

I hold a Bachelor of Social Work and I worked for [REDACTED] for [REDACTED] prior to the Mandate being put in place for the COVID-19 Vaccination. I worked as a Senior Social Worker in a Mental Health Service until the Mandate led to my prolonged Suspension for many months, and ultimately the Termination of my employment (just prior to the Mandate requirements being lifted).

As a direct result of the Mandate and my subsequent Suspension and enforced Termination of employment, I have been unable to continue to undertake my usual work in Health. In addition, I and my family [REDACTED] have suffered massive financial loss, loss of financial security, plus emotional and personal harm.

Following my Suspension, I had to seek alternative employment (initially [REDACTED] [REDACTED] in order to pay my bills and meet our very basic living expenses. Due to the casual nature of the work, there was no job security and periods of low or no employment.

Adding to my financial and emotional stress has been not having paid sick leave when unwell, and not having carer's leave when [REDACTED] are unwell. I lost my long held income protection policy due to my inability to cover the payments. My superannuation has also been detrimentally affected by my loss of income. Due to the loss of adequate income for an extended period, my family and I continue to experience ongoing financial stress.

Personal and emotional harm has included prolonged high stress levels, the loss of my valued role, my profession, my reputation, and the loss of my social and professional connections in the work place, all of which I had worked many years to attain. These factors have negatively impacted my health and wellbeing, that of my family, and have affected my capacity to serve the community in my long-held role.

It is difficult to quantify in words the emotional suffering and financial damage that has been caused by the loss of my valued employment and the process by which this occurred, all as a direct result of the Mandate. My life and that of my family, [REDACTED] [REDACTED], has been devastated by the ongoing flow on effects in every detail of our lives.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

My recommendations about how the Commonwealth responds to future pandemics.

- Genuine and transparent consultation around risk assessment of any medical procedure needs to be undertaken.
- No coercion ought to be used to enforce people to undergo a medical procedure against their will. Please also refer to the attached booklet, *'Too Many Dead'*.

- There should not be the arbitrary scrapping of previously agreed national protocols of medical practice for meeting pandemic conditions – as what occurred at the beginning of the COVID time, in favour of a single approach, viz. mass vaccination.