

Submission to Parliament for the Covid 19 Vaccination Status (Prevention of Discrimination) Bill 2022

I work in the wedding industry and serve over 200 couples per year helping them with their weddings. My wife only works one day per week as we have two young children, one of whom has special needs so mine is effectively our only source of income.

2020 was the most challenging year of my life. Every one of my clients plans were thrown into disarray. The science that we were told to follow and made to feel foolish for questioning kept changing. I had no answers for people who were planning incredibly important occasions.

Science by definition involves questioning. Real science welcomes questions and provides factual results. There should be no room for emotions or coercion in good science. My wife and I were not comfortable with the information we'd received about:

the Covid 19 Virus itself

the lack of treatments

the banning of previously accepted medications (all of which were off-patent)

the state of emergencies enacted by the State governments

the lack of protection of privacy by the Federal government

the many products that we were being sold as all being safe and effective vaccines

and most of all the the silencing of the very medical professionals that would have been able to provide balance to any discussions in the public forum.

Nothing could be questioned, there was incredible coercion, pressure and urgency. I had no faith in the process being thrust upon the people of Australia.

I was informed that if I wasn't fully vaccinated by 17th December 2021 I would no longer be able to attend ceremonies which would not only force me to close my business but also to repay about 150 deposits for future business. It had been the most stressful time of my life, I had been unwell and was faced with the choice:

*Undergo an unwanted medical procedure in which I had absolutely no faith*

*or*

*Close our source of income; the business that I love and had spent over a decade building, bankrupt my family and default on our mortgage.*

I was flooded with calls and emails asking if I'd be vaccinated as clients were panicking. Interestingly most of them were very uncomfortable asking me about it and were very kind. Many of them offered up to me that they didn't want to undergo the procedure themselves but feared that if they didn't they wouldn't be able to have the wedding they'd dreamt of. The people were very thoughtful and caring despite the fear campaigns that had been raging in all forms of media. I would urge the politicians who have the honour of serving in that place, remember that we don't embrace bullying in Australia, that we accept a difference of opinion, that we listen and value others.

I provided a letter when I went to undergo the procedure stating that:

*"I do not consent medically to this procedure.*

*I am only proceeding with it and signing any waivers or indemnities under duress, in order to save my livelihood and provide for my family"*

The nurse would not proceed (and obviously was in a difficult position herself, I felt sorry for her) but I was under duress, I felt that I had no choice. I had a wedding in a State government building (the State Library of QLD) on the 17th of December.

So I accepted the procedure and went back for the second shot. Both brought tears to my eyes. That my beautiful country had been manipulated by personal agendas and profits rather than upholding the virtue of mutual respect and the celebration of diversity of beliefs broke (and still breaks) my heart.

I believe that vaccination and medical information should be private. That should be enshrined in law. I believe that ultimately each individual and family is responsible for their health decisions, not

others and certainly not the government. If a vaccine works, then an individual's vaccine status should be of absolutely no concern to anyone else. The government relied heavily on biased science. Questionable science at best. Science that quoted studies sponsored by Pfizer, which profited astronomically from the lack of privacy, sovereignty and autonomy of the individual. The fact that our governments were pouring the people's money into campaigns... Campaigns that directly informed us that we were protecting our loved ones by getting vaccinated was and remains unbelievable to me. That premise has proven to be false, by real science. The vaccines we were sold did NOT 'stop the spread' nor 'flatten the curve' nor were they 'Safe and effective' or any other expensive slogan funded by our tax dollars. In future, let people see the science and make their own decisions. There is no place for discrimination in our country. Thankyou for your time and service to our country.