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The Golden Age of Caligula

By DAVID THRUSSELL

David Thrussell has written for *Fortean Times*, *New Dawn* and numerous other publications. He is the creator of recordings (*Snog and Black Lung among others*) and film scores.

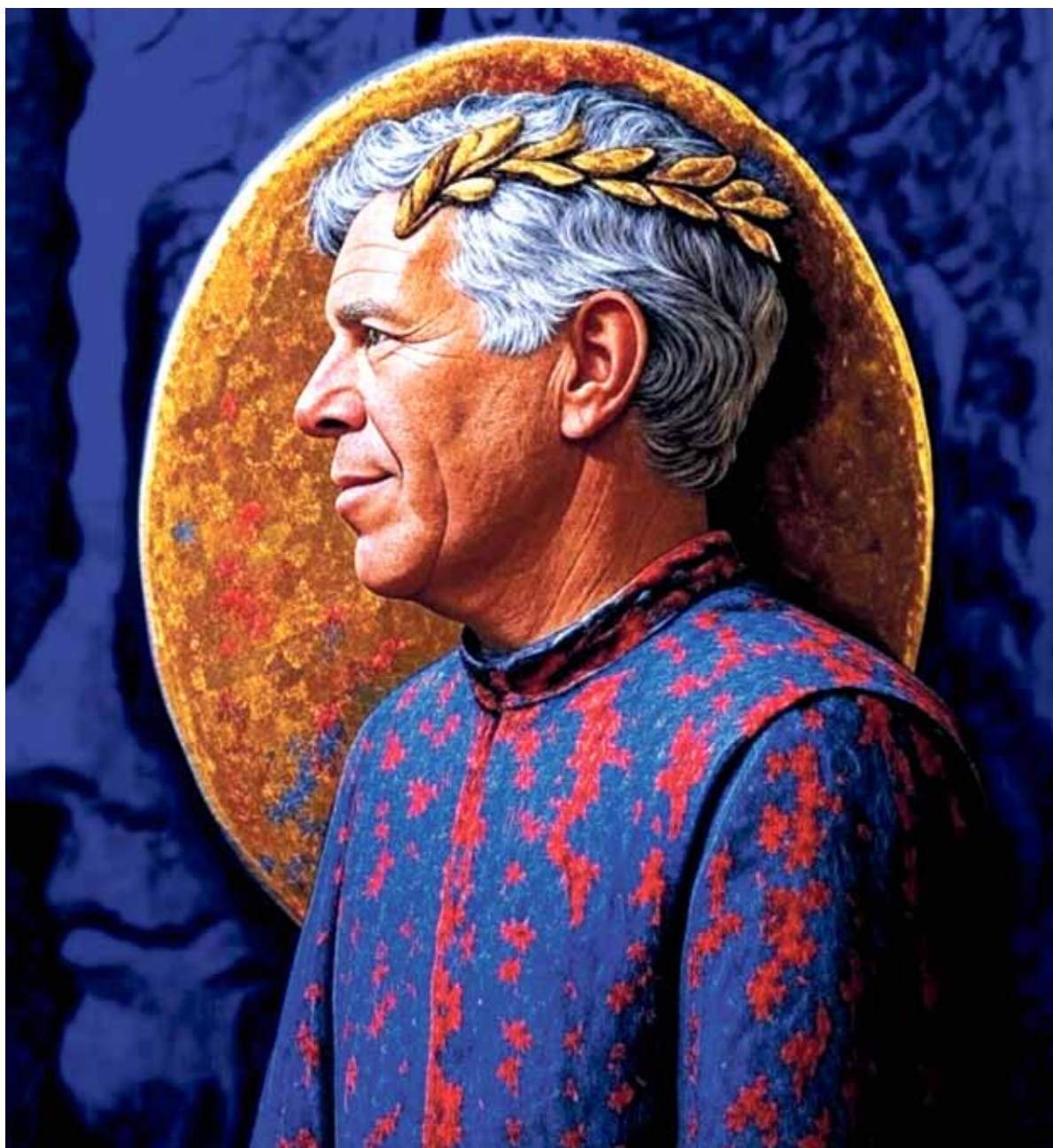
Once described as a 'cinematic holocaust', the 1979 film *Caligula* left a trail of physical, emotional, financial and moral carnage in its decadent wake...a trail that might just help illuminate much of the hidden truth of our contemporary world.

