

## TO THE ROYAL COMMISSION INTO DEFENCE AND VETERAN SUICIDE

You and I travel to the beat of a different drum

Come and sing the middle-class Liberal, I've got a home in Beaumont rag with me

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**ACCEPT THAT SUICIDE MAY BE A RATIONAL APPROACH TO A CARING, PAINFUL OR ANGRY LIFE, RATHER THAN AN IRRATIONAL CRIME OR FAILURE**

**ACCEPTING RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SELF AND THE SEEMING TRUTH MAY SET SOME FREE TO WORK IN WOLLONGONG AND THE ILLAWARRA OR SOMEWHERE ELSE**

**(BABY, THIS IS THE JOBS, JOBS, JOBS, SUBMISSION WE HOPE BOYS WILL LIKE)**

This submission to the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide addresses the terms of reference (a.) (e.) and (i) from common enemy views which must surely be understood better by all of us to go forward better together in achieving more harmony and wellbeing across the world for future generations. I will address the following expert books later. I address the history and potential for greener developments in Wollongong and elsewhere later and attached; and also read the following before Xmas 2021:

Buchbinder R and Harris I. *Hippocrisy: How doctors are betraying their oath*, NewSouth, 2021; Burrell A. *Twiggy: The high stakes life of Andrew Forrest*, Black Inc. 2020; Nelson C. and Lumby C. *Broken: Children, Parents and Family Courts*, La Trobe and Black Ink, 2021; Sovannora Ieng and Hill G, *Surviving Year Zero: My four years under the Khmer Rouge*, The Five Mile Press, 2013. O'Donnell, C. *Power Loving: Everything you didn't want to know about sex and lawyers*, Breakout Media Communications, 2021.

Write! (In teaching there is no substitute for it as a means of learning about the self and others).

**As a Marxist grandma and general supporter of greener Asian roads, I usually speak on the side of your enemy, rather than your friend, so first address (a):**

*systemic issues and any common themes among defence and veteran deaths by suicide, or defence members and veterans who have other lived experience of suicide behaviour or risk factors (including attempted or contemplated suicide, feelings of suicide or poor mental health outcomes);*

I think many soldiers in this Western military culture would agree with me that suicide may be a very good thing in the eyes of the person and/or their society. It seems perverse that the Royal Commission apparently sees no merit in any suicide. I completely disagree.

As a Marxist I start from a moral and social position in which suicide may often be admired as a sacrificial response for soldiers or anybody else who prefers to die for a supposedly good reason for their society and for themselves. On the other hand, a person wanting to develop important skills or find a career or job, or who enjoys the social life and culture, may join the warring forces. They may be fulfilled or feel disillusioned in this.

In this historic regional context, where protection of community health and greener futures are urged upon us globally, I draw your attention to attached files on current and future regional development. These urge primary attention to World Health Organization (WHO) direction, not

Western development directions driven by the International Declaration of Human Rights and earlier or later state proclamations from the English-speaking world and its colonies, such as ours. The US Constitution renders it an evil state we should not follow because it promotes secret global trade in weapons and protects the men with weapons.

Marxists may or may not believe in God and I don't really. However, The Preamble of the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights** favours the view that rights are 'inalienable' (Given by God), rather than forged in human struggles. This shows a preference for Western lawyers leading, which is one reason Marxists may follow World Health Organization (WHO) global and regional direction instead, as I do too at [www.Carolodonnell.com.au](http://www.Carolodonnell.com.au)

A favourite US philosopher, Peter Singer, recommends giving one's wealth away to others less fortunate in his book entitled **The Life You Can Save: How to do your part to end world poverty**. His first philosophical premise is that all lives are of equal value. This is the view that has driven anti-discrimination legislation and practice views since the Universal Declaration of Rights at the end of World War 11. History and his book have now shown this case to be the comparatively hopeless view of those who have probably given up faith in their capitalist economy and government to serve their people well and equally. While technological and scientific progress have produced undreamed of wealth for many more, regional inequality has also increased more rapidly in the last thirty years, as well as during the global pandemic of the last two years. This seems, however, to be a new world order where the unknown nature of production risk means only the richest production controllers or gamblers may risk more to reap higher reward. The Gates Foundation and charitable trusts are addressed attached, in contexts which accept the duty or right to choose death.

However, as a Chinese Communist Party leader famously said, when asked about the outcome of the French revolution, *'It's too early to tell'*. As a Marxist I believe being determines consciousness, and that being is essentially material which may change the nature of the mind and spirit, which also may change its view over time, or may not. I believe in choice, which naturally includes the choice of death for good reason which may be comparatively subjective or objective, changing up to a point of no return in death and recycling in one form or another. As a follower of existentialist philosophers and doctors like de Beauvoir, Sartre and Laing I believe that freedom is what you do with what's been done to you. This is a materialist position on freedom, making the search for truth vital.

As Michael Kirby, Chairman of the Law Reform Commission in 1975, President of the NSW Court of Appeal in 1984 and Justice of the High Court of Australia from 1996-2009 wrote in Meredith Burgmann's book **Dirty Secrets: Our ASIO files**, *'My long association with the Communist Party began when I was but three years of age. Like the Jesuits, the Communists believed in getting them while they are young.'* I guess we will never know if the gay judge thinks he was born that way or if he puts his long hidden sexual orientation down to experience and choice which may have been different under different circumstances in his life. I guess a view of the immutability of life and states is more depressing than uplifting. I left it behind in my youth. The loss of a young or old life should not be an opportunity lost through its burial except to go forward better. Unless one withdraws from the act as hopeless, as I guess the soldiers in all cultures must surely have done, I believe the following words of Primo Levy, a Jewish chemist who spent years in a concentration camp:

