Submission to Commonwealth Government COVID-19 Response Inquiry By 12/12/2023.

My submission addresses the following term of reference:

 Governance including the role of the Commonwealth Government, responsibilities of state and territory governments, national governance mechanisms (such as National Cabinet, the National Coordination Mechanism and the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee) and advisory bodies supporting responses to COVID-19.

Normally, mandating an injection upon people would be a breach of civil liberties, but, the argument goes, it's ok if *warranted* by emergency conditions. So the question becomes, when did we cease to be in emergency conditions?

The **Emergency Powers Bill** used in WA was intended for *short term* emergencies such as earthquakes or floods. They were never intended for *ongoing* use such as the WA government imposed, certainly lockdowns of such length were not envisioned in that legislation. Nor vaccine mandates for such a long period.

Certainly the use of Emergency Powers became disproportionate once vaccines became available and had been initially applied. And even more disproportionate once the deadliness of the virus had clearly waned, ie by the time of Omicron.

Government mandates should be subject to the normal scrutiny applied to any legislation. The costs to businesses of mandating vaccine status have proven the disproportionateness of WA government responses.

I am also suspicious of the imposition of Pf&AZ vaccines to the exclusion of Novovax, Covax-19 (https://vaxine.net/projects/). I am suspicious of ignoring the broader immune response to the weaker Omicron strain. "Omicron has delivered us from Delta," (see Dr John Campbell at 5':30" and 7':19" here.) Was there a financial incentive to government personnel to impose these vaccines?

A proportionate response could have managed serious spikes with temporary field hospitals if necessary - all without a state of emergency, locked borders, lockdowns, exclusive vaccine mandates & compliance apartheid. I am suspicious of the continuance of the Emergency Powers for so long.

Thank you for inquiring further into such matters.