Indeed, no matter what (real or imagined) crimes Bob Guccione's film may have committed they could only pale into insignificance against the real Caligula, who has long been regarded as the very summit of depravity, perversion and the personification of the maxim 'absolute power corrupts absolutely.'

If the extant ancient historians are to be believed, Caligula's brief (less than four year) reign as the 3rd Roman Emperor was a maelstrom of bloodlust, cruelty and insanity. Ancient accounts also allege that Caligula had carnal relations with all three of his sisters, the younger Drusilla being his favourite, the incestuous relationship beginning when she was 14.

Today, while the court scribes of the mass media roll out the pretend scenery of 'Democracy' and revel in the debauched *WrestleMania* games of 'Elections' and 'Wars'—behind the curtain the diabolical spirit of Caligula may be alive and indeed even more powerful than ever before. Witness, for example, the sulphurous story of Jeffery Epstein, the 'mysterious' billionaire 'financier' and sex trafficker to the stars.

According to the meticulous research in Whitney Webb's two-volume 2022 opus *'One Nation Under Blackmail'*, Epstein was



the ostensible figurehead for a multinational, industrial scale system of multigenerational blackmail, corruption and manipulation:

- His 'Lolita Express' jet regularly ferried presidents, politicians, scientists, diplomats, celebrities and media figures to his 'Epstein Island' for rituals and sex with children.

- The island had a mock Egyptian-style temple, alleged to hide a tunnel and bunker network, and idols to Moloch, the god of child sacrifice.

- Various celebrities, political figures and minors may have also arrived at Epstein Island via submarine.

- Epstein apparently invested

billions of dollars into transhumanist, genetic and artificial intelligence research.

- Epstein funnelled hundreds of thousands of dollars to academics like Noam Chomsky and Leon Botstein.

- Epstein, at one stage, planned to use his 'superior' DNA to father thousands of cloned children.

- His \$77m NYC mansion was adorned with numerous pieces of esoteric and occultic artwork, including paintings that alluded to ritual and occult relationships with Presidents George W. Bush and Bill Clinton.

There is no public evidence, at all, of how Epstein 'earned' his fortune.

The mainstream media's extreme reluctance to investigate any of these incredible developments might reasonably infer that they are just the veritable tip of a remarkable, and desperately hidden, iceberg of unfathomable corruption and depravity.

That a modern imperial figure like Bill Gates is directly connected to a subterranean 'Sultan of Sleaze' like Jeffery Epstein is perhaps a seismic indicator that we no longer have just one Caligula ruling in madness and depravity, but likely a whole class of corrupted degenerates just below the facade erected by their complicit media machine.

Although two thousand years have passed, the ghost of Caligula refuses to rest. Indeed, perhaps, his spectre laughs maniacally upon us as his spiritual heirs taunt a bewildered global population.

"Caligula...treated people as things. We are on the dawn of a new age of Caligula—think of the Pentagon, the CIA, the current national rulers. They, too, have the absolute power to treat other people as things." Gore Vidal: *Photoplay*, March 1976. Welcome to The Golden Age of Caligula.

■ Read the full article at <https://confessionsofconspiracytheorist.substack.com/p/the-golden-age-of-caligula>

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Australia Embraces a Political (Culture) Shift

By **SCOTT JOHNSON**

■ *Scott Johnson is an independent Australian journalist.*

Historically, political participation in Australia by the common folk was somewhat 'verboden'. The laid-back "No worries, mate—she'll be right" attitude of the Aussie larrikin at a barbie skulling beers in a T-shirt and thongs is a caricature but was also normalised as a fixture of Aussie life. In the era of Paul Hogan's shenanigans and iconic surfing culture of the 70s and 80s it was a classic snapshot of Australia and according to my many sources, the act of discussing politics or religion was a *definite no go*. You could talk about Shane Warne's latest groin injury (sport) or hot sheilas at the beach but mention politics and you'd get shut down fast. No one took politics or politicians seriously and voting actually remains compulsory in Australia (they fine you if you don't vote). All this is confirmed by an ol' Aussie mate of mine, now living in Northern Europe, having left Australia partly because of those restrictive social controls (he just loves talking about politics and religion).

