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California’s Baby DNA Warehouse is Huge

California parents interviewed by a television reporter had no clue the state kept their child’s DNA and weren’t pleased.

California began storing Baby DNA in 1983. In the past 18 years, they’ve added the DNA of 9.5 million children. The state keeps it indefinitely and sells it to researchers for $20 to $40 per blood spot. The state created a sixteen-page brochure, which doesn’t mention the program until page 12. Most parents don’t recall getting the brochure at the hospital and 75% had no idea the state stored the DNA. But reading a brochure is probably not high on the to-do list of exhausted new parents.

“California Biobank Stores Every Baby’s DNA. Who Else Has Access? Julie Watts, CBS (KPIX 5), May 8, 2018:
http://sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2018/05/08/california-biobank-stores-baby-dna-access/

Presented daily by Twila Brase, President, Citizens’ Council for Health Freedom.

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