

Taylor, Wayne
McMaster University, Academia-Research

No one in the free world can argue with the legitimacy of the IGWG's call for better health in developing countries. However the draft plan on public health, innovation and intellectual property raises many concerns such as follow-up regulation, safety of product manufactured in the third world, the absence of the patients' voice, the potential for bio-terrorism through the misuse of compound libraries and some of the factual errors inbedded in the report itself. Above all however is the concern that intellectual property is being used as the scape goat with respect to denial of access to innovative drugs in the third world. Intellectual property when properly protected and regulated actually improves access and the IGWG needs to examine the real barriers to access which are money, power, politics and ideologies.