Social Services Legislation Amendment (No Jab, No Pay) Bill 2015 Submission 8

Dear committee members

I wish to express in the strongest terms my objection to the proposed No Jab No Pay legislation, which seeks to coerce families to achieve greater vaccination rates, by withholding centrelink benefits if they don't vaccinate their child. Additionally, looking at the excluding of non-vaccinated children from the schooling system.

This type of legislation is contrary to both Australian and International Law. Our Constitution expressly prohibits civil conscription in order to receive welfare or childcare benefits - section 51, 23A.

This legislation is also contrary to international human rights laws to which Australia is a signatory. Article 6, sect 1 of the Universal Declaration of Bioethics and Human Rights states that any preventative, diagnostic and/or therapeutic medical intervention is only to be carried out with the prior, free and informed consent of the person concerned, based on adequate information.

This consent cannot be coerced out of an individual by way of financial blackmail. Informed consent is also written into the Australian government's vaccine handbook and clearly states "For consent to be legally valid, the following elements must be present: It must be given voluntarily, in the absence of undue pressure, coercion or manipulation."

Some parents will need to leave their jobs if they can no longer afford childcare or be forced to vaccinate their children (against their will) in order to keep their jobs. This is not informed consent and this is illegal.

To impose this legislation, not only breeches human decency, but also Australian Informed Consent Laws and The Australian Constitution which guarantees Australians political, medical and religious freedom.

This proposed legislation is unnecessary, divisive and emotionally traumatising and MUST not proceed. We live in a country which has gone to war for freedom of choice. Mandating vaccines has been unsuccessful in the USA and it makes NO sense to follow that system here.

With thanks Judith Magee 18 September 2015