

It is a beautiful, sunny Monday here at home in [REDACTED] and as the new neighbors move in next door, I should be at school sharing my skills and passion for music and languages.

After four years at university, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] having my own children, and a lifetime of music, I have a lot to offer the younger generation. I [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Due to the mandates in education I was terminated from my teaching position in January. Despite working at my school in a specialized role for six years, building relationships with staff, students and the community, I have been ordered not to visit campus or to talk about my termination with anyone. It feels like I have done something terribly wrong and have been ghosted by my colleagues and superiors – it's as if I have actually died.

Every time I go to the shopping mall, I worry that I'll see students or staff and not know what to say to them.

Every time I hear a new song, I imagine performing it with the students I used to teach. Every night I AM STILL DREAMING about being at school. Attending a meeting and being told "you're not supposed to be here". Arriving unprepared for an important concert or a class and then being told to leave or trying to sneak out. It's a recurring nightmare.

I wish the government would PLEASE end the mandates and this so-called "State of Emergency". Anyone can catch COVID-19 whether they have been jabbed or not and for most people, it is not a serious disease at all. [REDACTED] had COVID-19 earlier this month and I tested negative on both PCR tests at the beginning and end of our week in isolation.

I worked extremely hard and sacrificed a lot for my teaching career. Each morning I would arrive at 7am and finish most days between 5 and 7pm. To keep my skills current, I continued working part time once both of [REDACTED]. I was confident it would all pay off in the end, and I thought that it had when I was finally [REDACTED] [REDACTED] at a school and in a position that I loved. I was loved back by my students and got on well with their parents and my colleagues.

Now, [REDACTED] I drop off food deliveries to those same people for less than the minimum wage. I am very grateful for the work as it enables me to keep going so that I don't sit at home crying all day in despair, sadness, and anger. To write this has been upsetting and has me once again in tears.

The government of Queensland has absolutely no right to enforce a medical procedure on anyone for any reason. *Especially a medical procedure that they themselves are exempt from and has death as a possible side effect! Where is the fairness in that?!* I always taught kindness and understanding in my classes and now I feel that there is no kindness or understanding coming from the people who call themselves our leaders. They are not leading, they are bullying us. I know many staff in education who only got injected out of coercion to keep their job – that is not a choice at all. The government must let us live our lives and let us make medical decisions for ourselves. The science is not settled on this and yet people's lives, careers, families, and futures have been severely negatively affected unnecessarily. Stop the tyranny, stop the fear mongering, and stop the overreach of control! Enough already. The mandates must stop so that people like me can do what we are supposed to be doing.