



STATESBORO
WOMEN'S HEALTH
SPECIALISTS
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Exposure to Plastics May Be Causing Endometriosis

I suspect the toxic chemicals that are released into our food, water, and air by plastics are the cause of endometriosis. I base this conclusion on two observations:

The first was the frightening increase in the number of cases of endometriosis reported around the world over the past forty years. When I first started training in Gynecology, in 1983, endometriosis was considered to be a disease of middle aged women. It *never* affected anyone younger than 30 years of age. It was estimated that about 7% of women were afflicted. During the next two decades, the disease gradually started to show up in women in their twenties and a third of women reported symptoms. Today, it is not uncommon to find advanced endometriosis in teenagers and over half of all women seem to be affected.

Another observation was that the disease was affecting women at the same rate all over the world. It was just as common in India or Pakistan as it was in the United States or Canada.

What changed forty years ago? What new source of poison could be so ubiquitous that it would affect all women throughout the entire world?

There is only one logical answer: Plastics!

Bisphenol a (BPA) is a synthetic estrogen used to harden polycarbonate plastics and epoxy resin that may be associated with the increase in cases of endometriosis around the world. An estimated 6 billion pounds of BPA are produced globally annually, generating about \$6 billion in sales. It is fabricated into thousands of products made of hard, clear polycarbonate plastics and tough epoxy resins, including safety equipment, eyeglasses, computer and cell phone casings, water and beverage bottles, dental fillings, and epoxy paint and coatings.

How Are You Being Exposed to Endometriosis-Causing Chemicals?

- Skin absorption of cosmetics, body lotions, hair gels, shampoos, and deodorants.
- By ingesting them from water, PVC (water) pipes, detergents, and certain foods.
- By inhaling them from airborne adhesives and glues, building materials, school/ business supplies, furnishings, auto interiors, solvents, plastics, lubricants, insect repellants, vinyl flooring, carpet tiles, vinyl wallpaper, body toiletries, artificial leather, adhesives, dyes, and toys. Also, plastics coat all wires and as they heat the plastic coating releases them into the air.