

Health and Ambulance Services Committee

From: Narelle Ladd [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 16 October 2015 7:18 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: The New Queensland Mental Health Draft Bills
Categories: Printed

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Firstly, I am so glad this came to my attention, and I realize today is cut off day for submissions. Interesting to note, that this week is Carers Week, last week was Mental Illness Awareness Week. A busy time in the life of Carers of someone with a mental unwellness, of which I am a mother of an adult son diagnosed with a mental illness.

I am appalled that this draconian practice of forced drugging, restraint and seclusion of children without the need for any parental consent is, in this day and age, still being considered to be best practice in mental ill-health situations. I shake my head, in despair, that this conversation is still happening, and that these Bills are even being presented in Parliament. Where do you think, people get feelings of frustration, giving up, suicide come from?

There is enough evidence based research and practice around Australia and overseas to knock these two (2) bills on the head (the Government's and the Opposition's). Really, how can you even give these 2 Bills any consideration. It is time to stop listening to the so-called experts and listen to the experts, people with a lived experience and the people who support and love them.

What is happening, in effect, is you are targeting the most innocent and vulnerable. Many who are prepared to believe and agree with those practitioners in the mental health arena, who are considered to know best and should be trusted, to be sure, they come across very knowledgeable and caring. Mums, Dads families are often at their wit's end, and are prepared to go along with anything, in that moment, to get relief and rest. There is not enough time, talking and effective listening, translating into effective, and 'what work's' given to these children and families. In passing these Bills you would be giving credence to expedience over experience. Economically wise, what these 2 Bills propose is not sound. Check the research figures and the facts, and you will find that these draconian practices cost Government far more than a more sustainable, consistent, committed, and caring supportive approach that need to be given to these beautiful and innocent children and families in our communities.

I urge you to throw out these two (2) Bills, they do not have a place in any Health Act. Go back to the people who are directly affected by this type of practice. Open your eyes, ears and heart to the knowledge and sound advice from the people who know.

Sincerely yours
Narelle Ladd

