

These 3 Women Attend Monsanto's Annual Shareholder Meeting Demanding Answers

[Moms Across America, Kids Right to Know and Shaka Movement](#) | February 2, 2016 4:30 pm

Three generations of women attended [Monsanto's](#) shareholder meeting Friday and presented multiple reasons why Monsanto should mitigate risks from [Roundup](#), support labeling of [genetically-engineered foods](#) and change the direction of their business.

Anne Temple, mother and midwest leader of [Moms Across America](#) representing John Harrington of Harrington Investments, went to the meeting with [Rachel Parent](#), 16-year-old and founder of [Kids Right to Know](#) from Canada who representing Moms Across America, and Beth Savitt, grandmother and president of the [Shaka Movement](#) of Maui representing and [As You Sow](#).

"Our loved ones are getting sick and dying at alarming rates," Temple said at the shareholder meeting. "We find however that our families' health improves when they eat organic to avoid GMOs and toxic chemicals."

In fact, Moms Across America posted this billboard in west St. Louis County, Missouri, in Creve Coeur, near Monsanto headquarters, stating just that:



At the shareholder meeting, Parent explained that “nearly two decades after **genetically engineered crops** have been incorporated into our food, no long-term human health studies have been performed. However, feeding studies have been done on animals and the results are sobering: organ damage, digestive disorders, tumors, infertility and stillbirths.”

Then Savitt pointed out that “the **president’s cancer panel** of 2008 recommended the precautionary principle in relation to pesticides. Can we stop and test? Can we practice the hippocratic oath and first do no harm? That’s all we are asking for.”

Savitt’s Shaka Movement passed a GMO moratorium in **Maui**, requiring that the planting of GMOs stop until safety testing is concluded that shows the chemical combinations used were safe. Monsanto spent more than \$9 million to fight the passing of the moratorium, far more than would have been spent on the testing. The moratorium passed anyway, but a local judge overturned the law. Currently, an appeal is in process. The concern by the three women is that in the meantime, Monsanto is allowed to continue to poison our food, water and planet.

Savitt insists, “Maui is an open air experiment and the land and people are paying a price, our health. We assert our right to health.”

John Harrington of Harrington Investments said, “It’s truly amazing to me that Monsanto is allowed to continue endangering public health and safety.”

The choices of Monsanto are not without repercussions, however. Monsanto has experienced heavy losses over the past year due to several factors including:

1. The increase of more than 250 super weeds on 300 million acres resisting Roundup
2. The World Health Organization’s **declaration** that **glyphosate** in Roundup is a probable carcinogen
3. Growing consumer resistance

Since Zen Honeycutt of Moms Across America spoke at last year’s shareholder meeting, there has been a 34 percent **drop in stock value** and 16 percent of the **workforce will be laid off**.

Although considered safe for nearly 40 years, **serious evidence regarding the health risks of glyphosate** in Roundup has recently surfaced, including the destruction of the gut bacteria which leads to a weakened immune system, neurotoxicity, hormone disrupting effects which can lead to endocrine disruption (birth defects and miscarriage) at very low levels, non Hodgkin’s Lymphoma, breast cancer cell growth and placental cell death.

These three women went to the shareholder meeting because they do not see how Monsanto can ignore the risks associated with Roundup and knowingly continue down a path that will lead to decreased profit margins and job loss.

During the shareholder meeting, Monsanto CEO and board chair [Hugh Grant](#) extolled the virtues of GMOs and glyphosate, declaring them safe and the tools needed to solve the problem of feeding a hungry world.

Parent, who has been speaking up for GMO labels since she was 11 years old, said, “If you truly believe your GM technology is safe, if you truly believe it has the potential to feed the world, why are you treating it like a dirty little secret that can’t be shown on food labels? Why, if it’s such proven technology, are you fighting it, rather than promoting it?”

Grant went on to say that Monsanto is for voluntary GMO labeling and supports [QR codes](#).

Temple pointed out that the QR code option is “discriminatory because not everyone can afford a smartphone.”

Listen here to the full recording of the meeting: <http://ecowatch.com/2016/02/02/monsanto-shareholder-meeting/2/>