

2019 Submission - Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System

Organisation Name

N/A

Name

Mr Louis Brown

What are your suggestions to improve the Victorian community's understanding of mental illness and reduce stigma and discrimination?

A Royal Commission

What is already working well and what can be done better to prevent mental illness and to support people to get early treatment and support?

The government and its regulators to actually do what they claim they do. They know what it is but will not do it.

What is already working well and what can be done better to prevent suicide?

"The truth that there is no after life, this is it no heaven or reincarnation, no ghosts. This is what Stephen Hawking said and he was a theologian as well as a physicist."

What makes it hard for people to experience good mental health and what can be done to improve this? This may include how people find, access and experience mental health treatment and support and how services link with each other.

No idea

What are the drivers behind some communities in Victoria experiencing poorer mental health outcomes and what needs to be done to address this?

No Idea

What are the needs of family members and carers and what can be done better to support them?

"My experience was in NSW and there was none that I was aware of for my grown up children,"

What can be done to attract, retain and better support the mental health workforce, including peer support workers?

No Idea

What are the opportunities in the Victorian community for people living with mental illness to improve their social and economic participation, and what needs to be done to realise these opportunities?

No Idea

Thinking about what Victoria's mental health system should ideally look like, tell us what areas and reform ideas you would like the Royal Commission to prioritise for change?

The government to stop creating mental health problems by doing their job

What can be done now to prepare for changes to Victorias mental health system and support improvements to last?

No Idea

Is there anything else you would like to share with the Royal Commission?

"The Health Minister was well aware that the governments actions were causing my anxiety yet she did nothing, the premier sent Victorian Mental Health workers to visit me when I was on my hunger strike which was for information which was supplied by an MP four years later but the government would not budge but spent a small fortune trying to get me scheduled. To no avail as my anxiety was caused by them."

Attachment below

I would like to draw your attention to Government induced mental health issues which are directly related to governments failing to do what they claim they do.

I have technically made two attempts to end my life and in both cases I wanted to end my life to draw attention to government action which is being ignored both by the government and the press. When I made the first attempt I wrote a letter which I sent to my family and the Victorian Government and the Press. I had written to them previously and was ignored.

The second attempt was a hunger strike, I wrote to all the Victorian MPs, all I wanted were the answers to three questions, four years later one MP finally got the answer to two of them for me. Rather than answer my questions the government at the direction of the premier organised for a herd of Mental health professionals to visit me. Their visits were to conduct tests and assess me, in the end they told me the government was not likely to answer my questions and that if I wanted the anxiety to go away, give up my quest to get the government to answer my emails.

The main issue related to the Victorian Legal Services Commission and how they treated my two complaints regarding the professional standards of lawyers involved in the matter of the Probate of my late mother's estate.

My First complaint was in regard to my lawyer tricking me into signing an affidavit I knew to be false (he told me in an email that it is ok to lie on the affidavit as he will write to the court and explain why we signed it knowing it to be false (the stated value of my mother's home was 60% of its real value which was later proved when it was sold). The Legal Services Commission said he had done nothing wrong and pressured me to take him back and later more pressure to withdraw my complaint (I later found they do this so the Ombudsman cannot investigate them as in my case). I was living in Sydney and came down to Melbourne for a meeting with my lawyer after the LSC got me to take him back and withdraw my complaint but he is a no show for the meeting and I cannot get him on the phone and he doesn't answer the emails so I contact the LSC and find he is in trouble and the LSC give me a list of lawyers to get a new lawyer (yet when they tell me I need a lawyer for my complaints they will not provide one). This is what happened to my lawyer;

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

My Second Complaint was that all six lawyers involved in the mediation session did not know the law they quoted to me. This was a Capital Gains Tax liability because the house rose in value since it was valued in the affidavit. Since i knew that value was wrong I was not happy and questioned it and the three lawyers quoted the law (their made up version) back to me. this was the only point of law in the matter and it related to the only asset my mother's home which she died in and owned outright with no debts. After ten months of this Capital Gains Tax liability not being resolved and then later changing the law quoted, I decided to look it up myself and in THREE MINUTES found there was no Capital Gains Tax Liability and that none of the lawyers knew the law and this went on for 10 months and was only resolved when I spent three minutes and even after this the lawyers still wanted money to pay the non existent Capital Gains Tax.

