

## Health and Ambulance Services Committee

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**From:** Davies Family [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 15 October 2015 4:24 PM  
**To:** Health and Ambulance Services Committee  
**Subject:** Queensland Mental Health Act 2015

**Categories:** Regd, Printed

Research Director, Health and Ambulance Services Committee, Parliament House, George Street, Brisbane Qld 4000.  
Dear Director and Committee,

Having been a volunteer for many years helping those who have fallen foul of the psychiatric system I am shocked to see that ECT without consent is considered acceptable.

Many research papers and investigations have shown conclusively that apart from making the subject 'compliant' it adversely affects memory and the result is often worse than the 'cure'.

I would remind the HASC that The World Health Organization stated, "There are no indications for the use of ECT on minors, and hence this should be prohibited through legislation."

Even apparent consent is itself absurd as a person with a mental processing problem of a magnitude requiring such treatment cannot give rational, informed consent. The information to which one consents is equally meaningless as psychiatry itself cannot give factual information on the process and definitely no certainty on the result. Placebo trials would give better results for the patient.

To allow this consent to be given by minors, who have no personal rights to alcohol, to drive vehicles, to own weapons, to marry, and more, is simply to allow legalised assault.

Notwithstanding the supposed 'joy' experienced in inflicting or receiving pain by some less social members of our society, by any standards, Electro Convulsive Therapy is torture and inhuman.

Are the resultant suicides and/or life of addiction to prescribed government funded medications worth this procedure? It is clear that the 'Consent to Treatment' is not to protect the patient but to protect the system.

In closing I could add many links and references to support the complete banning of ECT, however I'm sure others have done so and that HASC has diligently researched all papers on this issue.

Sincerely,  
Peter JB Davies  
[REDACTED]