The other part of his rational for leaving Australia (admittedly the most influential) was getting married to a Scandinavian. He left Oz some 20 years ago and had hailed from convict stock, growing up in Sydney playing rugby and drinking piss (i.e. slang for beer). To this day he recalls the social wilderness of his earlier days in Oz, unable to vent his rage or

discuss politics with his peers. The phone conversations with him today, however, have taken a drastic turn as he can't believe what has happened to his native Australia and it all began in 2020 with the government's draconian reaction to the Covid experiment.

Recently, ABC's Four Corners did a TV expose, "Lawfare", on the so called 'Sovereign Citizen' movement, which was predictably a denigrating attack on the many Australians responding to government overreach. Melbourne for example was the most locked down city in the world during Covid having its populace subjected to endless lockdowns while police roamed the streets enforcing mask mandates, pepper spraying and shooting civilians with rubber bullets. This Four Corners piece portrayed the Australian response to the Covid failings as fringe and dangerous without asking why are Aussies 'suddenly' distrustful of government? The government has never explained why the excess death rate in Australia increased 10 - 14% in 2021 - 2022 *exactly when they rolled out the jabs*. They know it wasn't from Covid, and a clue can be found in Senate Estimates, with Senator Alex Antic grilling the Therapeutic Goods Administration in 2023 as to why two Australian children aged 7 and 9 *died directly after getting a Covid vaccine*.

"There is a new phenomenon in Australia," I told my ex-pat friend in Northern Europe. People are actually protesting in the streets and organising community actions at local councils. Independent

media is expanding while banal comedy/news like *The Project* fade into the sunset. I've even seen people carrying crosses in protests and openly admitting they go to church. The Albanese government, however, has plans to control social media and overreach is planned—for internet users, for sport shooters, and even our farmers. Home ownership is becoming unreachable, and the government is ramping up immigration.

For former politicians, like Dan Andrews (who pushed the lockdowns) the Australian response included him being denied membership in golf clubs. I know a bloke who once saw the former Chief Minister of the Northern Territory, Michael Gunner, chased out of a pub. Now that's an Australian classic—a mob of patrons chasing a politician out of a pub! Gunner was another one who pushed vax mandates and once gave a disturbing press conference "Stuff it, shove it"—he threatened us with rather psychotic bulging eyes.

A growing segment of the Australian public are indeed embracing this new political cultural shift—and it's called grassroots democracy. Below are some pictures of Aussies doing just that and if you think they don't need to stand up, have a look at the photos of the pregnant woman in pyjamas being handcuffed by police. This was Australia in 2020. Her name is Zoe Buhler, and she was arrested in her home for the crime of... (wait for it)—*for sharing a Facebook post during the Covid crackdown*.



Above: In 2020, Zoe Buhler, who was pregnant, was arrested for sharing a Facebook post during the Covid crackdown.

Left: Grassroots democracy in action. Photos by SCORPION MEDIA GROUP

Charlie Kirk, 1993–2025

Charlie championed faith and freedom. Deepest condolences to Erika and family.



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and reshaping public discourse.

Britain Has Fallen. You're Next!

Free Speech Has Been Completely Eroded in the UK And Is Eroding Elsewhere

By **GEORGE CHRISTENSEN**

■ *George Christensen is a former Australian politician, a Christian, freedom lover, conservative, blogger, podcaster, journalist and theologian. He has been feted by the Epoch Times as a "champion of human rights" and his writings have been praised by Infowars' Alex Jones as "excellent and informative".*

Dear Friend,

Freedom once defined Great Britain. Now, it's being dismantled under the comforting guise of safety and progress. What was once unthinkable has become routine, as state power grows and speech is silenced in plain sight.

Of those who fought the Nazis, those who stood firm against communism, do you think any of them believed their sacrifice would one day end with modern Britain not just sliding into totalitarianism, but celebrating it with pride?