*Except in cases of pathological incapacity, one can and must communicate; it is a useful way to contribute to the peace of others and one's own, because silence, the absence of signals, is*

*in its turn a signal, but it is ambiguous, and anxiety generates anxiety and suspicion. To say that it is impossible to communicate is false; one always can. To refuse to communicate is a failing; we are biologically and socially predisposed to communication.*

The dominant medical, rather than historical and geographic model of mind, however, is that talking to people and sticking things in their bodies (bombs, landmines, guns, knives, penises, needles, fists, etc.) are qualitatively similar in nature and should be accommodated on the same scale. (As a mother I abhor this as it mightily confuses women and doctors, allowing increasing reliance on dubious medical operations and enduring pain, drugs and lawyers. Suicide may seem a good choice to some people. To automatically criminalise, lament or deny risk or suicide is denial of autonomous choice and duty of care. The Christian lawyer's tradition often seems more authoritarian than many others which may have more common chances of peaceful prosperity. I believe in asking a child or another person what they think is best for them and hoping they answer the question as thoughtfully and honestly as they can rather than lying or hiding. If one says they don't know, let us stumble forward together.

I believe a person's life is given worth by its dedication to others or itself. This is ironic as I spent a cushy working life primarily in supporting anti-discrimination notions initiated in the International Declaration of Human Rights. I have lived to see this primarily benefit the lawyer-led financial and market operations of the secretly super-rich and connected living all over the world. Should I be delighted at my personal progress in a lesser group or be disgusted at our guilty naivete? God knows, it's a personal question. However, if I was brave enough to kill myself I might. Two old, sick, men in my immediate family tried it and failed. As a Marxist, I believe that the choice of suicide should be respected and supported by the state in many cases, so personal atonement and escape from pain at last may be achieved. (Talking about suicide may also be a call for help and it certainly is in my case.)

I recommend Svannora Ieng's book **Surviving Year Zero: My four years under the Khmer Rouge**, for example. Gareth Evans, an older Australian 'Cambodia watcher' called it a '*harrowing, compelling and ultimately extraordinarily inspiring story of human survival*', and I do too. I picked it up from a free library post along the street, along with others, as there are many free books in Glebe now. However, **Surviving Year Zero: My four years under the Khmer Rouge** is very hard to read as children's starvation, death, pain, sickness and loss, neglect and harshness meted out is particularly difficult to face, even or perhaps particularly in a land of plenty like Australia where every dog has had his day, comparatively speaking. I see why any Cambodian may wish to ignore this past entirely to start life afresh. We all may feel like this. I believe, on the other hand, that the Cambodian tourist industry built on the piracy of US, Australian and other historic films, books and other communications providing jobs, jobs, jobs is a great educational idea. The Western view that copyright should be respected, blows my mind. (What are you, a bunch of small minded, petty morons?)

In the service of anti-discrimination legislation, however, I spent much of my working life helping lawyers of both sexes to get ahead in the world. Now I bitterly regret the outcome as I feel I understand the matter better but cannot turn back the clock. I am old, so every day I feel guilt and anger personally and by association so am grateful my more ignorant desire to live happily and usefully was never much tested, as it may have been with many soldiers. There but for fortune go you or I as Joan Baez pointed out in song. When I was nineteen, to revert to the popular music era of **Redgum**, I supported the Vietnamese National Liberation Front and was loudly rude about Australian support for US military interference we automatically followed, so call me a shameful traitor. It seems weirdly authoritarian to me today that Israel Folau lost his job through calling

people like me a fornicating abomination in God's eyes. Fair enough, that's been the general view all my life. His view is what I expect from people like him. I'm used to it. (Sticks and stones, etc. etc.)

Belief in the right to die seems a normal moral qualification for being a soldier, where one puts oneself in the way of being killed, for one's country or for a job or way of life. It is not only soldiers, however, who may lose belief in youthful illusions, or who feel trapped or in increasing pain, anger or guilt because of their own past actions or association and wish to escape them, including in death. The choice of death in any fashion may appear the best way out to any person, depending on the circumstances. Eventually, death comes to us all so whether we live for a shorter or longer time may not matter as much to the adult individual as the rightness of their choice. The right to hide or to let memory die must also be accepted to move on in life, before death looms again. In my view, however, those who drag the past up for reconsideration often do us great service because this often leads to the potential for generally improving treatment in future. 'Defence' which is skill preparation for the warfare state is not the same as defence which prepares for giving emergency or related practical help to people. The former appears to rely on protection of soldiers while declaring everybody else a potential enemy. 'Loose lips sink ships', etc. etc. To rely upon orders appears to be the antithesis of the inquiring and autonomous mind.

As I indicate more fully later, I don't believe in what they do about life and death in the West and where they are going and neither do around 70% of the population who believe in assisted dying. I agree with Ed Raftery, lecturer with the Central Coast University of the Third Age who wrote the opinion piece, '*At 95 today I don't need to be told how to die*'. SMH 18.11.21, p.25) Too right. The current state governing direction, which turns an old person like me into part of an internationally forced medical and IT set of supposedly professional and caring experiments, until they set me free, pretending to be God, revolts me. I see life through this old woman's lens and want to die easily and pleasantly when I've had enough. The state should help me do it usefully for others. They should thank me before they do it. Money needs to be redirected to where there is greatest social need, as the WHO directions about treating the most impoverished environments first called for.

