

PE1517/AAA

Ann Van Looy submission of 1 September 2017

For the past six years, Olive McIlroy and Elaine Holmes, whilst suffering the debilitating side effects of Mesh Devices, have spent most of their spare time raising awareness of the dangers of Trans Vaginal Implants. They worked diligently to inform the public of the devastating side effects of these devices.

Olive and Elaine read countless Medical papers, communicated with scientists and consultants, and studied statistical data and legal documents to gain as much knowledge of T.V. Implants as possible. The research carried out by Olive, Elaine and the experiences of the large contingent of Mesh Injured Women were instrumental in Mr. Neil's decision to establish an Independent Review.

The Independent Review 2014 was beset with difficulties and 'miscommunications.' Grave misgivings were expressed when 4 members of the Committee, including the Chairperson resigned. All confidence in achieving a fair, unbiased Review was lost when an N.H.S. employee, Dr.T. Gillies was appointed to see the Review through to publication. At this point it seemed that the aim of the Committee was to 'conclude the Review' as quickly as possible.

Olive and Elaine are known for their integrity. Therefore, the failure to remove the input of Olive and Elaine from the Review is misleading to subsequent readers of the Review. They have made clear their wish to disassociate themselves from the Independent Review, their wishes should be respected.

The failure of the Review to include the E.U. Reclassification of mesh to the highest risk category is ill-considered and jeopardises the health of countless women. Women should be made aware of the E.U. Re-classification and its inclusion in the Review should have been mandatory. Similarly, allowing Pelvic Organ Prolapse Mesh to be re-instated is a very reckless, dangerous decision. Who took the decision and why was it taken?

The decision to omit mention of the legal actions of the U.S. Attorney General is inexplicable. These actions highlight the U.S. response to Mesh – why was it ignored?