Again I complained to the Legal Services Commission (LSC) and this time they said they could not get involved because the legal bill was too high they can only get involved if its under \$20,000. Again this is all in emails. I was getting frustrated with the LSC for not answering my emails so I rang them and they claimed they had not received it. I was asking the three questions, if the LSC cannot get involved because the bill is too much then who and where do I get a lawyer since the LSC told me I needed one. So the LSC put my email on a junk list, so I use another email account to which they write back saying they will no longer write to me but will read all my emails.

When I complain to the Victorian Government about this and the anxiety it is causing me, they respond by adopting the tactic of the LSC and put my email on a Junk list, I noticed that I no longer got the automatic acknowledgement. The Victorian Government Secretary of Cabinet did write to me on two occasions to inform me that the treasurer would contact me directly but he never did. I wrote back after the first one and said I was trying to get the Attorney General to answer my emails and not the treasurer. I got a second letter stating again that the Treasurer would contact me directly, but this did not happen, so I wrote back and asked if it was a mistake but they did not answer it, After a couple of months I again wrote but they did not answer me.

This was around the time of the Royal Commission into Child Abuse and I wrote to the government and asked if they treated the parents of child victims the same way they treated m by ignoring them, as i can well imagine some parents who wanted answers from the Victorian Government, the catholic school I went to had a paedophile priest in the 50s so for 50 years people would have written and got nothing and then committed suicide because they were being ignored.

Then we had the banking Royal Commission and again people who were being ignored by the government committed suicide.

I wrote to the Victorian Government asking them if they required a sacrifice before they will do anything and there behaviour made me feel that killing myself would be the only way to get the government to be forced to answer my questions.

I had written to the government saying I was going to make a submission to this enquiry and since then they have replied to two of my emails, but ignored the main issue of the LSC and instead replied to a secondary point that was used as an illustration.

I have experienced a lot of anxiety writing this and reliving the years of anxiety and depression which the mental health people wanted to prescribe drugs for these conditions even though they know they are directly related to the government failing to do what it claims it does at election time.

I have used emails however occasionally the LSC or my lawyer would ring me rather than write even though I wanted everything in writing. My local MP will not write to me other than to say she is very willing to talk, but will not put anything in writing. I have put these emails into a series of blogs;

This is for the LSC emails and their claims on their website, it also has links to the evidence for my complaints;

[REDACTED]

These are all the emails the Victorian Government refuses to answer it starts with my suicide note in 2010

[REDACTED]

These are the emails I sent to all MPs with some followups to those who answered.

[REDACTED]

I do not think it is anything to do with me other than my historical suicide attempt, instead it is a systemic failure, the LSC is not a watchdog it is a PR Firm for bad lawyers. The same with the [REDACTED] which was run by a racist and IBAC found them useless. The same with Public Transport Victoria which acts as a PR firm for MyKi and Metro and Yarra Trams, where they outsource the MyKi complaints to Myki. The same with the building regulators and all the cladding disasters, no one is to blame and the victims must pay the costs. [REDACTED] visits factories and sites and disasters occur the following day. It has become obvious over the years that all regulator watchdogs have been tamed. and turned into PR Firms for those they are supposed to supervise, and what happens to all the people who are victims, their complaints constantly ignored and when they contact the government they too ignore them, a lot choose suicide.

In Victoria you cannot get a lawyer to take another lawyer to court unless of course you are a multi millionaire. The LSC told me to get a lawyer knowing full well that it was not possible and they claim on their website they are there for the victims which is another lie.

I am not religious I believe in the rule of law but how can it work if the lawyers are not on your side but instead are only in it for themselves with no professional integrity and lie to you and it is all okay with both Liberal and Labor Governments. There can be no rule of law if lawyers are working against their clients as is the case with Lawyer X Royal Commission and also with my case and the governments try to bury and ignore this systemic flaw they have created and the mental health damage that follows.