**I also address the terms of reference: Protective and Rehabilitative Factors (e.)**

protective and rehabilitative factors for defence members and veterans who have lived experience of suicide behaviour or risk factors;

**See also the following systemic risk factors of suicide in reference, (i)**

any systemic risk factors contributing to defence and veteran death by suicide, including the following:

- i. defence members' and veterans' social or family contexts;
- ii. housing or employment issues for defence members and veterans;
- iii. defence members' and veterans' economic and financial circumstances;

any matter reasonably incidental to a matter referred to in paragraphs (a) to (i) or that [the Commissioners] believe is reasonably relevant to [their] inquiry

From joint international and Australian regional development views, writing on theoretical behalf of children and women treated anything like Sovannora leng today, wherever they are, I think it would make more sense for the Royal Commission to inquire into the availability of good methods of escape from the past, besides death. New work and communication may also make you free? I

offer the related discussion of potential contribution to future green development in Wollongong and the Illiwarra, Papua New Guinea, Afghanistan or anywhere else in this current and historical context, assisted by great books and other communications.

Many of the issues people face should not have to be medicalised for them to pretend to desire for relief through escape. Surely, however, suicide should evoke an emotion relevant to the particular case and choice? To be led by a view that suicide can only be something lamented seems wrong and unfair, especially when applied to soldiers or anybody else who values autonomous choice and the sacrifice of the self in any apparently higher cause, as well as personal escape from pain. As Darius Horsham regularly complained on **Shaun Micallef's 'Mad as Hell'**, *'Don't bullshit on my leg and tell me it's a brown kitten'*.

***INQUIRE INTO THE SOCIAL RELATIONS OF PRODUCTION WITH VEENA AND COMMUNITIES IN WOLLONGONG AND ILLAWARRA OR ANYWHERE ELSE TO CREATE GREENER AND BLUER COASTAL STRIPS (SEE RELATED DISCUSSION BELOW. ASK ANDREW FORREST WHAT HE WANTS AND SEE MORE ON WHAT HE AND OTHERS ARE DOING LATER)***

Scientist Veena Sahajwallar of SMaRT@UNSW Sustainable Materials Research Laboratory was showcased recently on Australian Story on ABC TV **and** introduced by **War on Waste host Craig Reucassel** as *"a recycling superstar with some bold new ideas about how to save waste from landfill*. As Australia's collective garbage guilt builds alongside the tonnes of plastic piling up in recycling depots, he pointed out Veena's innovative inventions may offer some exciting new solutions. Inspired by walking the streets of her Mumbai neighbourhood as a child, Veena observed almost everything was reused. This can-do attitude shaped her engineering career and sowed the seeds for some ground-breaking ideas, including making steel from car tyres. Her latest invention is a "micro factory" that creates building materials and tiles from dumped clothes and glass. 'It's a revolutionary concept. But will it work outside the lab?' Craig asks us. I dunno as usual and I also don't know or trust them enough to invest but you might.

I recommend the related directions to you below and attached in letters to Frank Coluccio and others in Wollongong and beyond. See more on [www.Carolodonnell.com.au](http://www.Carolodonnell.com.au) and see if you can get hold of Nixon Apple as he may be very helpful in the design, which is why I want to quiz him alone first. In 2021 my old lover and defacto was apparently made a Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia for significant service to the superannuation sector and to trade unions, acting on behalf of the Australian Manufacturing Workers Union (AMWU) and the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU) as usual. Nixon grew up Canadian, with a wealthy lawyer as his father, who had mining interests among his clients. The Australian Financial Review article *'Ontario Teachers' joins KKR at carbon credits biz GreenCollar'* (AFR 10.12.21 p. 20) states GreenCollar is now the largest player in abatement in the Australian carbon market, accounting for nearly half of the activity. It's 200 projects deliver over \$800 million in revenue to the land managers. The short article also describes how the Ontario Teachers' GreenCollar investments are supposed to operate. I've been to Canada. It appears ahead of many Australian green developments and the US is another country.

Cheers, Carol O'Donnell, St James Court, 10/11 Rosebank St., Glebe, Sydney 2037.

Hi Frank (Others for info. on future directions with Andrew Forrest as usual).

## FROM THE GLOBAL HEARTLAND ON THE WOLLONGONG AND ILLAWARRA STATE

'I sit home and watch you all on, my colour TV' (Redgum)

You should forgive your brother and try looking at life from his point of view. See below for related suggestions. I am happy to meet you and or anybody else in Sydney for a change. I will be alone. What are your comments, suggestions or actions on directions below?

Cheers Carol

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### INTRODUCTORY RECOMMENDATIONS ON WOLLONGONG AND ILLAWARRA FOCUS

I make recommendations for our future below to address our two discussions in Wollongong. As you, Anton Dominis and many others pointed out in **Illawarra: Nature and Technology in Harmony: Towards the First Smart Hi-Tech Eco-City in Australia: Wollongong (2013)** which I discussed attached, the start of Illawarra's **Carbon Footprint** was with the first coal mining in 1858. I take up key related points again below after our last meeting in Wollongong (14.10.21). The primary suggestion for your attention, among others, is to invite Fortescue Metals Group Chairman, Andrew Forrest AO and others to Wollongong to discuss a **Memorandum of Understanding**, perhaps like those he has been signing elsewhere in the world according to the article **'Twiggy may need to separate Fortescue from his hydrogen expenses** in a recent copy of the Australian Financial Review (AFR 22.11.2021).

It seems that any agreement in Wollongong ideally starts with a Memorandum. I understand from AFR today that Fortescue has received a \$30 million subsidy from the federal government to build a gas fired power station at Port Kembla. I have been associated with government and university **Memoranda of Understanding** in the past but the private sector practice and related financial supports are a completely closed book to me. However, the National Press Club in Canberra recently turned up a very apparently sound leading woman in old Sam Mostyn, AO, President of Chief Executive Women. This was followed by an open press letter with 23 signatories, organised by Nicola and Andrew Forrest's Minderoo Foundation. (I guess it is philanthropic, whatever that means.)

