

I am an Australian citizen by birth as were my parents and grandparents. I have lived and worked in Australia and overseas. I am going to address the terms of reference identified below based on my experience and observations.

1. 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.

As I understand the Australian Constitution, the Commonwealth has no legislative power with regard to health. The Commonwealth Government should have kept its nose entirely out of covid. Leave health matters, including contagious illnesses such as covid, to the States and Territories to deal with as they see fit. I am sure they are as competent as the Commonwealth - after all, federal politicians come from the States and Territories. I say this not only because health is none of the Commonwealth's business but also because, it seems to me, that the National Cabinet (an ill thought out idea- Australia is a federation of sovereign jurisdictions and should not be treated otherwise) resulted in appalling decision making akin to group-think.

*2. Key health response measures (for example across COVID-19 vaccinations and treatments, key medical supplies such as personal protective equipment, quarantine facilities, and public health messaging).*

What can be said about the public health messaging? My goodness, what a massive propaganda exercise. Governments should be ashamed of the fear-mongering and outrageous claims made to coerce people into being vaccinated for covid. And it was relentless; daily propaganda from Premiers and Chief Health Officers. With at least two Chief Health Officers post-covid rising to

Governorship or Administrator level, one would be forgiven for wondering if they were rewarded for - actually, for what? For scaring the general population into submission via lockdowns, curfews, mask-wearing, vaccinations with an experimental vaccine, travel restrictions, quarantine? It was like living under an oppressive, fascist regime. I hope to God I never have to live through anything remotely like it again. I used to love Australia. Not any more. I despise what this country became. Do not underestimate the level of anger and resentment, distrust and disdain the general population has for governments post-covid.

Let's talk about quarantine facilities. It is not the quality of the facilities which concerns me; it is the fact that I was locked up. I did not commit a crime but I was essentially a prisoner (dress it up any way you like, that is what it was) and to add insult to injury, I had to pay for it! Twice! Firstly upon return to Australia and then in the Northern Territory.

*3. International policies to support Australians at home and abroad (including with regard to international border closures, and securing vaccine supply deals with international partners for domestic use in Australia).*

What a joke. What support? I was living overseas and desperately needed information from the Australian embassy in-country. Embassy staff knew less than I did. When the government of the country I was living in decided all foreigners had to leave the country (certain exceptions), I could not for the life of me get any useful advice from the Australian Government. I even resorted to emailing Marise Payne's office directly. I may as well not have bothered, such was the quality of advice. The Australian Government showed me it did not care. By the way, the country I was living in is a 'communist' country and, let me tell you, that government was more liberal and far less oppressive than the Australian government I experienced upon return (having battled my own way back).

*4. Financial support for individuals (including income support payments).*

I was unemployable because I was not covid vaccinated. I was not vaccinated because, and only because, the government mandated vaccines. In effect, vaccination WAS mandated; despite what the Prime Minister smugly said. I flatly refuse to be forced to be vaccinated. It is simply wrong. By the way, I am vaccinated for a plethora of diseases so do not presume I am anti-vaccinations. I am not. So, I was unemployable, not eligible for government financial assistance and my income was [REDACTED]. Thanks for that Governments.

That is all. Thank you for the opportunity.