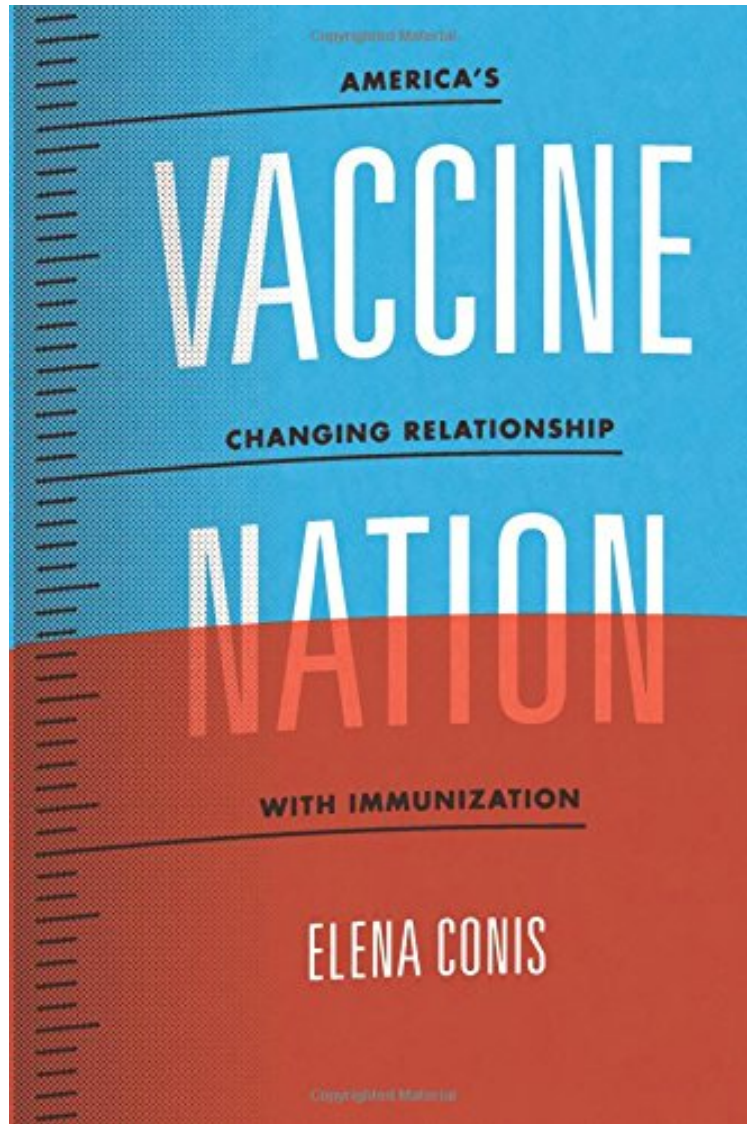


[Read now] Vaccine Nation: America's Changing Relationship with Immunization

Vaccine Nation: America's Changing Relationship with Immunization

Elena Conis

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Elena Conis : Vaccine Nation: America's Changing Relationship with Immunization before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Vaccine Nation: America's Changing Relationship with Immunization:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Great reading for folks on both sides of the current ...By MSNA very

detailed, nuanced, and insightful look at the history of vaccine programs in this country. Great reading for folks on both sides of the current debate. 3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Feminism's crucial part in vaccine and medicine denial
By colt73I actually bought Conis' essay, "A mother's responsibility: women, medicine, and the rise of contemporary vaccine skepticism in the United States." and then later her entire book based on it. Her work is exceedingly thorough and clearly written. I was unaware of the connection between contemporary vaccine denial and feminism but Conis' writing and voluminous references made it all very clear. It's a very crucial part of the story with regard to vaccine denial that has gone overlooked or ignored. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Thoughtful in concept and a good read.
By TomIntriguing non-fiction. Thoughtful in concept and a good read.

With employers offering free flu shots and pharmacies expanding into one-stop shops to prevent everything from shingles to tetanus, vaccines are ubiquitous in contemporary life. The past fifty years have witnessed an enormous upsurge in vaccines and immunization in the United States: American children now receive more vaccines than any previous generation, and laws requiring their immunization against a litany of diseases are standard. Yet, while vaccination rates have soared and cases of preventable infections have plummeted, an increasingly vocal cross section of Americans have questioned the safety and necessity of vaccines. In *Vaccine Nation*, Elena Conis explores this complicated history and its consequences for personal and public health. *Vaccine Nation* opens in the 1960s, when government scientists triumphant following successes combating polio and smallpox considered how the country might deploy new vaccines against what they called the milder diseases, including measles, mumps, and rubella. In the years that followed, Conis reveals, vaccines fundamentally changed how medical professionals, policy administrators, and ordinary Americans came to perceive the diseases they were designed to prevent. She brings this history up to the present with an insightful look at the past decades' controversy over the implementation of the Gardasil vaccine for HPV, which sparked extensive debate because of its focus on adolescent girls and young women. Through this and other examples, Conis demonstrates how the acceptance of vaccines and vaccination policies has been as contingent on political and social concerns as on scientific findings. By setting the complex story of American vaccination within the country's broader history, *Vaccine Nation* goes beyond the simple story of the triumph of science over disease and provides a new and perceptive account of the role of politics and social forces in medicine.

This is a fascinating account of how routine childhood immunization came to be both a public health success story and a source of bitter controversy. Conis untangles these seemingly contradictory trends and provides a probing analysis of the ways that American culture and politics have influenced how we think about vaccines. Engagingly written and filled with surprising insights, this book is an invaluable guide to one of the most critically important areas of modern medicine. Everyone with a stake in our immunization system—which is to say, all of us—should care about the story Conis has to tell.