Thirty people in the United Kingdom are arrested daily for expressing their views. Just two decades ago, such a headline would've belonged in the most backward, despotic corners of the world. But here we are. In 2025. In Britain. THIS is the headline, while the economy collapses and the once-great public services rot from within.

And make no mistake, the rot that gave rise to this dystopia didn't begin in ancient history. It's recent. It began under Theresa May's so-called leadership. Under her reign, the Online Safety Act was sold to the public as a shield to protect children from harm. But what did it actually do?

It helped birth a surveillance state, where everyday people now live in fear of a knock at the door. Where companies pre-emptively censor themselves to avoid fines. Where you think twice, maybe

three times, before posting anything that might deviate from the "official" government line.

Let's get real: this is political persecution, pure and simple. Over 30 arrests a day for "speech crimes." More than 250,000 "non-crime hate incidents" have been logged in just a few years. And most of these so-called "offences" are not even close to hate speech. They are people daring to question government narratives. On immigration. On gender. On national identity.

But even that's not enough for the globalist machine pulling the strings. The World Economic Forum backed regime isn't stopping. They're pushing to outlaw "banter" at work. They're demanding backdoor access to encrypted apps so they can listen in on your private conversations. And they're inching towards what can only be described as blasphemy laws, criminalising criticism of Islam under the banner of "Islamophobia".

These laws aren't about safety. Britain is more dangerous now than it has been in decades. They're not protecting the vulnerable either; it's the average citizen who cops the punishment while real criminals walk free.

So, what's the endgame? It's control. They want obedience. Silence. Submission. All wrapped in the soft language of "safety" and "inclusion". Why? It's about shutting you up while the cost-of-living crushes families, while the elites rake in profits from the chaos, while they divide and distract us. Under the guise of "safety", the government keeps overreaching its mandate and suppressing the very democratic voices it claims to represent.

The same script that turned the UK into a cautionary tale is being played out in Australia as



Aussie protestors at Parliament House, Western Australia 2025. Photo by SCORPION MEDIA GROUP

well. Right now, the Albanese Labor Government is using the excuse of "protecting children" as a Trojan horse for expanding the surveillance state, replete with censorship and digital identification. The same ploy. The same agenda.

In fact, it's the same across most of the Western world. Canada is going down this dark path, as is New Zealand, Europe, and even the USA, where, despite its First Amendment constitutionally protecting free speech, liberal States such as California are imposing so-called misinformation takedown directives upon social media platforms. The question is, will a free people sit by and let that happen? Or are we going to stand our ground and resist this creeping authoritarianism? Until next time, God bless you, your family and nation. Take care, George Christensen.

■ Find more at www.georgechristensen.com.au

Bullet Point Quick Read

- Britain has descended into soft totalitarianism, where free speech is punished under the guise of safety and inclusion.
- The Online Safety Act, introduced under Theresa May, marked the beginning of a surveillance state that now censors dissent and criminalises ordinary opinions.
- Political persecution is rampant, with daily arrests over speech and a vast number of logged "non-crime hate incidents" targeting those who question official narratives.
- Globalist forces are advancing control through censorship, surveillance, and laws that criminalise criticism, while the public suffers under economic and social decay.
- This authoritarian trend is not isolated to Britain; it's mirrored across Western nations like Australia, Canada, and the U.S., all pushing similar agendas under the cover of protecting citizens



British troops at Dunkirk Beachhead 1939 - communism and fascism both embrace censorship.

The same script that turned the UK into a cautionary tale is being played out in Australia as well. Right now, the Albanese Labor Government is using the excuse of "protecting children" as a Trojan horse for expanding the surveillance state, replete with censorship and digital identification. The same ploy. The same agenda.

Ban Kids, Build Big Brother: Digital Dystopia

By **COURAGE IS THE CURE**

■ *Courage Is The Cure is an independent Western Australian content creator.*

Australia's social media ban for under-16s, set for December 2025, has ignited a public backlash—equal parts scepticism and distrust over its age verification plans. The policy, threatening platforms like X, TikTok, and Instagram with \$49.5 million fines for non-compliance, raises alarms about government overreach and intrusive surveillance. Behind the age checks, critics smell surveillance—a social credit blueprint borrowed from Beijing.

