

Dear members of the Senate committee of enquiry,

Thankyou for considering the many heartfelt contributions to this earnest discussion:The outcome will engender reactions which will filter throughout the family structures of our society...

The warp and woof of the fabric of our society is rapidly unravelling before our dazzled eyes! Our dedicated professional psychologists are rendering essential services in our time of social crisis. As a client,I would like to commend the community service being rendered by our practitioners in our challenging world.

.....My story has been profoundly influenced by a childhood blighted by the impact of Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome on my father. Dad was a Ukrainian war refugee who witnessed the decimation of his people and nation.He found refuge in Australia following the terror of interment as a prisoner of war.

My Dad did not access counselling or psychological services.He suffered long decades of internal torment without professional help.Dad became a workaholic who was anxious and agitated.

My siblings and our extended family have been deeply affected by the deep emotional wounding inflicted by our silent awareness of Dad's ongoing emotional pain...

Currently,at 57 years of age,I have been able to access ongoing professional support.

My story is being heard!! I enjoy the new found dignity of attending my psychologist of choice on an ongoing basis.

My story is complex.It has taken several years to establish a sense of being understood. With my counsellor's support, I have slowly unravelled the tangled threads of hidden traumas which began for me in my mother's womb...

I am gaining skills that I am using in my endeavours to support other family members who are suffering from the effects of deep emotional scarring.

The cycle of depression,anxiety and psychosis has continued across the generations...

Our family now lives in an atmosphere of hope and healing as we anticipate the retention of continued access to professional Psychological support via Medicare.The mode of treatment is one of individualized, ongoing and,regular therapy within a nurturing professional relationship.

.....Today there is an epidemic of young adults,teenagers and adolescents whose developmental patterns have been impacted by the social upheaval and uncertainty of a rapidly changing and agitated world. There is a plethora of social problems impacting their shell-shocked world.

Professional psychological counselling,provided on a one-on-one basis with a practitioner of the client's personal choosing can provide a haven in the midst of life's turmoil.

In a society where the majority of marriages and relationships are coming asunder,and where there is often much strain and trauma even for those who do stay together,it is children and young people who are often left feeling alienated and even abandoned.

As clients develop a sense of belonging and identity in the security of an ongoing professional relationship,their healing journey can safely begin.These consultations which can help to rebuild the shattered lives of people of all ages,need to be universally accessible through medicare funding at the highest possible level.

Psychological counselling provided on a regular ongoing basis to our young people is,in my view ,an essential service which needs to be reinstated on the highest level as a matter of national urgency!

Anxiety and depression have become problems of epidemic proportion.Professional psychologists are the professionals best positioned to provide support at the grass roots level to people in all ages and stations of life.I strongly believe that Psychological consults should be available at premium level.

Thankyou once again for your earnest consideration of the potentil benefits of reinstating
Psychological services as a national priority,
yours sincerely,
a satisfied client,