As Julie Hare almost points out in the article entitled **Women's Issues now election issues** (AFR 25.11.21 p.14), a group of women, many of them with top Liberal, Labor and other connexions, appear to have adopted what looks suspiciously like Labor women's policy, starting with child care and early childhood learning. These quasi-Women's Electoral Lobby bastards don't go far enough, as usual, which is partly why I draw your attention to even better regional steps below. Sam Mostyn and her barrister husband might reasonably work without charge. One must always know of their parents and family to judge their worth. Then it is largely a matter of the performance and follow-up. *'If you think I ever sacrificed anything for you'*, as I once said to my daughter, *'then you've got the wrong script'*.

However, my main interest in writing now, further to my previously attached comment on **Illawarra: Nature and Technology in Harmony**, starts with waste handling and is primarily to insert children and women into the picture from the beginning of the male financial world. Our task is to open the regional up, so the needs of future generations are well met everywhere in future. As a grandmother I remember cloth nappies and lots of kids running around without any on. Increasing global wealth and the related desire for being cleaner has led us to problems such as those outlined in **'Baby steps: Tacking the rash of nappies fouling waterways** which is in the Sydney Morning Herald (SMH 22.11.21, p. 25). Where there is no collection service, waste is naturally dumped in waterways or oceans by growing populations all along the rivers and around the seas. Andrew

Forrest is a marine biologist who should find Wollongong a gift. What is done with used nappies in the Illawarra by its waste collection services? Any idea? (Nice people never want to think or talk about it?)

In attachment 2 (p. 20) entitled **Save Lake Illawarra: The Jewel of Illawarra**, Dominis provided a view of the typical kind of industrial wastes which may perhaps be dumped into coastal wetlands of the world in many areas besides the Illawarra. Here the following had destroyed the natural habitat:

- a. Chemicals (fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, insecticides, detergents, etc.)
- b. Farm faeces and urine
- c. Industrial wastes (slag, coal-wash, fly ash and organic and metallic toxicants)
- d. Residential wastes (sewerage, plastics, etc.)

I said, (forgetting again the horrors of nappies in early childhood or old age) that as a Glebe householder, I could add a lot more, such as renovation or travel related discards of building materials and furniture, toys, clothing and packaging of all kinds, as well as newspapers and food and green waste, for example. (The guys don't want to talk about waste. Let us help Andrew Forrest achieve his PhD blue dream to help clean up water.)

- e. Toxins (Road bitumen, leachates, vehicle exhaust, gases and industrial stack fumes)

Dominis points out that coastal wetlands were considered 'just swamps' whereas industrial wastes such as slag, coal-wash, coal-fired power station fly ash and furnace bottom ash came to be considered building materials which were put to use for road works, to make additional by-products such as cement and glass; and the rest went as landfill. A new vision for Eco-City Wollongong still starts, I guess, with the Illawarra Foreshores Regional Parklands first proposed by the residents of Northern Illawarra (p.21) and with the related discussion of **blue** carbon and treating plastic waste. Having learned more, I completely agree with your view that Andrew Forrest is absolutely central in this cleaner coastal water picture. (He seems to be lining up to become the state you are having when you are not having a state.)

#### **AS A STRATEGIC POLICY ADVISOR BEFORE THE COMING LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL ELECTIONS I WOULD TAKE THE HEALTHY APPROACH TO DEVELOPMENT FIRST**

What I am best equipped to deal with in policy terms, I realize, is population health or wellbeing, rather than science, technology, or engineering, including in Wollongong. I hope to address healthy environments, including in the Wollongong and Illawarra green or safety context here and hope you may know others interested in pursuing any of these regionally related directions. I remind you that I am guided by the knowledge that what I write is my intellectual property and I can send it freely to anybody I like, unless they object, when I apologise and withdraw. I like these moral issues straight from the start. If you want higher intellectual and professional back up for the position you will find it in volumes entitled **Essentially Yours: Gene Patenting and Human Health**, produced by the Australian Law Reform Commission (ALRC) and the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) in 1993. I will take up the key importance of mathematics or plain speaking in this context.

I greatly enjoyed my recent time in Wollongong and write now in case you or others you know are interested in the attached vaccine direction taken in regard to research communication and health care, in discussion with a former University of Sydney PhD student in Saudi Arabia, Hafed Shadid, and others. I am drawn to health directions first in regard to Wollongong and Illawarra as I am not equipped with any scientific, technological or engineering (STE?) knowledge or capacity of any kind to address the coal mining, steel production, farming and related waste history of the place. I also query the expected functions of your Sustainable Industries Development Institute. I have

previously addressed the difficult matters of secret associations and their limitations with Josh Frydenberg, the federal Treasurer, as attached. Sadly, he has not replied to me but others might.

On the other hand, I have a strong and free interest in supporting the World Health Organization (WHO) view of health, which is explicitly not meant to be medically led. All development is ideally addressed instead in terms of seeking regional health for current and future generations, starting with key improvements in those regions that are poorest. The contradiction is that change must often be medically led as legal, construction and military forces won't do it, given the more firmly closed feudal nature of their associations. Our regional job seems to be to go green together in a related fashion and so conflict is real and also play in the open. I will address Alan Kohler's views on modern monetary theory briefly later in this context. If Jessica Irvine wants to save herself a lot of money and pain, she might do so by dropping her private health insurance. I address why later and refer you or anybody else who is interested to the views on women and children's health attached.