Many doubt the ban's efficacy,



Photo by pexels-cottonbro

arguing tech-savvy teens will dodge restrictions using VPNs or fake IDs, potentially pushing them to unregulated platforms or the dark web. Concerns also grow over the ban isolating vulnerable children from vital online communities.

The Age Assurance Technology Trial, testing over 60 solutions, deepens the distrust. Its final report, released in September 2025 after Senator Fatima Payman's push, exposed self-declared age as ineffective, with many questioning the trial's rigor and eSafety Commissioner Julie Inman Grant's secrecy, suspecting hidden agendas, accusing her of stonewalling on key details.

Senator Alex Antic, attempting

Behind the age checks, critics smell surveillance—a social credit blueprint borrowed from Beijing.

to extinguish the flames, reintroduced the Digital ID Repeal Bill 2024 in the 48th Parliament, to dismantle the Digital ID Act 2023—seen by critics as a gateway to a social credit-style system.

Despite government claims that digital ID or official IDs won't be mandatory, with options like behavioural analysis offered, the public remains filled with doubt, convinced mandatory ID uploads are inevitable, signalling further Big Brother control.

Politically, while some defend the ban to 'protect' kids, many view it as a poorly planned power grab lacking evidence. The prevailing mood is suspicion of government motives, with calls for transparency unmet. Transparency, it seems, is just another checkbox in the age assurance trial. The eSafety Commissioner offers official answers to questions but not necessarily the ones the public is asking.

Sparks Fly as RFK Jr. Tells Senators CDC Failed Americans During COVID

In a contentious Senate hearing today, senators called on U.S. Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. to resign, citing the firing last week of CDC Director Susan Monarez and recent changes to vaccine recommendations. Kennedy defended his record at HHS and accused public health officials in past administrations of failing to address the epidemic of chronic disease.

By **BRENDA BALETTI, Ph.D.**

■ *This article was originally published by The Defender — Children's Health Defense's News & Views Website childrenshealthdefense.org on September 4, 2025.*

■ *Brenda Baletti, Ph.D., is a senior reporter for The Defender. She wrote and taught about capitalism and politics for 10 years in the writing program at Duke University. She holds a Ph.D. in human geography from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a master's from the University of Texas at Austin.*



In a contentious Senate hearing today, U.S. Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. engaged in fiery exchanges with senators on both sides of the aisle who questioned his record in office, the administration's vaccine policies, and the ouster of top officials and advisers at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

During the hearing held by the Senate Finance Committee, which has oversight over the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), many senators used their allotted five minutes to make impassioned speeches and air their grievances, often leaving Kennedy little or no time to respond.

The New York Times described Kennedy, who was visibly annoyed at times, as "remarkably salty and dismissive with senators at times today." "You don't want to talk," Kennedy told Sen. Elizabeth Smith (D-Minn.). "You want to harangue and have partisan politics. I want to solve these problems."

Sens. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) and Raphael Warnock (D-Ga.) called for Kennedy to resign or be fired by President Donald Trump during the hearing. This morning, Democratic senators on the committee issued a statement calling for his resignation.

Kennedy clashed with senators over the administration's recent firing of CDC Director Susan Monarez, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) narrowing of the COVID-19 vaccine approvals, the recent cancellation of \$500 million

in research funding for mRNA vaccines, Kennedy's restructuring of the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices and the upcoming agenda for that committee, which will address the universal hepatitis B vaccine recommendations.

Several senators also pressed Kennedy on whether Operation Warp Speed was a great accomplishment, and raised concerns about cuts to Medicaid and funding for rural hospitals. Kennedy shot back at his critics, promising to fix the "malpractice" within the public health agencies, and touting his agency's many accomplishments since he took the helm.

He blasted the CDC, which he said, "is the most corrupt agency in HHS," for its history of failing to protect Americans' health, particularly during the COVID-19 crisis, during which the U.S. "did worse than any country in the world."

"The people at CDC who oversaw that process, who put masks on our children, who closed our schools, are the people who will be leaving," he said, adding, "That's why we need bold, competent and creative new leadership at CDC. People who are able and willing to chart a new course."

