



Dialogues for the Vaccine Hesitant and Those Who Love Them

Free eBooks Available in

Amharic, Spanish, Swahili, Tagalog, and Urdu

Vancouver's **Boca del Lupo Theatre** has partnered with the **Dr. Peter Centre** to translate two short scripts from Canadian playwrights that explore different root causes of vaccine hesitancy.

The scripts have been translated into **Amharic, Spanish, Tagalog, Swahili and Urdu**. Research shows that these language communities have high degrees of vaccine hesitancy across the country.

Inspired by Boca del Lupo's national **Plays2Perform@Home** project, free digital book versions of these plays will be available for all to see and share. These scripts are meant as practice dialogues for people who might find themselves in any number of difficult conversations, and create empathy and compassion on all sides.

The plays are:

- ***Tiny Fist Waving*** by **Karen Hines** (Calgary). Illustrates how compassion and empathy are powerful tools in keeping communities together even when our views are miles apart.
- ***But Why*** by **Mary-Colin Chisholm** (Halifax). Navigates the issues that parents and guardians are facing with children aged 5 to 11 when it comes to getting the shot.

The root causes of vaccine hesitancy range from fear of needles, through to reducing the harm of spreading mis-information, and the understandable wariness in racialized communities when it comes to government mandated procedures.

The playbooks can be downloaded here:

Swahili - <https://bocadellupo.com/swahili>

Urdu - <https://bocadellupo.com/urdu>

Amharic - <https://bocadellupo.com/amharic>

Spanish - <https://bocadellupo.com/spanish>

Tagalog - <https://bocadellupo.com/tagalog>

Boca del Lupo's **Sherry J Yoon** and Artistic Producer **Jay Dodge** say, *"Throughout the pandemic our focus has been to centre artists to help us make sense of these extraordinary times. When the Dr. Peter Centre approached us about working on the vaccine roll out, we had to say yes. We think of these as theatrical conversations embodying the difficult situations that many of us are finding ourselves in. Whether it's a discussion you are having with yourself, or someone in your circle, we hope these short plays will help you navigate this issue with compassion and empathy."*

Scott Elliott, Executive Director of the Dr. Peter Centre, said, *"The Centre secured funds from the Public Health Agency of Canada's Immunization Partnership Fund to address vaccine hesitancy among individuals experiencing multiple barriers to care. The Centre has divided the funds to organizations across Canada to help get the vaccine where it is needed most."*

Valerie Thai, the award winning graphic designer who created Boca del Lupo's Plays2Perform@Home, also designed the graphics for Dialogues for the Vaccine Hesitant translated books.

More information: bocadellupo.com/dialogues and www.drpeter.org

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