

## **To the members of the Covid 19 Inquiry panel**

*I am writing this submission to respectfully voice concerns over Australia's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. While acknowledging the unprecedented nature of the pandemic and recognising the importance of the Inquiry's goal to improve pandemic preparedness, there are critical areas that require thorough scrutiny.*

### **Concerns Over Specific Pandemic Measures**

**Mask and Vaccine Mandates:** *The implementation of mask and vaccine mandates appeared to breach not only several International Human Rights obligations but also the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act 1901. These actions had significant impacts on individual freedoms and social dynamics. These measures, often invasive, warrant a detailed review to assess their Lawfulness, necessity, effectiveness, and proportionality.*

**Lockdowns and Curfews:** *The economic, social, and psychological impacts of lockdowns and curfews have been profound. Many studies have now shown the negative impacts of these measures, therefore a thorough evaluation is essential to understand their long-term effects on Australian society and whether they were the most appropriate response.*

**Communication Strategies:** *It is quite clear that there was an unwarranted use of fear in public health messaging. It's important to analyse whether such communication strategies were effective or whether they contributed to unnecessary panic and distress among the public.*

### **Concerns Over the Composition and Scope of the Inquiry**

**Panel Composition:** *The appointment of Inquiry panel members who have previously expressed support for certain pandemic measures raises questions about the objectivity and impartiality of the Inquiry. Panel members who have expressed support for such measures should recuse themselves, as there appears to be a clear conflict of interest. If not, this inquiry will likely lack credibility and appears to be just a continuation of the influence of vested interests in driving the Government pandemic response that became increasingly apparent as the pandemic progressed.*

**Exclusion of Unilateral State and Territory Government Decisions:** *One of the most significant omissions in the Inquiry's scope is the exclusion of actions taken unilaterally by state and territory governments. These decisions, including state-imposed lockdowns and border controls, were pivotal to the nation's pandemic response and should be included in the Inquiry.*

### **The Need for a Comprehensive Review**

*While the Terms of Reference for the Inquiry are extensive, it is crucial that the above-mentioned areas are not overlooked. A truly comprehensive review should encompass all aspects of the government's response, including those currently outside the Inquiry's scope, specifically an in depth review and investigation into excess deaths since the rollout of the vaccine program and subsequent mandates. Focus should be placed particularly on the Western Australian experience, given that there was no Community transmission of the SARS COV 2 virus until after the borders opened in April 2022, however excess mortality began to rise in March 2021 and then again in November 2021 seemingly in direct correlation with the Vaccine rollout and the introduction of mandates. The WA situation created the perfect control group for a study, this should be utilised to gain a clear picture of what is causing the Nationwide and indeed worldwide increase in excess mortality, to ensure this experience is never repeated.*

### **Conclusion**

*Post pandemic, as a result of the Government response it's becoming increasingly clear that the Australian public have lost complete trust in it's Government, its regulatory agencies, Doctors and the Health system as a whole. The only way to restore this trust is a Comprehensive, impartial and fully independent inquiry, into every aspect of the response.*

*As such, this submission represents a call for a more inclusive and thorough investigation into Australia's COVID-19 response. It also urges for freedom and liberty to not ever be cast aside with fearmongering as it was by Australian governments during the pandemic. We urge the Inquiry to consider these points to ensure transparency, accountability, and the safeguarding of Australian values and liberties.*

*Trevor Willsher*