



**For Immediate Release: 17 August 2009**

### **The GM Generation – What’s in Infant Formula?**

American Doctors are calling for a moratorium on GM food<sup>1</sup>. MADGE is worried that GM ingredients have crept unlabelled into infant formula and may be harming babies.

Many of the ingredients in infant formula could be GM, such as corn syrup, soy lecithin, soy and canola oils, maltodextrin. These ingredients would be labelled in Europe if they were GM, but not in Australia. Even Vitamin C can be GM.

Spokesperson Fran Murrell said "MADGE is working for food we can trust, and part of that trust involves knowing precisely what is in the food."

We are also concerned that nanotechnology, in the form of nano-sized vitamins and minerals, may be added to our baby's food. We fear that they may be dangerous. Recently it was found that nanoparticles in sunscreen used by plumbers aged roofing materials 15 years just a few months<sup>2</sup>.

"Melamine in milk killed several babies and injured many others, Doctors are warning against GM food and nanotechnology is having unpredictable effects. Please look after our most defenceless and important people, our babies, and not treat them like guinea pigs."

The Food Regulation Standing Committee Working Group on the Regulation of Infant Formula Products will be hosting a stakeholder consultation meeting **today, 17 August, 9am-12pm**, at the Department of Health and Ageing Victoria State Offices, 595 Collins Street, Melbourne.<sup>3</sup>

MADGE researcher Madeleine Love said "We've had the Baby Boomers, Gen X and Gen Y but this generation will be known as the GM generation - the genetically modified guinea pig kids."

MADGE is currently investigating unexpected ingredients in infant formulas and their regulatory approvals.

**MADGE spokesperson contacts:**

**Fran Murrell**

**0401 407 944**

**Jessica Harrison**

**0407 307 231**

Research detail:

Madeleine Love

0447 762 284

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- 1 "Genetically Modified Foods", American Academy of Environmental Medicine (paragraph 4)  
<http://aaemonline.org/gmopost.html>
  - 2 <http://www.foe.org.au/resources/chain-reaction/editions/chain-reaction-105/foe-releases-nanotechnology-sunscreen-guide>
  - 3 FOOD REGULATION POLICY - OPTIONS CONSULTATION PAPER - for the Regulation of Infant Formula Products - Submissions close on 1 September 2009.  
[http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/FF1FA0AAD23A3173CA2574E3001238A0/\\$File/Food-Regulation-Policy-Options-Consultation-paper.pdf](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/FF1FA0AAD23A3173CA2574E3001238A0/$File/Food-Regulation-Policy-Options-Consultation-paper.pdf)