

Form Letter Example A (14):

Dear Committee Secretary,

I wish to submit my views regarding the inquiry into the appropriate terms of reference for a COVID-19 Royal Commission.

Firstly, I am fully in favour of a Royal Commission. Many Australians, including myself, were seriously affected by the pandemic measures, and I am extremely concerned that Governments will miss the opportunity to learn the right lessons from this experience. This is why I pray that a careful and unbiased examination of the actions of Federal, State, and Territory Governments will lead us all to a clearer understanding of what measures were appropriate or inappropriate, what measures were effective or ineffective, and therefore what measures governments should use in future crises.

I would like to see the terms of reference for this Royal Commission requiring input from a broad range of organisations which were the most affected such as small business and churches. The terms of reference should also specifically inquire into vaccine mandates and vaccine discrimination, as well as the Federal Government's responsibility to protect individuals' medical autonomy under various international treaties.

One of these treaties, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, states "In particular, no one shall be subjected without his free consent to medical or scientific experimentation" (Article 7), "No one shall be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence" (Article 17), and "All persons are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to the equal protection of the law. In this respect, the law shall prohibit any discrimination and guarantee to all persons equal and effective protection against discrimination on any ground such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status." (Article 26)

I trust Australia will emerge a wiser and better prepared nation by fearlessly confronting the past and learning from any mistakes which were made during the pandemic.

Yours sincerely,

Robyn Nieass