Wyden called Kennedy a liar, Kennedy accused Wyden of doing nothing to prevent chronic disease

After Committee Chair Mike Crapo (R-Idaho) kicked off what he predicted would be a "spirited debate," ranking member

Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) attacked Kennedy for the "costs, chaos and corruption" he allegedly brought to the agency. That was also the title of a report Wyden co-authored with Sen. Angela Alsobrooks (D-Md.) and submitted to the record, summarizing their take on Kennedy's tenure at HHS.

Wyden called Kennedy a liar and made what he called an "unprecedented" request that Kennedy be formally sworn in, presumably so the committee could later prove he lied under oath. Crapo refused the request, which isn't customary in Senate hearings. Wyden then launched a long attack on Kennedy's "agenda," which he said is "fundamentally cruel and defies common sense."

Kennedy shot back: "Senator, you've sat in that chair for how long? 20, 25 years? While the chronic disease in our children went up to 76%, and you said nothing. You never asked the question, why it's happening. 'Why is this happening?' Today, for the first time in 20 years, we learned that infant mortality has increased in our country. It's not because I came in here. It's because of what happened during the Biden administration that we're going to end."

Kennedy says Monarez lied in WSJ Op-Ed

Several senators referred to an op-ed written by Monarez and published this morning in *The Wall Street Journal*. Monarez, who was fired last week by Trump, claimed Kennedy pressured her

"to compromise science itself." "I was told to preapprove the recommendations of a vaccine advisory panel newly filled with people who have publicly expressed antivaccine rhetoric," Monarez wrote.

When asked, Kennedy disputed Monarez's account of her firing. "I told her that she had to resign because I asked her, 'Are you a trustworthy person?'" And she said "no," he said. Wyden quoted Monarez to Kennedy and asked whether he had pressured her to preapprove recommendations. "No, I did not say that to her," Kennedy responded. "So she's lying today to the American people in the *Wall Street Journal*?" Wyden asked. "Yes, sir," Kennedy responded.

Kennedy said the opposite was true. Monarez indicated she would refuse to endorse any CDC vaccine panel recommendations even before the committee met to make them, he said. He said he asked her to walk back that stance so she would hear the recommendations and their rationale before making any decision, but Monarez refused.

Taking away vaccines?

Several senators, including Smith and Warren, accused Kennedy of going back on his commitment and "taking away vaccines" from the American people. Warren cited the FDA's decision to end emergency use authorization of COVID-19 vaccines and limit approvals of the vaccines to people at high risk. However, HHS also confirmed the vaccines would be available for anyone who decided they wanted them anyway.

Defending the move, Kennedy told Warren, "We're not going to recommend a product for which there's no clinical data for that indication, is that what I should be doing?" "I know you've taken \$855,000 from pharmaceutical companies, Senator," he later told Warren.

Operation Warp Speed — worthy of a Nobel Prize

Senators accused Kennedy of holding a contradictory position on Operation Warp Speed, which Sen. Bill Cassidy (R-La.) said deserved

a Nobel Prize, but few gave him time to respond to the accusations. Several senators also lambasted Kennedy for not acknowledging that the COVID-19 vaccines saved millions of lives.

Sen. Roger Marshall (R-Kan.), a physician who supported Kennedy and spent much of his five minutes questioning why the hepatitis B vaccine is given to all babies, asked Kennedy to respond. Kennedy said that when the COVID-19 vaccines were first rolled out, they were necessary because the virus was dangerous, but that the vaccines were significantly less necessary now. "The virus has mutated, it's much less dangerous, where there's a lot of natural immunity and herd immunity, and so the calculus is different, and it's complicated."

Kennedy added: "They think I'm being evasive because I won't make a kind of a statement that's almost religious in nature, 'it saved a million lives.' Well, there is no data to support that. There's no study. There's modeling studies. There's faulty data."

Sen. Ron Johnson (R-Wis.), who thanked Kennedy for "putting up with this abuse," backed Kennedy's statements on the dangers of the COVID-19 vaccines and said federal health agencies hid the early signals for myo and pericarditis.

At the end of the hearing, Crapo offered Kennedy the floor to make a statement if there were things he wanted to clarify. "I think I'll have mercy on everybody here," Kennedy said. "Let's adjourn."

