Good Day.

I am writing to you concerning the proposed extension of the Emergency Bill until 31 October 2022.

As a Queenslander, I am not in support of extending this bill. I appreciate that it was necessary in the early days of the COVID 19 pandemic, given not much was known about the virus. However, two years on, I question the necessity of this bill and the potential overreach of Government in the way we live our daily lives.

While evidence supports the risks associated with this virus are more significant for the elderly and those with multiple comorbidities, most people recover from COVID, and this is after the Government removed alternative medication options that could have prevented hospitalisation.

To date, federal level data indicates that 5,317 people have died from COVID in the past two years. Have we considered the reduction in lab-confirmed influenza deaths?



And I would argue that the flu death numbers are less than reality, given that before COVID, we didn't have the sophisticated testing, tracking and tracing system that was implemented during the COVID pandemic.

Further to the flu numbers above, has any consideration been given to the increase in suicide numbers due to declining mental health because of lock-downs/lock-outs. Additionally, has any consideration been given to the rise in domestic violence.

We have locked people down and stopped families from visiting each other inter-state and internationally. I couldn't attend my father's funeral in South Africa, which has impacted me significantly at a mental and emotional level. Businesses and Families have been affected considerably, and while our economy is recovering, we are now in significant debt that generations after us will be paying for.

I ask the question: - Having the data we have now, would an analysis of the pros and cons still support the lock-downs/lock-outs and the use of the Emergency Bill.

Medical Segregation of the population / Medical apartheid

Before the COVID pandemic, I had all required vaccinations, including rubella, prior to the birth of my three children between 2015 and 2019. I am not an anti-vaxxer, and I reject any suggestion or insinuation that I am. I am merely vaccine-hesitant as I do not believe that sufficient information is available for me to provide informed consent. Particularly concerning the long term effects of the vaccines.

The COVID vaccines rolled out to the entire Australian population are being administered under emergency approval only and, in reality, are experimental. Has no one stopped to think; what if this is another "Thalidomide"?

Bottom line, based on my risk assessment after considering the available information, I have decided not to accept the COVID vaccine for the time being. My body. My choice.

However, for this choice, I am being medically segregated in society, and I am not allowed to enter various venues within Queensland.

My kids [three years, four years and six years old) have effectively been locked out of entertainment venues, and as a result, we are spending a significant amount of time at home. This is impacting them from a developmental perspective as well as mental and emotional.

I can't freely travel to my country of birth South Africa to visit my family for fear of being locked up in a quarantine camp. This is starting to sound like history repeating itself.

At this stage in my professional career, clients' entertainment is a part of my job, and I have been prevented from doing this. If this goes on any longer than it already has, I am concerned about future advancement in my career. This will impact the revenue I generate and the amount of taxes I pay in the future.

Bottom line, I am opposed to the extended use of the Emergency Bill and the continued implementation of these draconian mandates.

It's time to get back to normal, whatever that may look like.

Kind Regards

Mathew Gow