

Angela Grouhel



Queensland Parliamentary Community
And Services Committee

3rd March 2022

To the Parliamentary Committee Members,

I am writing to express my objection to the Queensland government's proposed extension of emergency powers till the end of October which is currently being discussed in Parliament. In particular, I am opposed to the mandatory vaccinations which emergency powers mandates have enforced in services and business on the basis of a perceived risk to the community.

In recent weeks all around the world vaccine mandates and restrictions are being dropped. In the UK job mandates for NHS workers were dropped ahead of the April deadline for compulsory vaccination and in Canada many of the states are also removing vaccination mandates. In Australia, Nick Coatsworth, the former deputy chief medical officer said Omicron is no more deadly than influenza and called for end to most job mandates in WA.

As a teacher who has lost her job to the mandates in Queensland, the effect on my mental and physical wellbeing has been immense. It isn't just a few hundred people, as is being reported, there are thousands of teachers, school staff and childcare staff barred from working in Queensland alone. Can you imagine the toll on our mental health when for all we know these mandates could remain in place forever or for so long that it may become difficult to reenter the workforce?

Many experts around the world are now calling for mandates to be removed. What we are seeing in our communities is that vaccination has not stopped the vaccinated from catching and spreading Covid19. Data from experts supports this opinion.

- "The ethical reason that healthcare and care home workers (and other workers) might be required to have a vaccine is to prevent transmission of the virus to vulnerable patients. To be justified, mandates must be effective in preventing transmission." (Dominic Wilkinson, The Conversation).
- "A new study from the University of California, Davis, Genome Center, UC San Francisco and the Chan Zuckerberg Biohub shows no significant difference in viral load between vaccinated and unvaccinated people who tested positive for the delta variant of SARS-COV-2." (Andy Fell, UC DAVIS).

Australian Bureau of Statistics show that Covid19 has not caused an increase in death statistics therefore mandates are not needed (and don't work) to reduce deaths.

- 2639 Covid19 deaths have been reported in the past 22 months but in a twelve month period in 2019, 4124 people died from influenza (Mr Knuth Hill – KAP quoted from ABS)

- Exaggeration of Covid19 death numbers – a person dying with a positive Covid19 test is counted in the statistics with no requirements for autopsies.
- Statistics show that most deaths occur in people with chronic pre-existing conditions. These are people who would be just as likely to die from influenza.

With the highly negative impact critical workplace shortages are having on schools, early learning centres, hospitals, ambulance and businesses it is time to remove the emergency powers and mandates. Vaccination rates are high and the Omicron variant is mild for most. There can be no further justification for deprivation of human rights and the freedom to refuse medical treatments. Covid19 vaccinations are experimental and involve risk and since there is no guarantee of long term safety, individuals should be free to choose without suffering harsh penalties.

Yours sincerely,

Angela Grouhel