A Generation in Jeopardy

How pesticides are undermining our children’s health & intelligence

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Children today face health challenges that cannot be fully explained by changes in lifestyle.
Children’s Health Harms on the Rise, 1975 - 2011
Kids are exposed to pesticides where they live, learn & play

Environments we’d like to consider “safe” — from the womb to the classroom to the kitchen table — often bring children into contact with harmful pesticides.
Over the past 30 years, the number of children diagnosed with all forms of cancer has increased from 11.5 to 14.8 cases per 100,000 children per year.

Source: SEER, 2004
Autism prevalence has jumped in past decade

Rates of autism have risen dramatically in the past decade. While overall prevalence is higher among boys, the rate of increase is higher among girls. Source: C. Boyle et al, “Trends in the Prevalence of Developmental Disabilities in U.S. Children, 1997–2008.”
Pesticides linked to ADHD, autism

Prenatal exposure to organophosphate pesticides:

- Children more likely to have developmental disorders-- including autism-- by age 3.
- Children more likely to have increased attention problems and ADHD by age 5.
Pesticides linked to changes in brain structure

Children exposed to the insecticide chlorpyrifos in the womb showed differences in MRI images of the brain.

Areas of the brain related to attention, language, emotions and control were all affected.
Guarantee a solid start for kids

How?

• Individual choices help.
• We need local & national policy change.
Key steps to reduce kids’ exposure to pesticides

Establish pesticide-free zones around schools, daycare centers, and neighborhoods in agricultural areas to protect children from harmful exposures.
Key steps to reduce kids’ exposure to pesticides

Increase investment and support for innovative farmers who are stepping off the pesticide treadmill.
Join PAN’s Healthy Kids campaign!

- Healthy Kids Campaign: [www.panna.org/current-campaigns/kids-health](http://www.panna.org/current-campaigns/kids-health)

- Join the PAN community to take action:
  - [www.panna.org/join](http://www.panna.org/join)