I am an old woman, so in spite of my admiration for Paul Keating's remarks on China and the US to the National Press Club, I bet I think nothing like Paul Keating and his mates in Wollongong or elsewhere. He is more than just Captain Wacky to me. He is one who has always used and ignored my sex; holding it back and depriving it of knowledge, pleasure and time. No doubt he expected, on the other hand, that his beliefs should be loyally supported by his women. (Forget it, fuckwit?) On the other hand, I feel sure, we could sadly agree that the Australian media are woefully slow to pick up on the normal woman or kid's interests because of comparatively mindless fawning to the usual US religious and related anti-discrimination agendas. There are a million dumb Australian men out there, produced by Catholic cultures and I mainly wish to address them. I will take on the lot first in calling for capital punishment and for talking to doctors and others about the key regulation of related matters such as the medical trade in body parts. Somebody has to do it and I would start with open discussions with Vietnamese or Chinese doctors, as discussed later.

I had not heard of Robert Wood (1939-2021) before I read his obituary in the Sydney Morning Herald (SMH 11.11.21, p. 37) It is written by Nyasa Holmes and Memory Sanders under a title, '**Hanging judge' a PNG peacemaker**. They wrote Sir Robert helped draft the country's constitution before independence in 1975 but was the second expatriate judge to impose the death penalty since its reintroduction by Parliament in 1991, responding to growing public anxiety about violent crime. The court heard that three men, members of a gang, went looking for a rival gang member and when his mother, aged in her forties, would not reveal where her son was, she was repeatedly raped and stabbed to death. '*The people of Papua New Guinea are very concerned about such violence and intervillage fighting and pay-back*', Sir Robert said. He also said the still widely accepted custom of revenge killing as a means of settling inter-tribal disputes was contrary to the constitution. I think this judge in PNG was clearly right. The lack of a death penalty means men can run their killing businesses from inside prison, state supported with impunity, while impoverished people they continue to oppress outside, fear their return. Ours is a vile system, based on the elevation of the gun trade to the heights of the US Constitution. The privileged chances of the men with the weapons are endlessly enshrined in their rights to secret dealing and silence before lawyers and court. People with no waste management service to treat used nappies, must also pay for their murderers to be kept by the state in jails instead.

In this shared global context, in which Australians ideally favour medical treatment that works, and the right to choose death, I will discuss vaccines and **Hippocrisy: How doctors are betraying their oath** (2021) again later. This book is by rheumatologist and epidemiologist, Rachele Buchbinder and orthopaedic surgeon, Ian Harris. They combed through published expert evidence to argue that benefits of medical treatments are often wildly overstated and the harms understated. Overdiagnosis and overtreatment are rife. Other key writers, like Ray Moynihan, author of **Too Much Medicine** and **Selling Sickness**, back them up. They argue the hardest thing in the world is for a doctor to do nothing, (i.e. refrain from delivery of diagnostic tests, drugs or



surgeries). The professional *raison d'être* is to make money by offering perceived cures for diagnoses that are increasingly expressed through test results which they interpret to protect and enhance their own visions, status and professional place in diagnostic and related pharmaceutical or surgical treatment regimes.

This is a bad effect of good otherwise done for all Australians by the Medicare system of support which has provided comparatively cheap, accessible, and high-quality medical and hospital services to us all. Life expectancy has roughly doubled, from around 40 to 80 years since the mid-1880s. As **Hippocrasy** authors point out this is due to public health (clean water, sanitation, industry (e.g. food production, preservation and transport) politics (fewer wars) and social changes such as education, welfare, housing and regulations concerning work safety and air and food quality). The natural facts of the regional environment necessary for built and natural health; including the professional focus on the unsatisfactory body, may be well established but are not well known or treated. The research physician or surgeon appear instead as the common cultural rock stars, driving increasing budgets for ageing populations which don't work like necessity once forced them to do.

In this current context of growing medical, surgical and related state financial power, however, I first suggest the following directions to all Australians interested in healthier and greener trading, starting in Wollongong or not. I will also address Camilla Nelson and Catharine Lumby's book **'Broken Children Parents and Family Courts'** (2021) in related contexts of regional and personal caring. *'First do no harm to children'* is not the concern of court. Better regional practice is addressed briefly. It would not include lawyers as their only loyalty appears to be to the court and their closed associations who speak for the lot.

#### **THE HPV VACCINE LED DIRECTION AND HEALTHIER DEVELOPMENT FOR CHILDREN**

An article (SMH 19.11.21, p.22) entitled **'WHO urges more will to halt cervical cancer blight'** states the number of cervical cancer deaths in Australia has been halved since the start of the world-first rollout in 2007 of HPV vaccine to Australian children aged 12-13 years of age. This may be the best place to start new development in the interests of children and their future generations. As I wrote to Hafed attached, a team of senior women politicians are now addressing women's security from the top. According to the Australian Department of Health website, HPV is a common virus that is spread through sexual contact. It can cause cancers, including cancer of the cervix, vulva, vagina, penis and anus, and some head and neck cancers. Types 16 and 18 cause up to 80% of the cervical cancers in women and up to 90% of HPV-related cancers in men. Types 6 and 11 cause approximately 95% of genital warts. **Not all HPV infections lead to cancer but arrival of the Australian vaccine presents a vital opportunity for broader health service provision and monitoring in Australian regions and across the world. These may be better directed with a range of related family planning and vaccination opportunities, such as those recommended by the WHO since 1946. These are recommended to be by choice in the most impoverished regions first.**

#### **AN ELECTRIC BUS PLEDGE BY FORCES THAT PRODUCED THE WOLLONGONG FREE BUS**

The uniquely wonderful thing about Wollongong to a tourist like me are the Wollongong free buses going everywhere all the time. The natives surely must love them even more. Ferries would also be great to have in future, as you had also suggested years ago. We had one briefly in Glebe, but they took it away. The light rail, which was great, has now gone too. **If you want electric cars to meet global warming targets why not start with a call for free electric buses, like the Wollongong ones?**

