

## **Submission to Covid-19 Inquiry**

My name is Anna Lane and up until 4th February 2022 I was employed by Virgin Australia as a domestic flight attendant based in Melbourne. A position I held for almost 14 years. The company's Covid-19 policy required that all employees receive two doses of an "approved" vaccine by Nov 2021. I was threatened with loss of employment if I did not participate in a Covid-19 vaccination clinical trial. Having spent many hours doing my own research, the result of which raised some very serious safety concerns, I exercised my right to informed consent and as a consequence, I was terminated from my employment with Virgin Australia with the defamatory false charge of serious misconduct, usually the preserve of theft, assault, sexual assault and deliberate safety violations.

The fall out from being terminated from my employment was devastating, resulting in loss of income and financial security, the very means by which I support myself and the source of my independence. The anxiety of an uncertain future was all consuming, effecting both my mental and physical health. With rent and bills to pay, and prohibited from working due to mandates effecting all authorised workers in Victoria, along with the Premier Daniel Andrews's threats of a "vaccinated economy", I had no choice but to uproot my life in Melbourne, pack up a house that had been my home for 26.5 years and move to Queensland to live with my mother. It was a huge reduction in circumstances given I have lived most of my adult life as a proud, single and independent woman. I grieved for my loss and for the life I was forced to leave but most disturbing was the sense of feeling displaced, like a refugee in my own country.

The Federal Government's response to Covid-19 was a disaster in that it failed to ensure the states upheld the democratic and constitutional rights of all Australians.

Power is arbitrary insofar as it is uncontrolled by those who are subject to it. Australia has a representative democratic government structured to afford its citizens protection against the exercise of arbitrary political power. The lockdowns and restrictions imposed upon Victorians by Daniel Andrews were unrestrained and autocratic in the use of authority. He ignored the rights of Victorians to informed consent with regard to medical procedures as per our constitution, and forced employers to act on behalf of the state government and authorise civil conscription by mandating a vaccine. It is a long established principle of law that consent cannot be given in circumstances of duress and coercion, and yet Daniel Andrews issued the "No Jab, No Job" directive.

Chief Health Officers were issuing public orders based on "science" and the "best medical advice" that closed businesses, schools, churches and sporting clubs, made unprecedented and unconscionable intrusions into our privacy and disrupted our most precious social and family relationships.

The Federal government spent billions of taxpayers dollars on purchasing Covid-19 vaccines for the Australian public that failed to provide immunity or prevent transmission. Vaccines which were indeed unsafe, based on a novel mRNA technology so risky that manufacturers refused to produce it unless every government in the world shielded them from liability.

It became clear the vaccines themselves posed a greater risk to health and safety than Covid-19. Simply consider the data on the Therapeutic Goods Administration website as it pertains to Covid-19 vaccine adverse event reports, including fatalities.

In January 2022 when I was preparing for my show-cause meeting prior to my termination of employment, these were the statistics at the time:

Total number of deaths from Covid-19 in Australia: 2,750 (JHU CSSE Covid-19 Data and Our World in Data)

Total number of adverse event reports since the Covid-19 roll out in Australia as released by the TGA: 99,659

Despite the data, the health regulator of Australia failed to pull the Covid-19 vaccines and suspend the vaccination campaign.

The Federal Government's response to Covid-19 was an abject failure and a betrayal of the Australian people. It was an attack on democracy and on public health. Every precaution must be taken to ensure this never happens again. The way forward in terms of pandemic preparedness is clear when you consider the words of the great Thomas Jefferson, American founding father and principal author of the Declaration of Independence...

"There is no justification of taking away individual freedom in the guise of public safety"