## 'All natural fetish' fuels 'counter-rationalist mindset' on GMOs in Vermont

Immersed as we are in these exquisite pastoral gifts, Vermonters tend to forget that Mother Nature might be lovely, but moral she is not. She doesn't love us or want what's best for us.

. . .

I know this only too well, because as well as the verdant wonderland that is Vermont, nature personally bestowed on me another of her special gifts: systemic lupus.

...

That's why I just don't buy the idea that 'natural is best'. Your organic, gluten-free, sprouted ancient-grain bread is all-natural? That's nice. My disease is all-natural too. My chronic pain, pleurisy and angry kidneys are all-natural, and my death would've been too, if I didn't have access to the decidedly unnatural medications that allow me to lead a somewhat normal, comfortable life.

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It turns out that a certain counter-rationalist mindset isn't just a condition afflicting Right-wing reactionaries. This fetish for all things au naturel reached a particularly feverish peak in these parts recently, when Vermonters banded together to implement a mandatory labelling law for GMOs (genetically-modified organisms) in 2014. ... The anti-GMO rhetoric had lulled for a time following passage of the bill, but began to intensify again last year in the months leading up to the labelling deadline. Despite overwhelming scientific evidence that GMOs are safe for human consumption, more than three-quarters of Vermonters supported the law....

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