Australian production has been chiefly geared to cars for years. As people grow older and fatter and more disabled by life and the pharmaceuticals and surgery they had, instead of relying earlier on good diet and exercise to stave off death, the younger and poorer generations who cannot afford a personal car or home ownership, will especially love free electric buses. Like the French king who

promised a chicken in every French pot, I would call for an electric bus in Wollongong and every comparatively closed community, like Broken Hill, for example. Sadly, the usual boys like their jobs, jobs, jobs, as usual and may hate your guts and frustrate anything you try to do that interferes with their normally closed and secret operations. MP Susan Ley is just the same. As a woman, I believe the only way to go forward in any good society is openly. They may crush you and advance or crush themselves more easily in secret. Sam Mostyn, AO, gave an excellent talk on the need for good child care, aged care, education and domestic violence prevention as part of a caring economy. She didn't address the services of housing, apartment and commercial construction, management and investment as planning realities or keys. I doubt whether rising generational inequality can change without this being done, because the cry for jobs, jobs, jobs was necessarily led by their funds, along with transport and manufacturing. Modern monetary theory is briefly referred to in this national industry context later.

### **TOWARDS A WELL ADVERTISED ZOOM MEETING TO PUBLICLY ADVANCE GREEN DEVELOPMENT IN WOLLONGONG AND ILLAWARRA**

I have no idea whether you or others would be interested in holding a Zoom or other meeting to discuss greener development in Wollongong, before or after involving Andrew Forrest, in one of his many manifestations. However, I always feel strongly that everything should be as open as possible to have any chance of serving the regional logic of the public interest, which Australian governments are supposed to fund and represent. This has to happen soon if we Australians are going to meet our selling targets. (Joke, Joyce?)

I share your enthusiasm for Andrew Forrest as the public face of Australia's mining boom. Andrew Burrell's book **Twiggy: The high stakes life of Andrew Forrest** (2020) explained a lot about a figure whose globally wide collection of 'green' and 'freedom from fear and pain' interests had earlier just surprised me greatly when addressed in the press. Surely Andrew Forrest and Peter Garrett would be vitally important drawcards in Wollongong today? Peter Garrett is a rock-star with a long family history in Wollongong coal, as you explain it. In Western Australia, *'Twiggy took on mining giants BHP Billiton and Rio Tinto at their own game – and won'*. From his extraordinary life one almost believes in fate.

Former Greens leader and alternative patron saint of many environmentalists, Bob Brown, was pictured in an article entitled ***Brown hits out at hydrogen as no silver bullet***. It followed a full-page advertisement in the Australian Financial Review (AFR 19.11.21, p.14) in which the Bob Brown Foundation *'slammed Dr Forrest's \$100 billion plan to build a huge dam on the Congo River, in Central Africa, threatening 'rainforests, wild-life and the homes of thousands of people, as well as dams in Papua New Guinea and a wind farm in Tasmania that threatens 'Aboriginal sites, Tasmanian devils and rare migratory birds.'* Brown states he would happily debate Forrest in public. He said, *'Hydrogen isn't the simplistic answer that Dr Forrest is presenting it as.'* Open up the better global picture in Wollongong!

I recall your saying that BHP has now left Wollongong. I would love to know what is happening next on the land they once occupied. In vaguely opening this up to wider public knowledge and related green inquiry, I hope you will also consider contacting suitable green women from Bush Heritage, Professor Lesley Hughes, or Sharon Beder, etc. etc. etc. Please also invite William Nixon Apple, AM, to a Wollongong Zoom meeting. In 2021 he was made a Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia for significant service to the superannuation sector and to trade unions. I guess he has retired from the fray and needs something to do but as my ex-defacto, he won't respond to any of my advances as usual. These are the kind of moral issues which naturally interest me a lot, as a woman, thinking of kids. If Nixon has nothing useful to say on Wollongong it makes you wonder why he got a Queen's Award. Fund management is clearly a related big issue now and in future. Are women well prepared for the future when their children may be fewer and further flung?

Before I read Burrell's book on Andrew Forrest, I was surprised to learn from the internet that in January 2014, he joined hands with Pakistan to end slavery in exchange for converting tons of coal into energy. He also established the *Global Freedom Network*, led by the Pope, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Grand Imam of al-Azhar. The network aims to eradicate all slavery-oriented mechanisms across religions. Forrest married into a prominent family supporting the League of Rights. According to Wikipedia, the League of Rights is opposed to [liberal democracy](#), the [party system](#) and the processes of parliamentary democracy. In his leading book, *The Money Power versus Democracy* (1940) Butler stated "The Party system of Government can play little part, if any, in the struggle for real democracy. In principle, it is the antithesis of democracy." C. H. Douglas regarded the party system as a "criminal absurdity" and argued for the end of the [secret ballot](#). He believed that with the implementation of social credit, party politics would end. My brother-in-law in Queensland was a social credit supporter but I never understood it. I guess now is the time for us to learn more about it by opening with the Reserve Bank, industry and other funds.

For example, I refer to current developments addressed in a recent AFR Editorial '**Big super should fix governance to stay in business.**' Among other things, it points out that not for profit industry funds issue only \$1 or so of shareholder capital to their joint union and employer group owners. In contrast, retail funds can draw on shareholder capital to pay the sorts of fines that might wipe out industry funds entire equity and render their union and employer group trustees insolvent. So-called 'members' have no real say in board appointments or how funds invest and spend their money. The corporate structures and associations of the producers are ever in danger of becoming fully marketized, not more rationally, fairly and democratically captured in the service of the people, including through better service competition. I have no idea how this is best done in particular cases, but leading industry funds appear designed to repeat the past rather than serve national and regional populations and individuals in better planned, greener ways. **You can't go wrong with an open Memorandum of Understanding which changes over time without lawyers?**

