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## How Are the Unvaccinated Doing? Survey Says: Healthy But Unjustly Treated

*A new international study of 18,497 individuals unvaccinated against COVID-19 shows potentially illegal discrimination. "Such discrimination and restriction of liberties based on a medical choice may fall foul of relevant national anti-discrimination laws and international treaties," concluded the authors.*

**By Suzanne Burdick, Ph.D.**

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A new [study](#) published Aug. 12 in the [International Journal of Vaccine Theory, Practice, and Research](#) showed evidence of potentially illegal discrimination against individuals who declined COVID-19 vaccination.

The study reported the survey results of 18,497 individuals unvaccinated against COVID-19 throughout the world who voluntarily offered personal information through the [Control Group Cooperative](#) — also known as the "[Vaccine Control Group](#)" — which is a citizen-led initiative that seeks to provide an "independent, worldwide, long-term study of the health outcomes of the SARS-CoV-2 vaccine-free."

After collecting the survey results, the Control Group Cooperative invited a team of independent international medical researchers to analyze and publish the data.

The authors — including [Robert Verkerk](#), Ph.D., from the U.K., Dr. [Christof Plothe](#), D.O., of Germany, [Naseeba Kathrada](#), M.B.Ch.B., of South Africa and Dr. [Katarina Lindley](#), D.O., of the United States — said that "between 20% and nearly 50% of respondents, depending on region, reported being personal targets of hate, implying victimization, owing to their COVID-19 vaccination status."

They added:

"Proportionately, rates of such victimization were highest in Southern Europe and South America and lowest in Western Asia and Southern Africa (although the number of respondents in the latter regions were also substantially lower)."

Moreover, the study authors noted:

“Such discrimination and restriction of liberties based on a medical choice may fall foul of relevant national anti-discrimination laws and international treaties, such as the United Nation’s International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (UN Office of Public Information, 1966), which includes fundamental rights to liberty and security of person, freedom of movement, privacy, religion and belief, freedom of expression, and peaceful assembly.”

### **Teachers and nurses ‘most intensely impacted’ by medical choice discrimination**

Verkerk — who led the study team and is the scientific director for the [Alliance for National Health International](#) — told [The Defender](#) in an email that their data showed [teachers](#) and [nurses](#) were the two professions “most intensely impacted” by discrimination for their medical choice to abstain from COVID-19 vaccination.

“In many countries,” he explained, “but most especially in Australia and Canada, they required vaccination for many employees as a condition of work.”

For instance, on Aug. 24 [Sky News reported](#) that the Education Department in Queensland, Australia, issued a letter stating they will dock up to 18 weeks of pay for unvaccinated teachers as a disciplinary measure for refusing COVID-19 vaccination.

The department claimed the teachers had “[acted inappropriately](#)” by ignoring the public health advice.

Such actions were reflected in the study data, Verkerk said.

“Survey respondents reported feeling more victimized by the respective government authorities than by the non-state entities,” according to the study authors.

“Rates of perceived discrimination were greatest among respondents in Southern Europe (61%), Western Europe (59%), Australia and New Zealand (57%) and South America (57%),” they wrote.

Based on their analyses of the survey data, the study authors included a list of contributing factors that they considered to likely be “major drivers of discrimination,” Verkerk told [The Defender](#).

The authors’ list included:

- Widespread misunderstandings about, and overstated benefits of, COVID-19 “vaccines.”
- False claims over societal risks posed by the unvaccinated.
- Misleading or plainly false media or state propaganda.
- Coercion to ensure high rates of COVID-19 vaccination.
- Institutional mandates.
- The desire for in-group identity as explained by social identity theory ([Scheepers & Derks, 2016](#)).

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### **Study results show ‘pandemic of the unvaccinated’ was misinformation**

Verkerk told [The Defender](#) that the study data exposed the “nonsense” behind the “pandemic of the unvaccinated” narrative which [claimed](#) that COVID-19 infection rates were higher among those

unvaccinated against COVID-19.

On average, one quarter (n = 4,636, 25.1%) of the survey respondents reported experiencing symptomatic COVID-19 at some stage during the survey period, the authors said.

"Most of the reported symptoms were rated as mild (14.4%)," they noted, and "8.7% were reportedly moderate and just 2% were reported as severe."

They added that 3% (n = 556) reported experiencing an asymptomatic case of COVID-19.

Moreover, the study data showed that less than 2% of the cases required hospitalization. The authors said:

"Only 74 respondents out of the 5,196 (1.4%) who reported suspected or known SARS-CoV-2 infection also reported that they were hospitalized following infection.

"Therefore, outpatient or inpatient hospitalization was reported in just 0.4% of the full survey cohort."

As a rough comparison, [data from New York](#) as of Aug. 22 indicates that 0.52% of vaccinated individuals over the age of 5 have been hospitalized with COVID-19.

Vitamin D, vitamin C, zinc and quercetin were used regularly by the majority of the cohort in treating COVID-19, they said.

### **Study a step toward comparative research between vaccinated and unvaccinated**

Although the study included data only from individuals unvaccinated against COVID-19, the Control Group Cooperative's ultimate goal is to collect large-scale health data from both those vaccinated and unvaccinated against COVID-19 and facilitate an "independent, comparative analysis to show whether the vaccine-free do, or do not have better long and short-term health outcomes."

"Our belief," the Control Group Cooperative [said](#) on their website, "is that without a vaccine-free control group to compare against, there is no true measure of the levels of safety and effectiveness proclaimed by governments and health organizations across the world."

They added:

"Science demands that every experimental treatment must have a control group in order to properly evaluate its long-term success and efficacy."

According to the Control Group Cooperative, the COVID-19 vaccines "were rushed out" under Emergency Use Authorization, using "novel technology without any long-term testing."

The original control group for the "experimental treatment," they noted, was eliminated several months after the trial commenced when the placebo recipients were offered the vaccine, "which the vast majority took. Therefore, there is no longer an official control group."

The Control Group Cooperative is now an invaluable resource that serves as an international database collecting information from unvaccinated individuals.

## **SUGGEST A CORRECTION**

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### Suzanne Burdick, Ph.D.

Suzanne Burdick, Ph.D., is a reporter and researcher for The Defender based in Fairfield, Iowa. She holds a Ph.D. in Communication Studies from the University of Texas at Austin (2021), and a master's degree in communication and leadership from Gonzaga University (2015). Her scholarship has been published in Health Communication. She has taught at various academic institutions in the United States and is fluent in Spanish.

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We have not been discriminated against, but at ages 79 & 87, we are un"vaccinated", and will remain that way In fact, we get NO vaccines of any kind, are healthy and literally never get sick. Most people would be as healthy as we are if they ate right, got proper sleep, kept their immune system strong, and avoided most vaccines.

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Myself as well. 68 years old, no jabs. I eat what God provides for us in nature and never get sick. It's the only way to super-charge the immune system, so that if you DO fall ill the body easily overcomes it. No chronic conditions, no aches or pains, weigh exactly the same as I did when I was a senior in high school.

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