Exceedingly high incidence of encephalitis or encephalopathy after getting primary smallpox vaccinations at age 18 or 19. The Dutch then switched to the W.H.O. strain of vaccine, and these complications fell off dramatically. Apparently, the strain of vaccine used before by the Dutch had neurotropic characteristics not present in the strains used by most other nations.

There's one question on smallpox that I get at least one letter a week about: People ask me if some nation couldn't capitalize on the discontinuation of routine vaccination by using smallpox as a biological warfare weapon. Well, I feel that if someone wants to destroy the world, smallpox virus isn't the weapon he'll pick.

REFERENCES