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From: Sent: Gilbert Ross [rossg@acsh.org] Monday, October 19, 2009 2:43 PM

To: Cc: Elizabeth Whelan; Goldsmith Steven USGR Jeff Stier; Carroll Beth USGR; Pastoor Tim USGR NPR "Fresh Air" [yeah right] posting by "Beth Whelan"

Subject: Attachments:

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NOTE: my-- how hard it is to restrict myself to 1250 "spaces" on such critically important topics! Gil



Elizabeth Whelan (BethWhelan) wrote:

Mr. Duhigg's articles are replete with exaggerated risk, bias, misrepresented science and sensationalism. He argues that the use of various "pollutants" with decades-long histories of safe use (e.g. atrazine) is putting us at risk. He is apparently unaware of the fact that minute levels of substances in our water do not pose a health threat. No American of any age has been been harmed by trace levels of chemicals. Duhigg is playing to the fears of consumers who are unaware that without the use of agricultural chemicals our food supply would be diminished by half. The reality is that food is comprised of chemicals-many of which are toxic in animals at high dose but are safe when we consume them. Now the EPA, which stood behind its own studies confirming the safety of these chemicals, is going on a crusade which will waste more taxpayer millions seeking solutions to non-problems. We have so many serious health risks, yet you have given top priority to bogus risks. "Chemophobia" is in: scaring people about chemicals in our food, water, and consumer products gets attention—but it is counterproductive, distracting us from the real public health hazards we face today. Dr.E.Whelan acsh.org American Council on Science and Health, NYC October 19, 2009 3:40:05 PM EDT

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