

My name is [REDACTED] My husband and I have two children. One primary school aged, and one due to start school in a year.

I am furious at National Cabinet's many decisions to gradually strip away Covid health measures and reporting. I don't see any point in politely toeing around how disgusted I am that my govt is getting away with mass harm, and negligent deaths. And we need more people calling this for what it is.

National Cabinet is resolved to a vaccine-only strategy with vaccines that are not able to sufficiently prevent known longterm harm, are not being kept up-to-date in a timely manner (like USA, Canada, etc), are not being offered with enough frequency, and are denied to some age groups entirely -despite USA offering vaccines for ages 6 months and up.

I am tired of being lied to (directly or by omission/misleading/ignorance) that Covid is not airborne, that appropriate masks don't work, that we will have herd immunity, then rich hybrid-immunity, a mild course of illness that fully resolves for the vaccinated or young, that this is our "exit wave", schools are not major contributors of covid transmission, that Covid will become seasonal, that we can expect smaller waves in the future (ignoring we now have a raised tide of Covid ALL the time), etc.

I'm tired of QLD Health having been allowed to blame Long Covid on the *nocebo effect* without any repercussions. It's a blatant and staggering betrayal of the public, and goes against mountains of medical studies.

As a well-informed person, the deliberately downplayed risk of Covid harm has led to brutal levels of social rejection and further infections. Protecting yourself is seen as shameful and weak, even for those who are especially vulnerable.

I have had to pull my child out of school due to the lack of clean air measures and nonchalance around infection. We have been homeschooling for 2 years, and are about to start homeschooling my youngest, whose whole life has been one of increasing restrictions and isolation to avoid evidenced medical harm, while we wait for the govt to be completely out of options in ignoring harm, and **restricting access** to the evidence of harm (covid hospitalisation data, hospital acquired infections, evidence and advice presented at National Cabinet, etc.)

Appropriate responses to the danger posed by multiple Covid infections a year -with no in sight (as a political choice)- are constantly portrayed as anxious and over the top. It is so bad that none of us, baring the especially privileged, can go to the hospital without risk of being roomed with a confirmed Covid positive patient, and not even told about it.

Some medical staff have apparently been told not to test themselves, or wear n95 masks. They are maligned for taking time off when sick, since our hospitals are under strain. They are made complicit in policy that sickens their patients and each other.

And then there are other staff don't want to mask or test at all by choice, despite knowing we're in a pandemic, because they say the patients would rather see their face and take the risk. Yet I know so many people who are afraid to get medical help. Really afraid. And despite a patient asking them to mask, many employees in positions of care have refused. This is not about patient comfort.

I also have two family members that were horribly sickened (life threatening) by hospital acquired infections prior to Covid. Infection controls failed.

Currently there is a willingness to endanger people in full knowledge there are NOT appropriate infection control protocols in place. I can't see this deliberate choice to not introduce appropriate protocols, while we have an active pandemic declaration from WHO, as anything but contemptuous to human life.

Some high-profile doctors have openly made a mockery of mask-wearing and the use of HEPA filters by patients. It is not acceptable that vulnerable people are afraid of those that should be helping them, and then also mocked for it.

This is squarely my government's fault. This is the natural consequence to minimising serious pandemic disease: society-wide denial, ignorance and bullying -even amongst medical professionals, and some government members.

And further, it's hard not to assume the government intended or accepted this would be the result of their policy choices and messaging, to force social conformity and have the public resume normal economic activities.

There has been so much eroded trust with the public. Govt needs to admit that it's made some bad decisions and hold those decision makers accountable. Govt must be honest with the public that this has happened, as it will take big gestures to gain any public trust back.

National Cabinet secrecy should be abolished. The public deserves to be privy to the data their health is being potentially jeopardised for.

Information presented to the public must be backed by multiple referenced studies, so it is clear that advice given is based on well-sourced and reputable findings, and is not a result of arrogance, callous indifference, sunk-cost fallacy, optimism bias, or any bias that disproportionately prioritises economic interests ahead people.

Employers, schools, care facilities, etc, should have an obligation to provide a safe space.

This means sick people should be encouraged to test and stay home until they are not contagious. Sick leave should be sufficient to cover our new burden of illness.

Employees should not feel obligated to attend unmasked work, or work conferences, dinners, etc, where minimal or no mitigations are in place. Wearing a mask and losing job opportunities should be viewed as discrimination and treated accordingly.

Parents should not be pressured to send sick kids to school or send their kids into classrooms with known cases of highly contagious illnesses. Parents should be notified of contagious disease in their child's class. Reasonable illness absences during periods of high illness burden in the community, should not affect a school's securing of govt support.

Workplaces, schools, care facilities, etc, should have clean air strategies -including ventilation and HEPA filtering- and display their CO2 monitoring so that those in attendance can make informed choices.

Masking with appropriate masks, not surgical masks, should be mandatory in medical settings ongoing. Covid has taught us that we have underestimated airborne spread of many illnesses.

The government must seek better health advice that is in keeping with the latest medical discoveries on Covid, and removing those who have consistently misled, or acted against those findings.

All people should be made aware they are vulnerable to long covid, and further diseases subsequent to their covid infections, and that these risks increase with every Covid reinfection. Additionally, they should be informed that there may acquire ongoing viral persistence long after having a detectable case of Covid on RAT or PCR.

They should be well-informed that Long Covid and Covid harm is very real, and that while Long Covid risk increases with severity, most Long Covid cases are from mild infections.

Mask education should be made more of a priority, including public acceptance and inclusion.

We must dramatically increase funding for Covid research, including neutralising vaccines and medical research and support for Long Covid. We need to prepare for the additional demand on our medical systems from new diseases subsequent to Covid infections, as well as long term unemployment strain due to longterm illness and carer duties.

We must ensure people with longterm illness are not forced into work where they are not capable, worsening their health outcomes. They must have adequate financial support.

Vaccines should at least keep pace with USA's vaccine releases, and should be available at 6 monthly intervals until a longer lasting option for vaccine efficacy becomes available. They must be made available to everyone where the supporting evidence indicates benefit, and acknowledging in those benefit calculations, that hospitalisation and death are not the only critical outcomes of Covid.

I am writing this because I believe there is hope for change, though it's a hard road back for the government to rescue its integrity. And the longer this situation is allowed to continue, the greater the fallout will be for government in terms of costs, and public anger. The public have every right to be extremely angry, and must be allowed to express it.

Please help rescue a future where ongoing sickness is not the norm, because our trajectory now is extremely grim. We cannot expect that problems will resolve themselves, and we need a lot of objective honesty about that.

Thank you.

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