■ *This article was originally published by The Defender — Children's Health Defense's News & Views Website on September 4, 2025, under Creative Commons license CC BY-NC-ND 4.0. Please consider subscribing to The Defender or donating to Children's Health Defense: childrenshealthdefense.org*

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US Top Experts Declare: mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines Showed No Net Benefit

It Is Only a Matter of Time Before They Are Fully Withdrawn

By **DR PHILIP ALTMAN**

■ *Dr Phillip Altman BPharm (Hons), MSc, PhD is a pharmacologist, a Clinical Trial and Drug Regulatory Affairs senior industry pharmaceutical consultant in drug research and regulatory approval with over 40 years' experience.*

Since 2022 it was known that: "It was more dangerous to take a vaccine than to contract COVID-19 and be hospitalised with it". This is what the data shows according to Dr Steven Hatfill (Chief Medical Officer—ASPR, the Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response, within the US Dept of Health and Human Services or HHS).

"The data had accumulated to the point where meta-analysis studies could be done. These are

very comprehensive analysis, and it virtually came back consistently that there was no benefit-to-risk ratio for taking a messenger RNA vaccine. In fact, it was more dangerous to take a vaccine than it was to contract COVID-19 and be hospitalised with it. This is ... We're now in 2022 that this data started to come out. The side effects for this essentially gene therapy was so enormous and progressive it was difficult to fathom. And then finally a few months ago, some of the detailed biochemistry studies started to appear in the literature and this sudden flood of messenger RNA, it appears irrespective of what the messenger RNA insert is coding for. Just the sheer amount of number of millions of molecules messenger RNA entering a cell is creating

biochemical havoc." [Transcribed from Dr Steven Hatfill's interview with Steve Bannon, August 2025.]

This follows the Surgeon General of the US State of Florida declaring "mRNA vaccines should not be used for any human beings". See my Substack of 29 July.

"First of all, multiple studies now, to be very clear, multiple studies now show that of the two Moderna and Pfizer, Pfizer is definitely worse. Pfizer is worse for cardiovascular side effects related to blood clotting. Pfizer is worse for neurologic effects, and Pfizer is worse for serious adverse events overall. A few studies have shown that Pfizer may be associated with an increase in mortality also compared to Moderna. The vaccines,



Dr. Joseph Ladapo, Surgeon General of Florida, USA.

they are not the same. You've heard my opinion, Dr. Korey's, Dr. Walzkogs opinions about their use in general but between the two of them, Pfizer is definitely worse. You've got probably more myocarditis cases with Moderna, but Pfizer is worse

overall. So, I apologise, its hasn't been clear. They shouldn't take them. They are products that should not be going into human beings. Because these products, they should not be used in any human beings, and you know there's some people who are trying to put them in animals too and I think many of us wouldn't want to eat that food either that meat..." [Transcribed from Surgeon General of Florida, Joseph A. Ladapo's speech in late April 2025.]

In the face of overwhelming evidence, our Therapeutic Goods Administration still refused to act to withdraw these dangerous injections. This is not incompetence. Nobody could be this incompetent.

■ *See Dr Phillip Altman's Substack at <https://phillipaltman.substack.com/>*

Government Burying Excess Mortality Inquiry

By **MICHAEL ARBON**

"The government notes this recommendation." That's bureaucratic code for "we'll ignore this and hope you do too." It's a well-worn tactic in Canberra. Quietly shelving inconvenient truths until public attention drifts elsewhere.

The Senate's Excess Mortality Inquiry, established in 2024, was tasked with investigating the sustained and materially higher than expected all-cause mortality first identified in 2021. The terms of reference were broad, designed to encourage a wide range of expert testimony and the exploration of multiple possible causes.

Yet despite the gravity of the

issue, the inquiry was dogged by roadblocks. Public submissions were suppressed. Only a single day of public hearings were allowed. Government and government-funded organisations dominated the agenda, leaving little opportunity for independent experts or individual voices to be heard.

The official committee report called for the establishment of an Australian Centre for Disease Control (CDC) in Australia. And like clockwork, the legislation has been tabled, and Australia will likely get itself another massive bureaucracy. More centralised power and a whopping \$251.7m budgeted for just the first four years, plus \$73.3m every year thereafter.

