

Submission  
No 43

**INQUIRY INTO CORONIAL JURISDICTION IN NEW  
SOUTH WALES**

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date Received:** 4 September 2021

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Partially  
Confidential

31/08/2021

To Whom it May Concern,

First of all thank you, I am grateful for the opportunity to give my opinion of the Coronial process I was a part of as I was disappointed with the outcome and it continues to be a part of my life today.

My Partner and Children's father died within days after I began the process of transferring him for additional medical attention to a different jail, which was allegedly more qualified to look after mental health patients. After being held in a safe cell for 2 days, he was then assessed by a nurse without his medical file and let out dying hours later. Although this isn't why I am writing today I believe some background on the circumstances helps explain as to why I was not satisfied with the outcome of the Coronial process.

My partner died in early 2005, however it took over three and a half years to get to the Coronial Court which was held in August 2008. Despite the lengthy time it took to get to the Coronial process the Judge was considerate and thoughtful throughout the process and I am grateful for that. However I was completely heartbroken and shocked when I realised after all of that time that despite the proper care not being taken, no one would be held accountable nor would anything happen in regards to preventing this from happening again to other families besides recommendations.

I believe if a vulnerable person dies under the care of the government then something should be said and done about it, let alone some sort of accountability. Not recommendations which was up to the other party if they wanted to follow through with or not. Nothing was making anyone be held accountable nor follow through with the recommendations despite numerous government agencies being at fault and not giving the proper care.

A lot of time, heartbreak and governments money went into the coronial process and I found this to be somewhat of a waste in that regard. The process for loved ones who actively participate in the process, reliving the death, contributing in any way they can by giving details of the incident numerous times. All the while grieving due to fault of someone else is an experience you can't explain.

The role of the Coroner's Court is to conduct inquests into deaths, under the Coroners Act 1997. This process left us little to no evidence to further proceed with inquiries into the death after the fault of the system leaving three children without a father.

I am aware that death in custody may be a topic that has less sympathy than other deaths due to the person being incarcerated, but he was a father, loving partner and a human being at the end of the day who needed the correct assistance with mental health which is a failing issue in Australia. There are multiple factors that need to be taken into consideration before judging someone due to being incarcerated and disregarded as someone who doesn't deserve justice after the fact of dying in custody.

Again thank you for letting me contribute, I can only hope this committee can help change the system or bridge the gaps where needed for the better, grieving families and loved ones in the future can only benefit let alone the respect to the deceased.

Regards,

(would like to be kept anonymous)