#### TENTATIVE MOVEMENTS TOWARDS MODERN MONETARY THEORY

As I said to you in Wollongong, I think the global trade history and direction with China, which Paul Keating expressed so clearly at the National Press Club and which I support, is unlikely to have much impact on current Australian or other government approaches to women and children's interests. It is the latter which interests me most as I think they are poorly understood and supported in Australian political parties, and by the national broadcasters. I am more qualified to influence this direction and want to try. Shining a light on Nixon may also be a way of getting us joined up here. (*'Equal at home, equal at work'* is not my slogan. As I said to the CFMMEU when I saw their banner at Barangaroo, *'What do they think they are, a bunch of little girls?'*)

Wollongong was a BHP steel city. The extraordinary global rise and collapse of the Australian Greensill and Gupta global steel and property empires was presented and analysed widely this year, on Australian TV and in the press. As I understood it, Greensill was offering to act as a financial intermediary between large and small contractors and wage earners. This was to solve the problem of slow trade and wage payments in the competitively failing steel manufacturing and construction industries. Both industries have been vital for maintaining Australian manufacturing jobs and have been relied on for manufacturing prosperity so far. Greensill and Gupta linked financial edifices, which also bought agricultural land, steel mills and plenty of luxury property, quickly collapsed. I guess multiple party lawyers are now arguing over spoils to Greensill, Gupta and the other lawyers who assisted in the original 'service' establishment for vast reward. (Whither Wollongong?)

In his article '**Keynes and Cold War 2.0**', long-time darling of the financial press and ABC TV, Alan Kohler, states: *'in future, 2020 will be seen as the year when Keynes 2.0 got under way – when monetary and fiscal policy merged and a more sophisticated theory of government took hold, in which spending has no limit apart from the capacity of the economy'*. In later articles Kohler writes

about the need for a 'green' Marshall Plan and for the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) to 'get its priorities in order'. Again, I attach a critique of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) which deals with apparently dysfunctional **competition** and **association rules** which don't appear to lead to **cooperation in the public interest, as distinct from in the interests of the producer associations**, which they endlessly protect and enhance in legislation. It is clear that this direction has increased global inequality and has done so even more in the past two years in most cases.

Anybody interested in modern monetary theory, should also be interested in the regional restructuring of more common associations which are necessary to pursue the public good. The unlikelihood of this occurring makes me pessimistic about greener world development. More bad luck if competition is viewed as an unalloyed public good. Fred Hilmer put forward a regional direction for national competition and sustainable development policy (1993) which was quickly scotched when the ACCC came into being. I guess ACCC and other lawyers have learned through their enquiries into mergers and acquisitions and related matters, recommending treatments distorted by the historical need to pretend competition is an unalloyed public good, entailing normal secrecy and intellectual property perceptions. However, taking matters to lawyers and court appears a particularly expensive and ham-fisted way of approaching particular concerns from scientific and democratic rather than from earlier closed and adversarial notions, fashioned before using common dictionaries came in with the press. From my perspective, discussions with China rather than the US as usual can only do Australia good. Failing that, try PNG, etc.

#### **CARING ABOUT HEALTH AND CHILDREN BEFORE DYING WITH DIGNITY IN WOLLONGONG AND ILLAWARRA**

There has been a lot of discussion about targets in the press, as if government has only to wave a magic wand and something happens. However, the secrecy which associations justify in law in any supposed pursuit of protecting their own associations and interests, may appear increasingly detrimental to the public good over time. As Buchbinder and Harris point out in **Hippocracy**, *'The current worldwide affordability crisis in medicine is too focused on reducing costs through economic and production based models of care (where more care is better but needs to be more efficient), ignoring the savings and suffering that could be achieved through reducing unnecessary, wasteful and harmful medical care'*(p. 7). Are the associations between the government and the law going to do that without brave media and expert help? Having spent my working life in these professional areas, I doubt it very much. However, even TV presenter Dr. Norman Swan is listed among the luminaries praising this book. As he points out, the hardest thing for a doctor to do ..... is nothing.

**Hippocracy** laments that modern medical care has been packaged into a business model for which it's unsuited because medicine doesn't act like the 'laws' of economics expect. For example, the increased supply of doctors creates demand. Treating health care as a commodity incentivises processes over outcomes, the complex over the simple, and treatment over prevention. Furthermore, doctors (who control the spending) don't bear the cost burden of their decisions. If medicine becomes big business, it must work primarily to create profit. Too often profit is derived from delivering more health care at the highest prices, regardless of effectiveness or harms. The ability of large health companies to influence driving profit over health may be one of the greatest threats to health. The authors' main aim is to provide the global evidence of overdiagnosis and over-treatment in the Australian medical system, including many common treatments doing harm. The praise of some bravely august practitioners and researchers is included at the beginning of this book.

The vital function of the joint investigation by the Herald and Age newspapers and Four Corners on ABC TV is drawn to attention in the article *Celebrity cosmetic surgeon's patient in ICU after blood loss* (SMH 19.11.21, p. 18-19) The media investigations uncovered horrific breaches of good practice

by doctors Daniel Aronov and Daniel Lanzer in regard to breast, facial, and other cosmetic surgeries. Aronov was the most followed cosmetic surgeon in the world on Tik-Tok with 13.4 million followers. In this new international IT arena, the increasing promotion of self-mutilation to look younger or fresher or thinner is going to mean hugely increased pain and cost which may dismantle better directed Australian medical efforts through the power of social media marketing and the willingness of specialists to mind their own business while looking after their family and friends as usual. We don't need more closed associations, such as already exist in the church, the law, political parties, and professional groups, but braver experts in their fields who are honestly and well prepared to open things up, like Buchbinder and Harris. Can one be loyal and honest? Men seldom if ever doubt it so their women keep their mouths shut as well?

