One reason behind the Christian anti-vax movement in the U.S.

I often wondered why Christians seemed to be disproportionately represented in the Anti-Vax movement. Did their faith predispose them to reject any science, including medical science?

The answer came from a book written by Michelle Goldberg in 2007 titled Kingdom Coming. She was discussing the promotion of Abstinence Only programs by the Christian Far Right.

Here's an excerpt:

"Even for women with dangerous strains of HPV (Human Papilloma Virus), cervical cancer is usually preventable with routine Pap testing. Imparting this information could save lives by encouraging women to get checkups, but it's rarely included in abstinence textbooks, perhaps because it would lessen HPV's effectiveness as a rhetorical weapon.

The truth is that the abstinence industry needs HPV to be dangerous. That's why, when a vaccine arose in 2005, several leading abstinence advocates - the very people who have spent years warning of the disease's horrors - could scarcely hide their dismay.

Having completed successful trials of HPV vaccines, the pharmaceutical companies GlaxoSmithKline and Merck will soon file for regulatory approval to start marketing them.

But as the British magazine New Scientist reported in April 2005, American religious groups "are gearing up to oppose vaccination."

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

That's right, the pro-life people are pro-life for clumps of cells that have yet to develop a functioning brain and nervous system, but pro-lifers will gladly let women die before they will allow these women to interfere with their anti-abortion crusade.

Nothing new to see here folks ... move along.