

**Submission
No 69**

INQUIRY INTO TEACHER SHORTAGES IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Mrs Alison Buckley

Date Received: 24 June 2022

Towards the end of last year, I received an email from Ms Yvette Chachia telling me that I was not to work as a casual teacher with the NSW Education Department because I had not submitted any personal vaccination information to the department. The email said I would be investigated for not complying according to the Code of Conduct which I had completed, but which contained nothing about following with 'public health orders'. Further, Ms Cachia threatened that the police would be called if I attended Education Department premises. In other words, not receiving a mandated medical procedure in order to work would be treated as a potentially criminal offence. Ms Cachia later stated in the Budget Estimates to the effect that intimidation and bullying would not be tolerated in Education Department schools, but her threatening email, couched in the language of professional misconduct, upset me to the point of having to seek counselling on the day of receipt of the email. I regard her treatment of me as abuse and in breach of the NSW Education Department's occupational health and safety regulations.

I have since contacted two local high schools seeking work with either a non-committal reply, no reply or a request for proof of 'vaccination'. I have been told by other teachers that schools are individually mandating teachers to be 'Covid 19 vaccinated,' before being employed, despite the lifting of the government mandates. If this is legal, any employer can exclude any potential employee on any grounds they choose, which is gross discrimination when laws do not permit discrimination on grounds of gender, race, religion, age, disability and other attributes or personal choices.

An apology, the unconditional right to work, and compensation for lost wages due to the misinformed and misguided health and safety policy regarding 'vaccinations' on the part of the NSW Education Department are required to restore the emotional injuries I have sustained and the other losses incurred.