

**Submission
No 76**

INQUIRY INTO TEACHER SHORTAGES IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Mr William Gardner

Date Received: 17 June 2022

Dear Committee Members

My 34 year old daughter was a highly gifted English teacher and after ten years of dedicated teaching was unceremoniously sacked for not being vaccinated. She was not allowed on the property till after-school and at night to remove her items. The trauma was huge. Two children to raise as a single mum. One new mortgage to repay. No future in the career that she and others like her see as a calling, not just a job. Her students were devastated and many parents expressed their loss.

So from a diligent upright tax-paying and law-abiding citizen who had worked harder than ever during the early pandemic, she became an instant outcast.

One cannot describe the extent of loss and tears at such a reversal and loss of a dearly loved vocation.

As late as May 2022 my wife and I shared a phone call with her whilst she balled her eyes out as deep-seated anguish spilled out once more.

She is criminalised by the very government she supports. At the same time we, and all of society, has returned to normal, close and dynamic interaction - completely making a mockery of the isolation of teachers such as my daughter from their students and vocation. This is even occurring with a very low unemployment rate.

All my colleagues working in health are aghast at the situation.

Please end the hypocritical situations and allow my daughter to earn her income doing what she loves most in this world after her children - teaching. Her mental health and sense of self needs to know she is valued as a teacher - as she was for so many years.

Thank you for your consideration.

William Gardner