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Association of American Physicians and Surgeons, Inc.
A Voice for Private Physicians Since 1943
Omnia pro aegroto

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Gerald E. Harmon, M.D.
President, American Medical Association
Email:Gerald.Harmon@ama-assn.org

Dear Dr. Harmon:

We are dismayed that the American Medical Association, which claims to represent physicians and to support scientific medicine, is advocating to purge the profession of physicians who dare to question a top-down narrative that they believe to be harmful to their patients.

Many of our members were stalwart supporters of the AMA, but most are now among the 85 percent of physicians who are not members.

Why do physicians undergo a rigorous training program that is supposed to prepare them to analyze evidence and apply it to their diverse individual patients if they cannot be trusted to use their professional judgment? Why should talented young people enter a profession in which they could be deprived of their livelihood and defamed if they come to conclusions that differ from those of the authorities, who do not even allow a free, open debate?

Pandemics Data and Response (PANDA) has presented a detailed, extensively supported critique of AMA's position (<https://www.pandata.org/open-letter-harmon-american-medical-association-ama-following-article/>). If AMA promotes the suppression of these views, it will be remembered in the same way as those who put Dr. Ignaz Semmelweis in an insane asylum for promoting hand-washing.

Science progresses only where there is freedom of thought and discussion. Without a patient-physician relationship, in which the physician pledges to prescribe "regimen for the good of my patients according to my ability and my judgment and never do harm to anyone," the profession of medicine is dead.

Does the AMA support the censorship of science and the subjugation and thus destruction of a once-noble profession?

Sincerely,

Jane M. Orient, M.D.
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