

# Covid-19 inquiry

excessive fear-based media and advertising creating false beliefs about risks. For example for some people who refused vaccination their employers or co-workers expressed bizarre false beliefs such as my 25 year old nephew told by employer "do you realise if you get it (covid-19) you have a 25% chance of dying?", my 22 year old niece told "if you get it and pass it to (co-worker missing his spleen) you will give him a worse case? (This at an outdoor agricultural job which actually had minimal possibility of transmission).

Many people, including me (nursing for 35 years) lost jobs due to vaccine mandates. I have never refused vaccines in the past, including taking fluvax for the last thirty years. While I had some concerns about the risks of a novel vaccine my main objection was the aborted fetal cell line link. I believe the government should have allowed conscientious objection as an option and/or made available a non-abortion tainted vaccine. For a brief period people were able to privately (at great cost) import a vaccine from India but the TGA shut down that avenue. (This was a vaccine that was approved for people coming from India into Australia).

Many people, particularly in Victoria, (including two of my brother in laws, a cousin and several nieces and nephews) were vaccinated very much against their will, they had no choice as they needed to keep their jobs to feed their families and/or travel interstate to spend time with a dying relative. (Victoria: most definitely NOT the place to be during COVID).

Even now situations arise such as my nephew who was offered a new job in IT a couple of months ago then discovered while filling out the paperwork that COVID vaccination was required, and my niece who was signing up for an art course last week which also required COVID vaccination.

My brother died of an unexpected heart attack during COVID and the restrictions around the funeral and supporting the grieving family were cruel.

My mother was uninvited to her sibling's Christmas celebration in 2021 as her brother decided he and his wife wouldn't attend any events with unvaccinated people as encouraged by state messaging (which put it on mum not to attend).

One of my mum's sisters has had ongoing health issues her doctor says are related to her covid vaccine.

Since COVID many people have increased anxiety in social situations as a result of lockdowns and accompanying messaging that being with others was dangerous, including my mum and several other relatives and friends.

My friends had to get permission from the government to leave the country to go to her parents who were hospitalised with COVID in Italy, adding to the stress of the situation. Due to the massive overreach in messaging and control of the population we now have much less trust in doctors, police and politicians. I don't know how that trust can be restored.