

To The Covid Enquiry Members

I wish to request from this committee that consideration be given to recommending that a Royal Commission be held to widen the scope of the current enquiry to ensure States are accountable for their actions. Should States not be held accountable to a higher power, i.e. the Federal government then how can we ensure the fundamental human rights of every Australian are upheld?

The actions of the State of Queensland have caused immeasurable harm to both myself, my husband and my family.

I studied for 4 years to become a nurse. I started working in [REDACTED] for four years and for the following 3 years I worked as a casual in both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] in two [REDACTED] hospitals.

When the vaccine mandates came in, I applied for a Religious Exemption which was denied. I subsequently found out through Freedom of Information that only 3 Religious Exemptions were granted in Queensland. Efforts to establish why these 3 religious exemptions were granted, who sat on the committee making such decisions and what criteria were used to make these decisions were denied to me by my employer, The Queensland Government.

I requested from my employer that I be given details of their Risk Assessment and how they established that I was a risk to anyone in my workplace. They did not supply me with such a risk assessment. They also did not consult with me on the vaccine mandates. I feel I have been Discriminated against by my employer and that the Anti-Discrimination Act 1991 has been ignored.

I appealed my employer's decision by taking my case to the Queensland Industrial Relations Commission who threw my case out saying that I had not listened to a "legal and reasonable directive"!

In addition, my Employer would not allow my Registered Organisation [REDACTED] to represent me in my QIRC proceedings, denying me the right to my choice of representation.

I received a termination letter from the Queensland Health on [REDACTED] which happened to be [REDACTED]. Even though all the TV media and other media outlets have reported that the vaccine mandates have been dropped in Queensland, Queensland Health have incorporated mandatory vaccinations in their new conditions of employment. This means that myself and many others who have chosen not to be vaccinated with the Covid injection are permanently being discriminated with regard to employment prospects and most employers have followed the lead of the Queensland Government and have changed their conditions of employment to requiring employees be vaccinated to work at their respected places of employment. I am a nurse and for the past two years have been unable to find work due to not being vaccinated. I have had Covid twice (very mildly) which means I have natural antibodies and yet natural immunity has not been taken into account by Queensland Health.

Myself and my family suffered under Apartheid for 4 decades and it is really hurtful to think that after all that suffering I am now being discriminated against simply because I do not want an injection as it goes against my conscience and religious beliefs. We have suffered immense anxiety, stress and hardship due to the decisions of the state government and the Federal government not standing up for the individual rights of Australians to choose what goes into their bodies. Because I

was suspended without pay for two years by Queensland Health and because I have been unable to get a job we had to sell our family home in [REDACTED] and were forced to move out to a regional area due to the severe financial restraints we found ourselves in because of the mandates. My [REDACTED] owned up last year to nearly taking his life twice, due to the stress and anxiety we experienced under the mandates. We were bullied, vilified and un-friended by friends and family and feel this experience has traumatised us.

In 2022 I was denied an [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] by our local hospital after suffering [REDACTED] over the period of one month. The Doctor advised me in ED that he was not sure if he could get these diagnostics as I was unvaccinated; he went off to discuss this with his manager and came back to confirm that he was advised that I could not get the required [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and that I would have to go out to a community facility which I did.

Because we are unvaccinated my [REDACTED] and I are struggling to find sufficient work. In addition, because Queensland Health has terminated my employment through "Dismissal" I have a black mark against my name. This has severely impacted my ability to find work. Despite this I have applied for numerous jobs in caring, etc but have only been able to find a little casual work over the past year.

At the moment I have a casual [REDACTED] job, with an unvaccinated friend. My [REDACTED] has no work. He is not allowed to volunteer or attend the local Men's shed because he is not vaccinated. We are becoming impoverished because we are unable to find sufficient work. How can this happen in Australia???

Due to the Federal Government handing over all decisions to the National Government and the States, ordinary Australians have been unable to seek fair and equal treatment in this regard. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights states clearly that all people have the right to work in just and favourable conditions, that they are endowed with reason and conscience, the rights and freedoms include the right to religion (Article 6). In addition, Article 7 states that all are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection against any discrimination.

I was denied the right to visit my [REDACTED] in a nursing home when other citizens were allowed, due to my not being vaccinated despite there being no evidence put forward by the State Government that I was a risk to my [REDACTED] or her fellow residents. The so called science in this regard was never provided to the citizens of this country.

We were denied entry to restaurants, cafés, etc. On a short holiday in [REDACTED] my husband and I were denied access to two local bakeries and the council public toilets in [REDACTED] Queensland because we weren't vaccinated and couldn't scan in. Surely this type of discrimination can never be allowed to happen again?

This whole experience has been traumatising to both my [REDACTED] and myself who feel like we are once again second class citizens. We have cried so many tears and feel very despondent about our future. Our faith in God alone, has sustained us despite the many discriminations we have suffered over the past three years.

The Federal Government must not negate their authority to the state governments to ensure that this on-going discrimination against those who are unvaccinated stops and never happens again.

May God grant our leaders compassion for all their fellow citizens, vaccinated and unvaccinated, and may he give them wisdom to govern the country fairly and equitably.



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