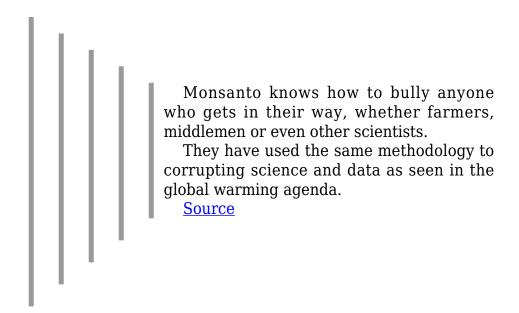
## Monsanto Technocrats Bullied Scientists to Hide Glyphosate Cancer Risks

www.bibliotecapleyades.net



## Lawyer - Monsanto Bullied Scientists And Hid Weedkiller's Cancer Risks

A lawyer on Monday argued that <u>Roundup</u> creator Monsanto hid the cancer-causing effects of their weedkiller and bullied scientists into making claims it was safe.

In a landmark lawsuit against the global chemical corporation, the lawyer didn't hold back in his accusations <u>against Monsanto</u>.

"Monsanto has specifically gone out of its way to bully... and to fight independent researchers,"

...said the attorney **Brent Wisner**, who presented internal Monsanto emails that he said showed how the agrochemical company rejected critical research and expert warnings over the years while pursuing and helping to write favorable analyses of their products.

"They fought science," added Wisner, who is representing Dwayne Johnson.

<u>Dwayne Johnson</u> alleges <u>Monsanto is to blame</u> for the cancer that has been aggressively spreading throughout his entire body.

According to *The Guardian*, Johnson (also known as Lee) is a father of three and a former school groundskeeper, who doctors say may have just mere months to live.

He is the <u>first person to take Monsanto to trial</u> over allegations that the chemical sold under the Roundup brand is linked to cancer although <u>thousands</u> have made similar legal claims across the United States.

This lawsuit focuses on the chemical glyphosate, the world's most widely used herbicide, which Monsanto began marketing as Roundup in 1974. The company began by presenting it as a "technological breakthrough" that could kill almost every weed without harming humans or the environment.

Monsanto lawyer **George Lombardi** alleged that the body of research over the past decades was on the company's side.

"The scientific evidence is overwhelming that glyphosate-based products do not cause cancer and did not cause Mr. Johnson's cancer," Lombardi claimed in his opening statements.

Unfortunately for Lombardi, many studies have shown *his statements as fallacious*.

There is a mountain of scientific data working against Monsanto, including a 2015 declaration by the World Health Organization's *international agency for research on cancer* (IARC), which classified glyphosate as "probably carcinogenic to humans."

Carcinogenic means "potentially cancer-causing."

Johnson worked as a groundskeeper for the school district in Benicia, just north of San Francisco, in California. He was responsible for applying the weedkiller Roundup, Monsanto's glyphosate product to the grounds.

According to *The Guardian*, lawyers for Johnson showed the jury photos of lesions and rashes on Johnson's skin after he was regularly exposed to the chemical.

Johnson was eventually diagnosed with *non-Hodgkin lymphoma* (NHL) in 2014, at age of 42.

"The simple fact is he's going to die. It's just a matter of time," Wisner said in court. "Between now and then, it's just nothing but pain."

A strategic corporate document also revealed Monsanto's public relations plan to "orchestrate outcry" in advance of the IARC glyphosate classification, Wisner told the jury.

Wisner further cited Monsanto emails from decades prior, in which the company was working with a genotoxicity expert who reviewed a series of 1990s studies.

He raised concerns about Roundup impacts on humans and suggested further areas of research.

After the expert's analyses, Monsanto representatives began considering finding a different expert and also started working on a press statement saying the product carried no risk, according to Johnson's lawyer.

Wisner also read documents that he said showed how Monsanto strategized plans to "ghostwrite" favorable research.

The Guardian

The lawyer for Monsanto disputes the claims saying Wisner is "cherrypicking" studies in favor of his client.

Regardless of the outcome, however, Wisner said,

so much of what Monsanto has worked to keep secret is coming out."

Hopefully, the public will soon know just how dangerous glyphosate can be so people can be effectively warned before using it...