



21 JUN, 2020

Toxic Avengers

Sunday Telegraph, Sydney

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ANTI-VAXXERS' HATE CAMPAIGN REVEALED

Toxic Avengers

Hollie Hughes with her children Rupert (with their dog Daisy), Fred and Millie. Picture: Jonathan Ng



SENATOR HOLLIE HUGHES

"These people are totally irresponsible. It is cult-like, their belief in a discredited doctor"

ANTI-VAXXERS

"hang yourself"

"you have been warned"

"you uneducated mouthpiece of evil"

"Evil Satanist sellout"

"You caused autism in your child and now you feel guilty about it"

JANE HANSEN

A SENATOR who called out the disinformation of an anti-vaccination letter campaign has been bombarded by hate mail, telling her to "go hang" herself, labelling her an "evil Satanist" and accusing her of causing autism in her son.

Senator Hollie Hughes was one of many politicians bombarded with more than 1000 letters from anti-vax-

xers in a social media offensive spearheaded by a Facebook group run by Anthony Golle, a former NSW chiropractor and supporter of anti-vaccine group the AVN.

Last month Mr Golle and wife Kate enlisted their Empowered Lifestyle Revolution group of 40,000 members to pay \$5 each for a series of pro-

forma letters to send to Prime Minister Scott Morrison, federal Health Minister Greg Hunt and other leading politicians including Senator Hughes protesting vaccination.

The Sunday Telegraph does not suggest Anthony and Kate Golle had any involvement in the hate messages sent to Senator Hughes.

The couple, who also run a

multi-level marketing business selling powdered juice, are in "phase three" of their letter writing campaign and give online directions on how to send the letters on "non consent".

As the mother of an autistic child, Senator Hughes recorded a video to respond to the letters and debunked



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their claims.

“I got thousands of letters so we thought rather than reply to them, we did a video,” she said

“We posted it a few weeks ago, but last week we sent it to all the letter writers as our response and then I got emails and comments that I caused my own child’s autism, that I don’t understand science.”

Some of the comments include “f... you and your poison vaccine”, “you f...ing idiot,

go hang yourself”, “you stupid fat mouth” and “forced vaccination is medical rape, are you a rapist?”.

Many have also taken aim at Senator Hughes’ autistic son Fred.

“I’m getting comments that I caused my son’s autism, that I am wracked with guilt.”

“The effect is nothing on me, I know how lunatic these people are, but the effect on the parents that don’t have the same level of resilience is obviously really concerning.

“There are a lot of parents out there who are frightened when they get overwhelmed and they are told autism is the worst thing in the world,

when it is not, death by measles is considerably worse than autism,” she said.

In her video, she took aim at the struck-off doctor Andrew Wakefield, whose discredited research linked MMR vaccine to 12 children with autism.

“There is no link between vaccines and autism and we have spent far too much time and money disputing that than actually helping the families with kids and people with autism,” Senator Hughes said.

The Golles were contacted for comment but their Facebook site says they don’t respond to mainstream media.