Misinformation provided to the public by Peter Bowditch

(Former president of the Australian Skeptics)

The tactics used by the Skeptics lobby group to smear individuals who would like a debate on ‘choice in the use of vaccines’ can be clearly seen in this blog by Peter Bowditch. He has titled his blog ‘Almost unimaginable filth’ and he wrote this blog after I observed that the government is allowing vaccines to be promoted to the public on ‘anecdotal evidence’. That is the evidence from the experience of one child. My comments on this issue are on my website for everyone to see yet Peter Bowditch has decided to put his own interpretation on these comments. The misinformation he is providing is corrected here:

- He states ‘I am not interested in vaccine safety’ yet I have vaccinated 2 of my 3 children. Where is his evidence?
- He ridicules my research that has been published in peer-reviewed journals and these are also available for people to see on my website.
- He stated that ‘I have accused the parents of a child who died of whooping cough of being paid to support vaccination’. At no time have I suggested that the family was ‘paid to support vaccination’. The statement I made asks if any lobby groups have provided financial rewards to acknowledge the family’s involvement in promoting this vaccine. And yes – the lobby group that Peter Bowditch belongs to has provided an award to this family.
- He states that ‘I have been asked by the McCaffreys to leave them alone’. This is untrue. The family has never corresponded with me or made this request.

The concerns that the public would like to debate are why vaccines are being promoted to the public on anecdotal evidence when this has never been allowed in government policies in the past. The Skeptics must ask themselves if they would like anti-vaccination campaigners to be promoting their arguments on the death or injury of a child to a vaccine. Clearly they would not and this is a debate the public would like to have without individuals being smeared on public websites and blogs.