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## **Why Chiropractic is Often Bashed**

You may be surprised to hear the findings of a United States Appeals Court decision and how it effected my profession. In 1982 the American Medical Association was found guilty of attempting to destroy its largest competitor – Chiropractic!

The court found that the American Medical Association significantly affects the health care market in American and that: first, medical doctors were threatened with suspension if they referred their patients to chiropractors. Second, chiropractors were prevented from obtaining access to hospitals and memberships on hospital staffs. Third, medics were banned from teaching at chiropractic colleges and engaging in joint research.

### **Commission on Quackery**

In addition, the AMA created a Commission on Quackery, whose purpose was to advise its members and the public about unsafe and unscientific health care professions, of which chiropractic was included. At that time, there was a large body of scientific literature which validated the effectiveness of manipulation. Many medical practitioners, including some members of the very same Commission documented their beliefs that chiropractors rendered superior care for certain conditions. In spite of all of this, they continued to send anti-chiropractic literature when requests for information were made.

### **Substantial Harm was Done to Chiropractic**

Substantial harm was done to the chiropractic profession as a result of all of this. The court determined that chiropractic continues to be harmed and threatened by lack of association with members of the AMA. Therefore, it forced AMA to send each of its members a copy of its findings and publish a one page ad in their journal stating that the barriers between chiropractors and MD's have now been lifted, The Court's attempt was to eliminate the consequences of the lengthy and unlawful boycott of the chiropractic profession.

### **Chiropractic has Grown in Acceptance**

My profession has grown in public acceptance tremendously in recent years because of its effectiveness – not because of the support of the medical community. Many more people could benefit if their general practitioner informed them of the superior training of chiropractors rather than prescribing less effective

treatment. Consider your chiropractor as a personal holistic physician, who, in addition to treating back pain, can advise you on nutrition, stress, exercise and sports injuries.

In Health,

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