Re: Government proposal to cut the 'Better Access to Mental Health Initiative' to 10 sessions

"It is my aspiration that health finally will be seen not as a blessing to be wished for, but as a human right to be fought for."

Former United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan

As a provisional psychologist, I would like to invite the Senate Inquiry to consider the following question: do persons suffering from a mental illness have a basic human right to sufficient mental health care?

If one answered yes to the above question, one should also ask oneself: how am I protecting the human rights of persons with serious mental health problems?

Beneath the veneers of this issue lies a moral question, and although we cannot answer this question without including political and economical contexts, let us not lose sight of the operative question.

Sincerely,

Matthew Ryan
Provisional Psychologist

B.Soc.Sci.Psych
B.Ap.Sci.Psych (Hons)
MPsych (Candidate)