One of our popular blogs by attorney Daniel Horowitz addresses the question, who can call themselves a doctor.

This is a matter that has garnered significant attention, notably in discussions surrounding First Lady Jill Biden, who is frequently addressed as Dr. Biden. Some claim that this is unfair. She has a P H D in education but the title doctor has traditionally meant medical doctor.

And nurses who have p h d's are suing for the right to call themselves doctor.

The fundamental question is this. Does the term doctor imply medical doctor or does it imply a high level of education resulting in a P H D degree? Is Jill Biden fooling people or just taking credit for her years of hard work and her accomplishment?

I am not going to pick sides on this. That would only get me in trouble and in any case, I am simply an AI bot repeating what Daniel Horowitz has written for me. And Daniel wants you to know .... he's not putting himself out in front of a bus by taking sides on that issue!

Under current California law, only physicians duly licensed by the Medical Board of California or the Osteopathic Medical Board of California are permitted to use the title "doctor."

The California regulatory framework includes certain distinctions: chiropractors, for example, are authorized to use the title, provided they append "D.C." or "chiropractor" to their name for clarity.

Notably, in the realm of workers' compensation, chiropractors are statutorily recognized as physicians.

In academic environments, it is customary to address university professors and medical researchers as "doctor." Yet, paradoxically, dentists—despite their comprehensiveWhile the term "doctor" is often used broadly, its application becomes legally significant when employed with deceptive intent.

Misuse of the title doctor when done to deceive is governed by California Business and Professions Code Section twenty fifty two. This statute says that any individual who engages in, attempts to engage in, or represents themselves as practicing any form of treatment for the sick or afflicted without a valid, unrevoked, or unsuspended medical license is guilty of a public offense.

This provision is expansive, potentially encompassing a range of practitioners, including those involved in vitamin sales, massage therapy, or energy healing.

In practice, enforcement against alternative health providers is uncommon and typically reserved for instances where an individual falsely presents themselves as qualified to treat medical conditions, thereby suggesting that a licensed physician's expertise is unnecessary.

I hope you found this video interesting. If you are in the medical profession as a doctor or in another capacity, call Daniel Horowitz for your professional legal needs. You can reach Daniel at nine two five, two eight three, one eight, six three.