

Message

From: AgBioChatter [redacted] [AgBioChatter [redacted]]
on behalf of Wayne Parrott [redacted]@yahoo.com [AgBioChatter] [AgBioChatter [redacted]]
Sent: 3/10/2016 5:54:35 PM
To: AgBioChatter [redacted]
Subject: Re: Chatter: Report on Seralini in San Diego

I do hope you get your observations out, though I do not have any particular advice on how to do it.

There is a cult of ignorance in the United States, and there has always been. The strain of anti-intellectualism has been a constant thread winding its way through our political and cultural life, nurtured by the false notion that democracy means that 'my ignorance is just as good as your knowledge'.

— Isaac Asimov

On Thursday, March 10, 2016 11:53 AM, "Karl Haro von Mogel [redacted]@inoculatedmind.com [AgBioChatter]" <AgBioChatter [redacted]> wrote:

Dear all,

As you may have heard, I went to San Diego to attend the Environmental Health Symposium, where Seralini spoke, received an award, and was part of a public event with Smith, Seneff, Honeycutt, etc. I attended two full days of what I can only politely describe as misguided, uncritical, pseudoscientific and potentially dangerous presentations of ideas under the heading "environmental medicine" but were really about trumped-up fears that everything under the sun is a toxin that is killing us all. I have copious notes and perfect quotes that I took down while I was in the audience, and a few pictures to back them up. I'm sharing this information so that you can get a general idea what happened, and to see if you have any suggestions on ways that I can present and publish some of this information. If you have any questions about parts of it, I can elaborate.

Major findings:

1. The conference was full of laughably pseudoscientific talks: EMF sensitivity (WMF = Electromagnetic "Frequencies") which can be blocked by copper mesh or aluminum foil, diagnosing and treating diseases with "microcurrents" of electricity, "grounding" yourself by touching the ground (or the metal on the seat in front of you on the plane), memory foam mattresses causing every disease, and glyphosate also causing everything as well. These talks included descriptions of their haphazard way of experimenting on their patients (when it came to the talks by naturopaths), and "detoxing" with concoctions of disgusting food combinations. Cell phones cause cancer, and men are being turned into women by teflon and farmed salmon.

2. There was a consistent science-related theme: Glutathione being reduced by environmental "toxins" and insults, and aromatase enzyme activity being downregulated. Before the conference I have seen these come up separately in Seralini's research, Seneff's pay-for-play papers, and Shiva Ayyadurai's (claims there's formaldehyde in GMOs) computer modeling paper. These appear to be the "sciencey" markers that members of this community have latched onto these as the things they have to prove to get in the door of the "environmental medicine" crowd. These could be important things to examine in the scientific literature or do simple experiments to examine which could undermine the science-like arguments.

3. Comical ironies: First, they claimed that EMF's caused everything from headaches to cancer, and thirty people in the room claimed to be sensitive to them. The room was full of hundreds of laptops, tablets, and smartphones being used all the time and no one complained. The next morning they gave an "oh yeah maybe turn those off" announcement. The person giving the EMF talk skyped in. One attendee was protecting herself from EMF with a crystal on her laptop. Second, I bought a muffin in the hotel cafe and was targeted by a conference-goer who attempted to guilt me about my food choice, given the 'toxins' in the food. The food for the conference was catered by the same hotel, and I will double-check, was probably not organic. Sugar packets during coffee breaks were used, and probably GMO as well. Most speakers who complained about 'corporations' and profit-mongering were selling products of their own.

4. The public forum was primarily a political rally preaching to the converted, including outrageous claims that Science is part of the big corporate global conspiracy that is controlling our government. (This was made by a "natural products" industry leader, Alan Lewis) Zen Honeycutt somewhat acknowledged that her glyphosate testing was flawed but that it didn't matter. Stephanie Seneff had not heard of glyphosate 4 years ago, and she attended a talk by Don Huber and became convinced that glyphosate was the cause of all our problems. The Q/A was rigged by having a single line ask 5 questions in rapid-fire, and Smith said they would choose which ones they wanted to answer, and less than 15 minutes was given for this.

5. Seralini was given one of two 'scientific awards' handed out by this group, and teared up when he received it. The other award went to the EMF speaker who claimed smart meters are causing health problems.

6. Presentations were rambling, disorganized, and there were no questions after any of the presentations, unlike real scientific conferences. Most presentations had no citations.

There were a number of discoveries about Seralini:

1. He claimed that there are multiple frauds about Roundup: That glyphosate is not really the active ingredient in Roundup, and that the other ingredients are 1,000 times more toxic (or 100,000 times more toxic depending on which slide he had up), and that there were hidden ingredients. He claimed that the approval of roundup (and all other

pesticides by extension) was fraudulent.

2. He falsely claimed that all his raw data is public.

3. He misrepresented every criticism made about his research.

4. Seralini claimed that he tested glyphosate on tomato plants and it did not kill them, but the surfactants in Roundup alone killed them.

This buttressed his argument that glyphosate was a 'fraudulent' active ingredient. (My comment: this would undermine how Roundup Ready crops work. I was going to ask him about this 1 on 1, but he was constantly gone for interviews or for other reasons, and I was not able to)

5. After one EMF-related talk, he spoke out in favor of doing 2-year rat health studies on cell phones before approving them - but said we don't because people just want new phones every 2 months.

6. clarified that his study that found "protective" effects of Sevene Pharma's homeopathic remedies was on the raw plant extracts, not on the diluted ones used in the remedies.

7. Advocated putting these plant extracts in a bunch of our foods (based on a flawed tissue culture experiment).

8. He called using "historical data" a fraud.

9. Claims that some of the foundations that funded him will not fund him anymore.

10. Claimed that Roundup is an embryocide.

11. Said that documentarian Marie Monique-Robin (The World According to Monsanto) was a personal friend of his.

12. He argued against Glyphosate being the problem, and called it a "marker" of the other, secret ingredients in Roundup that are actually killing the plants, and are 100,000 more toxic than glyphosate. One attendee next to me said "he just turned this whole thing upside-down" and the other speakers started adopting this new description. I just witnessed a shift in their approach to this debate.

What to do with this information? I can envision several articles written from my perspective as a scientist 'behind the looking glass', touching on the various themes. I can look for outlets to get this information widely read, and do detailed debunkings of some of Seralini's claims. These could take a good amount of time. Also, I can provide information to other experts (blogging medical doctors like Steven Novella and David Gorski, Steve Savage on pesticides, etc) to get articles out there. This could take a significant investment of time, but it could be worth it.

There has been no news coverage of this event yet, except for one clip. They played a Fox News 5 San Diego interview of Seralini, where he called Roundup a fraud, and supposedly Fox was asking if they could play it nationally. I suspect that the absence of media attention suggests that this was not really about generating media so much as energizing their base to become more politically active. Seralini did conduct other interviews, so more could come out.

In all, it was crazy, but I don't think my brain was permanently damaged.
Karl

Posted by: Wayne Parrott <[REDACTED]@yahoo.com>

[Reply via web post](#) * [Reply to sender](#) * [Reply to group](#) * [Start a New Topic](#) * [Messages in this topic \(3\)](#)

VISIT YOUR GROUP

• **New Members** 3

• [Privacy](#) • [Unsubscribe](#) • [Terms of Use](#)