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Lest we forget

Directives to Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccinations

It is expected that the school will receive notice of Directives from the WA Health Department by early December informing us that staff who have not received a double-dose of a COVID19 Vaccine (still, strictly speaking, experimental), both the vaccine and Directives approved due to the periodically renewed State of Emergency Declaration, will not be allowed onto school grounds to undertake their work duties. Those intended Directives would be for the Principal of a School to implement. The wording may be surmised from existing Directives.

I do not agree with the slated Directives, nor am I able to support or follow these without compromising my moral conscience and ethical judgement.

It cannot be denied, under any circumstances, that denying access for non-consent of vaccination effectively acts as a form of coercion. I cannot see how coercing someone to do something is either legally or ethically permissible. The High Court (Justice Kirby & *al.*) has previously stated that if a Government is prohibited from directly doing something then it cannot do it through indirect means.

The to-be-drafted Directives compromise or unlawfully breach the intent (if not the letter) of the Australian *Constitution* section 51 (xxiii A), the 1947 *Nuremberg Code* (upheld and signed by Australia following WWII), art. 6 & 7 of the *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights*, as well as various Federal and State laws including the (federal) *Bio Security Act 2015* (§92 & §95) which make any coercion or compulsion to submit to any medical procedure (including vaccination) unlawful without freely given and informed consent.

It should also seem axiomatic that healthy individuals should not be prevented from working or entering their place of employment to undertake their professional and contractual agreement. And that, whether or not the vaccines stipulated (or any other medical procedures) are deemed or even proven safe and effective.

In my personal view, the WA Minister of Health and Chief Health Officer have not only overstepped their reasonable mandates, but compromised the very essence of democratic right as established and nurtured over the course of the last centuries since the Magna Carta.

To draft a Directive that would effectively preclude employees from undertaking their normal work unless submitting to a medical procedure which they may find repugnant is nothing less than psychological coercion.

Our Prime Minister has repeatedly confirmed, in writing, that partaking of COVID19 vaccines remains a voluntary option – a good piece of political advice which, however, needs to be supplemented by an assurance that a refusal to submit to vaccination does not negate the right to step into our workplace in order to undertake our employment duties. This is, to my philosophical reflections, a fundamental and intrinsic human right, a right that cannot be abolished by legal or bureaucratic intimidation, fear, or duress.

Of course, those who consent to partake of a vaccination programme should also be free to do so without personal or social detriment and without discrimination. Consent should be freely given based on adequate knowledge. There is no place for 'manufactured consent' (as Chomsky calls it). What is at stake is our human freedom and dignity. On this we should, in my view, remain united, irrespective of the choice we make.

A friend of mine from a school over East recently emailed regarding his personal situation:

'It's a difficult situation. I've refused to be vaccinated — mandatory vaccination seems to me like medical rape — and so in accord with school policy I am not allowed on the school premises. [A mutual friend] is very aware of the dangers the vaccine presents, but has chosen to be vaccinated in order to help keep the school going. If there are bad effects from the vaccine, and of course they might take a while to show up, he hopes he'll be able to help the others overcome them. I respect his choice.

Then there are others, perhaps the majority, who trust the government completely and are militantly pro-vax. I find it hard to believe that they know so little about Anthroposophy [...].

If the situation has eased by the start of next year, I'd like to return to teaching. If not, then that'll be the end of my time at [the school]. The parents of our school children are similarly divided in opinion.

I'm reminded of a mathematical parable: In Cartesian Coords it's fiendish trying to write the equation of a spiral. But swap to Polar Coords, and the equation is simplicity itself: $r = \theta$. The lesson from this:

If a problem seems unsolvable, change the frame of reference.

It seems to me that we need to take leave of fear and confusion and find our point of contact with spirit in a state of awareness that includes freedom, humour and endless creativity. In that state there is kinship with others who are celebrating their own spiritual being. Then the assault on the very essence of our humanity is seen for what it is, and it cannot maintain its darkness when the radiance of Christ and Mary/Sophia is there.'

Though part of the medical profession's views appear to conflict with, or be contrary to, the dominant and official doctrine in relation to the 'vaccine rollout', its voice has remained relatively silent. Still, I remain hopeful that reason will prevail or that the conflicting medical understanding will result in abandoning the expected Directive, or that if not, the next election will see an altered political landscape that will rectify the situation. Today's date does have historical commemorative significance, and we are not at the 11th hour. I honour those who have had the courage to fight for freedoms we have all enjoyed until recently, and honour their memory — and in so many cases the giving of their lives. Let us remember them, often unknown by name, but by deed cherished.

In the meantime, I am obliged to both honour the contractual agreement I have with the school as well as, as in this case, follow my conscience and professional judgements on the matter. Any staff member deciding to provide evidence of their partaking of any medical treatment or vaccine to be kept on file may do so freely. Any staff member who maintains privacy on the matter will not be discriminated against whilst I retain my position.

Any Directives I receive from either the Health or Education Department will be shared so that everyone is informed as to expectations from those respective bodies and possible ramifications.

Sincerely,

Jean-Michel David
Principal