Nelson and Lumby's book, **Broken Children Parents and Family Courts** (2021) reveals a situation detrimental to children in divorce settlement, since 'no-fault' divorce became available in 1975 and especially since the Howard government stressed in law 'the rights of children to be with both parents.' Almost half of the cases in the 'specialist' family division of the Federal Circuit and family Court – formerly the Family Court of Australia – are high-asset value property cases, often featuring complicated company structures, trusts and tax liabilities. Each of the adult parties are advised to engage a lawyer to assist them to come to any settlement over money and children. The established court process, which supposedly defines what will happen to children of any divorced or separated parents, gives children no voice in matters. The idea that the interests of children should be considered first has been increasingly subjected to the view that parents, through their lawyers, should have equal rights over children. This causes great risk, distress and cost in many cases, as legal adult allegations of domestic violence and sexual abuse appear common in such relationships, but children have no effective voice in any of their own vital care matters. The appointment of an Independent Children's Lawyer didn't help in the long-running disputes between Glendinning and Cuzens in Western Australia, over custody of their three children, for example. This was periodically fought over in court for many years, with allegations of there being a Cuzens' family conspiracy to abuse the girls physically and mentally on one hand, and charges on the other that Glendinning was an unfit mother. The two youngest children were eventually murdered before the oldest one spoke out in the press about her view. Yet the Coroner's report recommends all children be provided with a special lawyer in future, in spite of the children's lawyer and others woeful incapacity in this case.

As the authors of **Broken Children Parents and Family Courts** point out, listening carefully and respectfully to children may not always provide answers but it is the proper starting point for reshaping how we think about issues, to protect children better by thinking beyond the narrow interests of warring parents and their lawyers. The legal system was essentially established to protect men from the superior power of the state, rather than to protect women and children from the superior power of men. It therefore provides strong guarantees of the rights of the accused but no guarantee for the rights of the victims, whether they are ones who come before court or are unknown ones who must live with consequences of limited court ken and rule. At least medical methods address the correct bodies. Law mainly protects the best weaponised in the warfare state because of the supremacy of lawyers and their abysmally expensive ways of accounting for people. If you were a family and your kids were fighting, you wouldn't send each out to get a lawyer.

The Western lawyer and his acolytes assume the higher moral ground in truly unsuitable and unhelpful ways. I bet a lot of Jews and landless travellers, who only have their families to depend on, would agree that this current US anti-discrimination and health care direction is often just more lawyers and drugs or surgical money-making bullshit, to accompany the US Constitutional bullshit about gun trading in secret leading to defence instead of the reality of murder, accidentally or not. It isn't about targets as they are invariably corrupting and corrupted with the normal professional incentives for money making in secret, starting in their comparatively rich and secret associations. You must have a search for truth in this somewhere, but you can't with Western

lawyers as they ignore or pervert the grounded community around a dispute who may be more capable of more knowledgeable and experienced expression as individuals. They may perhaps know better than to talk, let alone attempt to write about the truth as they see it. Opening up protected associations to wider and closer scrutiny and operation is necessary to judge, but top lawyers' mates drive the lot.

I just don't believe in what they do about life and death in the West and where they are going and neither do around 70% of the population who believe in assisted dying. I agree with Ed Raftery, lecturer with the Central Coast University of the Third Age who wrote the opinion piece entitled '**At 95 today I don't need to be told how to die**'. SMH 18.11.21, p.25) Too right. The current state governing direction, which turns an old person like me into part of an internationally forced medical and IT set of supposedly professional and caring experiments, until they set me free, pretending to be God, revolts me. I see everything through this old woman's lens now and I want to die easily and pleasantly when I've had enough and I want the state to help me do it usefully for others. They should thank me before they do it. Money needs to be redirected to where there is greatest social need, as the WHO directions about treating the most impoverished environments first has called for.

In summation, and as the Chinese government predicted long ago, when referring to human rights as '*bourgeois rights*', their pursuit appears insufficient to correct social inequality, which is the stated key goal. Their pursuit has often increased social inequality instead as a result of the strength of normal top family and institutional alliances in shaping market and government forces in their own interests. Try WHO direction instead, involving us all.

At 74, I strongly believe in the right to choose one's own death, supported and thanked by governments. As death is the other end of birth, it is where all related discussion of regional development and targets, as well as human wellbeing or rights, should start for democratic and scientific reasons. To acknowledge death is vital for discussion of housing, for example. In old age I am committed to doing only what I like. I don't need more money but prefer not to lose any unexpectedly either. I don't want to join an organization. For these reasons I think I should be considered as part of the '**coalition of the willing in Wollongong and the Illawarra**' rather than as a participant in any kind of **Sustainable Industry Development Institute** or any other institution. (Some days I'm freely willing, and some days I'm not.)

Because of their stance against euthanasia, which both Liberal and Labor party leaders have taken in this state, against 70% of the NSW population, I guess I will also vote against them both in coming elections. I also think Scott Morrison, Bill Shorten and Anthony Albanese are pathetic little products of their protected time and place. As an old woman I hate what they inevitably must stand for, which is the interests of their own firmly closed institutions and associations. Anyhow, this is my whinge for the day. Barrack Obama's favourite TV series, that I was trying to recall the name of, to recommend to you is **The Wire**. It is about the relations between election to any local US office and the key money-making activities now available in the former big employing port of Baltimore, as overseen by police and overruled by lawyers and big property or other unknown financial interests. I didn't spend all my life in Australia not to grasp how and why Ozzie Catholic boys and trade unionists love a female martyr at home so much. They can drag her out whenever it seems like a good idea. Unless he pops his clogs unexpectedly, I think you should expect more from Anton and anyone who may be interested in any of the vaccines or related directions above and attached.

Cheers and hoping to see you in Sydney after a week or two. (Targets are calling?)

Carol

