CHIROPRACTIC STROKE VICTIMS
Below is just a sampling of the hundreds and hundreds of young people who are needlessly injured or killed by strokes caused by chiropractic neck manipulation each year.

Linda Solsbury
Linda Solsbury of New London, Connecticut became a mute paraplegic at the young age of 36 following a chiropractic neck adjustment in 1985. Linda spent the next 22 years trying to raise public awareness about the risks of the procedure until her death from related causes in 2007 at the age of 57.

Britt Harwe
In April of 1993, Britt Harwe of Wellesfien, Connecticut was 26 years old when a chiropractic neck adjustment caused a vertebral artery to rupture. A vertebral artery is a major artery that supplies blood to the brain. The rupture caused a blood clot to form, blocking the blood supply to the brain. Britt was rushed to a hospital, but her blood pressure continued to rise, and she eventually died.

John Hoffman
39-year old John Hoffman of Gaithersburg, Maryland suffered a stroke 3 hours after a chiropractic neck adjustment in August 2004. The medical examiner reported that the cause of death was asphyxia, not neck manipulation.

Beverly Staudt
At age 59, Beverly left the chiropractor's office in Springfield, Missouri and called the hospital. She was rushed to the hospital, but she never regained consciousness. She died with a stroke and brain damage.

Jenny Gillespie
Jenny Gillespie was 25 year old just starting her firm in Fort Worth, Texas. She was given a neck adjustment and died. "I was having my first strokes," Jenny said. "I was given the surgery and I was advised to have the surgery."

John Fergusson
John Fergusson was a healthy 40-year old who, after waking one day in 2003 with a stiff neck and headache, a chiropractic neck adjustment on his neck. North Carolina. Fergusson died from a stroke and brain damage.

Kris Bedenbaugh
24-year old Kris Bedenbaugh of Little Mountain, South Carolina was experiencing sinus headaches in 1993. Kris sought relief from her chiropractor who performed neck manipulation. The procedure caused a brainstem stroke and she died three days later.

Les Linage
Stroke symptoms appeared shortly after 67-year old Les Linage of Ontario, Canada had a chiropractic neck adjustment in 2001. Medical doctors determined that the problem was a stroke. He went to the hospital and died.

Eric Sass
A 4-year old child, his name is Eric, showed signs of brain damage after a neck adjustment. He was left permanently paralyzed.

“With science, common sense and the interest of the patient as our sole concern, all of these cases are entirely preventable.”
— Presto Long, Doctor of Chiropractic

Jeremy Youngblood
On June 9, 2011, 35-year old Jeremy went to a chiropractor in Ada, Oklahoma for a neck adjustment. Two days later, he died of a stroke. The procedure, according to the medical examiner, caused a spinal cord stroke that resulted in a cervical-spine syndrome.

Kim McCormick
On July 16, 2006, Kim McCormick of Ridgefield, Connecticut died of a stroke as a result of a chiropractic neck adjustment. She was 32 years old. Her three children were between the ages of seven and five years old when their mother died.

Scott Tatro
In the summer of 2000, Scott Tatro, a 41-year old executive in Arizpe, Wisconsin, went to see a chiropractor about back pain and was given a neck manipulation. The treatment, according to the medical examiner, caused a spinal cord stroke that resulted in a cervical-spine syndrome.

Christa Orsino
Christa Orsino died in November 2003 after visiting a chiropractor in Kingston, New York. Christa was 39. She had suffered a stroke during the procedure.

David MacDonald
In November 2000, David MacDonald of Windsor Locks, Connecticut had a neck adjustment and suffered a bilateral subdural hematoma of the brain. The medical examiner reported that the cause of death was asphyxia, not neck manipulation.

Molly Brown
Molly Brown was 24 years old and she was given a neck adjustment in 2005 in the city of New York. She was given a neck adjustment and died.

Krae Lowery
Krae Lowery was a 25-year old athlete enjoying the prime of his life in San Jose, California. After neck manipulation in 2007, she suffered two vertebral artery dissections and a stroke. She was given a neck adjustment and died.

Sandra Nette
After her last chiropractic adjustment on Sept. 16, 2007, Sandra Nette of Alberta, Canada felt dizzy. She had suffered multiple strokes from tears to both vertebral arteries in her neck. Sanda suffered a stroke in 2008.

Laurie Jean Mathiason
20-year old Laurie Jean Mathiason of Lenexa, Kansas, died in February 1998 after suffering a neck adjustment. Mathiason’s case prompted Canadian neurologists to call for a study warning to be given to patients.

NECK ADJUSTMENTS CAN CAUSE STROKE

Kaiser Permanente, the esteemed healthcare organization in 2010, concluded that there is a paucity of data related to beneficial effects of chiropractic manipulation of the cervical spine and the real potential for catastrophic adverse events. [i.e. stroke]

The Journal of Neurosurgery, on September 16, 2011, published a study that reported that, “Chiropractic manipulation of the cervical spine is a known cause of cranial-spine arterial dissections. These injuries can be severe and patients were left permanently disabled or died as a result of their arterial injuries.”

The National Quality Forum (NQF), a non-profit organization, based in Washington D.C., that is dedicated to improving the quality of healthcare in the U.S. has endorsed a list of 27 adverse care management events that are serious, entirely preventable and should be publicly reported. One of the events is “patient death or serious disability due to spinal manipulative therapy.”

The American Chiropractic Association, has stated in its own published "Talking Points" that "it is true that neck manipulation is a risk factor for stroke.

The Canadian Stroke Consortium, a highly respected Canadian organization, has concluded that "people under 45 years of age who suffer a stroke are 5 and 6 times more likely to have a stroke in the previous week.'

The Canadian Chiropractic Jouranl in 2004 stated that "any form of excessive or abrupt cervical motion may dislodge an embolus, (which can potentially cause a stroke)

"I've personally seen many patients who have an episode of treatment of their neck with spinal manipulation and who a day or two later had the sudden onset of stroke-like symptoms.

Lee H. Schwan, M.D., Acute Stroke Services, Massachusetts General Hospital
If you take into consideration how many times they (patients) go and how many manipulations are performed, it does become a public health concern. It's a low risk, but potentially a life-threatening one.

Wouter I. Schivink, M.D., Director, Vascular Neurosurgery, Cedars-Sinai Med Center
"Recently seeing a chiropractor is an independent risk factor for stroke."

Wade S. Smith, M.D., Neurovascular Service, Univ. of Calif. at San Francisco
"Chiropractic manipulation of the neck carries the risk of tearing the vertebral artery that leads to the brain, thereby causing stroke or transient ischemic attack."

Howard Kirscher, M.D., director of the Vanderbilt Stroke Center in Nashville
"And if the chiropractor says, "No, there's not (any risk to neck manipulation)' I tell my patients to leave the chiropractor's office because they're lying.

David E. Thaler, MD Director, Tufts New England Stroke Center
"Cervical Manipulation is a preposterous thing to do, and it should be banned."

Mehdi Kazimi, MD, Professor of Neurology, Einstein College