

Report for the COVID-19 Response Inquiry

I make this submission in the belief that not just scientific data play a role, but sound thinking and personal experiences.

Therefore, I represent only myself, or the human being. This seems to me the most important aspect.

One experience is: being detained into hotel quarantine (Melbourne). As we could read later in the newspapers, this was one of the most dangerous places at that time. This has many reasons, as the irresponsible staffing, the lack of proper education, the ignorance of air-conditioning effects etc.

I am not complaining about this; I am pointing towards **a knee-jerk reaction** without proper understanding and planning, **just following orders and theories of incapable and one-sided working organisations as the WHO.**

I am pointing towards the ability that people in power and fear can, with this kind of 'reactiveness', **take human rights from anybody they** (the people in fear) **declare as a possible danger.** Even more, media outlets were encouraged to escalate fear and reactiveness to a 'sanctioned' mass-hysteria.

Let me give you another example. The hysteria was so great that neighbours became enemies and suspected each other as dangers. Twice appeared the police on my doorstep, alarmed by a neighbour. Luckily the police had a good day, had a feeling for the overreactions of people, did their duty asking and were happy with the answers. Imagine the police would have had a bad day, got paid by a quote or whatever, and the outcome could have been dramatically different. If too many aspects go pear-shaped, results can be detrimental. In this case it was "just" the public opinion and the psychic condition of a neighbour being aggravated through it. **We can and should do something against the public hysteria;** we cannot heal all the fearful souls that exist anyhow. A government and a health policy that is based on public hysteria seems to be a bad idea, and we have to avoid that this happens ever again.

It was not just hysteria; it was based on "laws" that were applied on doubtful arguments based on the judgment of a few people in the WHO declaring a pandemic. Local governments strangely took on these doubtful reasons, misusing their power, forcing police becoming a power-tool against those parts of the community who could not follow the anti-human agenda. Surely, some did so from an egoistic motivation, but many from clear thinking and some knowledge about the tendencies of some powerful people.

Gag-orders, created against people who spoke out, have to be publicly criticised and taken back, e.g., the March, 9th, 2021 position statement from

AHPRA (Australian Health Practitioners Regulation Agency) and National boards:

Any promotion of anti-vaccination statements or health advice which contradicts the best available scientific evidence or seeks to actively undermine the national immunisation campaign (including via social media) is not supported by National Boards and may be in breach of the codes of conduct and subject to investigation and possible regulatory action.

Unchallenged 'orthodoxy' is not real science. I have worked as a nurse and understand a bit about infections and precautions. But I am as well aware, that our **health system is based on pathology and not health**, on blame of 'agents', little on tolerance and the ability to balance the organism through inner work. We have too often the aspect of fighting a bug, and very little the aspect of supporting the individual with their understanding and the ability to create balance, to overcome a health challenge. This is not just a problem relating to COVID or any other future bug (and there are possibly some coming as an effect of global warming). It is a problem of misconceptions and misuse of 'wonder drugs' like the antibiotics or vaccines. Antibiotics become outdated when bugs have learned to co-exist with antibiotics (being resistant). This is a major issue in future infection scenarios. The deception with vaccines was part of the COVID-game. When a one-sided scientific idea (part of science) is becoming a power instrument, science loses its "credibility", because it is not based on power, but on discourse and development. And the state of current medicine with its problems of e.g., increased antimicrobial resistance (AMR), using emergency laws to launch unsafe vaccines, picking favourable publications and trial designs... is a danger for science, politics and culture. **We need a broader science of health that includes other ways to see the human being (Aboriginal health, Traditional Chinese Medicine, Homeopathy, anthroposophical medicine etc.).**

I was a registered nurse and stopped working, when the wave of fear gripped the institutions, and patients under suspicion were treated almost like (some people might treat) criminals, [REDACTED] I understand quite a bit of infections. I understand, as well, a bit about health and the effects of fear and discrimination. I did not want to be part of this.

My mother-in-law, always convinced by science, took the COVID-vaccination – she did so, as well, because of the public hype about it [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I am affiliated with a nursing home. And it is horrific how all the well-meant (?) public orders destroy not just personal lives of old people, but as well the joy of working of the staff and the financial survival of the institutions. Carers, who just tried to grasp the aged care standards and to respect the wishes of their aged people, had to deny this basic right because of fear and public orders. It was a "slap in the face". Society was divided in those dumb enough to follow orders and those "egoists who think for themselves". What an achievement!

As was known for other vaccinations as well (flu), there are limitations: in old people they don't work as well as the immune answer is compromised, young people usually don't need them because their immune system learns more from a real infection. These are not general statements. **Each person should be able to decide in best knowledge for themselves.**

Politicians and public have been "taken hostage" by people who have no real regard for health and community. The way how "science" was done, is the best way to damage the support and interest into scientific work, and the way how politic heedlessly followed certain propaganda, undermined the trust in politics more.

On economic side, states paid ransom to pharma cartels; they tried to alleviate irrational orders to stop working etc. by handouts. Even though the effort might have helped some to get around the difficult years, the rate of insolvencies in the neighbourhood increased; Those who got more money than they could spend, heated then the inflation up. What a mess, just based on fear, bad science and very specific interests of some people.

I regard the experience of the last four years as a good example of how n o t to act in an emergency.

Now, it happened. We are easily overwhelmed and probably 'have to' make some mistakes. Important is that we then really learn from them.

We have to **rethink our medical system and medical 'science'**. We cannot let one view dictate everything, a view that might have brought lots of interesting knowledge, but when acted on it, it creates just more problems.

We have to **revisit our laws and make it difficult to declare emergencies that have an impact on the whole country or the world. Human rights have not just to do with the ability to speak out, but to be able to have a living wage and a home, to make individual meaning and being respected.**

That this does not happen again, we need to find the pathways on which it could happen and the ideas (ideology) that stands behind it. **Proper education (of the ability to think independently, the ability to formulate yourself, the ability to listen and understand others) would be important,** but usually this is not a goal for those in power who think they know better...?

Thank you.

Wolfgang Devine