...the sharp rise in deaths among young women was overlooked, and recommendations to end pharmaceutical indemnities, which protect drug companies from financial accountability, were ignored.

The report also proposed a no-fault vaccine compensation scheme in the event of a "future pandemic". That wording conveniently ignores the thousands of Australians already injured by novel and fast-tracked COVID-19 vaccines.

In fact, the existing COVID-19 Vaccine Claims Scheme which took almost one year on average to make a decision and paid out less than 9% of claims, was shut down in September 2024. Calls to extend it, including those in Senator Babet's dissenting report to the excess mortality inquiry, were rejected outright, as were requests for a Royal Commission.

Other alarming findings were brushed aside: the sharp rise in

deaths among young women was overlooked, and recommendations to end pharmaceutical indemnities, which protect drug companies from financial accountability, were ignored.

The government's strategy was clear: note the recommendations, file them away, and move on. But Australians deserve better. An unexplained rise in mortality should be treated as a national health crisis, not an inconvenience. We, the people, note the government's response...and we will not forget.

■ *Follow Michael Arbon on X: [@arbsmichael](https://twitter.com/arbsmichael)*

RFK Jr. Cancels \$500 Million in Vaccine Contracts

Press release from **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

Date: 5 August 2025

HHS Winds Down mRNA Vaccine Development Under BARDA



WASHINGTON, D.C. — The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) today announced the beginning of a coordinated wind-down of its mRNA vaccine development activities under the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA), including the cancellation and de-scoping of various contracts and solicitations. The decision follows a comprehensive review of mRNA-related investments initiated during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

"We reviewed the science,

listened to the experts, and acted," said HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. "BARDA is terminating 22 mRNA vaccine development investments because the data show these vaccines fail to protect effectively against upper respiratory infections like COVID and flu. We're shifting that funding toward safer, broader vaccine platforms that remain effective even as viruses mutate."

The wind-down affects a range of programs including:

- **Termination** of contracts with Emory University and Tiba Biotech.
- **De-scoping of mRNA-related work** in existing contracts with Luminary Labs, ModeX, and Seqirus.
- **Rejection or cancellation of multiple pre-award solicitations**, including proposals from Pfizer, Sanofi Pasteur, CSL Seqirus, Gritstone, and others, as part of BARDA's Rapid Response Partnership Vehicle (RRPV) and VITAL Hub.
- **Restructuring of collaborations with DoD-JPEO**, affecting nucleic acid-based vaccine projects with AAHI, AstraZeneca, HDT Bio, and Moderna/UTMB.

While some final-stage contracts

...the data show these vaccines fail to protect effectively against upper respiratory infections like COVID and flu.

(e.g., Arcturus and Amplitude) will be allowed to run their course to preserve prior taxpayer investment, no new mRNA-based projects will be initiated. HHS has also instructed its partner, Global Health Investment Corporation (GHIC), which manages BARDA Ventures, to cease all mRNA-based equity investments. In total, this affects 22 projects worth nearly \$500 million. Other uses

of mRNA technology within the department are not impacted by this announcement.

"Let me be absolutely clear: HHS supports safe, effective vaccines for every American who wants them. That's why we're moving beyond the limitations of mRNA and investing in better solutions," said Secretary Kennedy.

The move signals a broader shift in federal vaccine development priorities. Going forward, BARDA will focus on platforms with stronger safety records and transparent clinical and manufacturing data practices. Technologies that were funded during the emergency phase but failed to meet current scientific standards will be phased out in favor of evidence-based, ethically grounded solutions—like whole-virus vaccines and novel platforms.

Sugary Drinks Are the New Cigarettes

By **ROSS POMEROY**

■ *Ross Pomeroy is a writer with RealClear Wire.*

I've been a science writer going on for fifteen years now, but before that I worked as a certified personal trainer. In between workout sessions, my clients would often ask for nutrition advice. I'd tell them that specific diet recommendations are beyond my scope of practice, but I could never resist offering one tip: **don't drink your calories.**

Solid food typically has actual nutritional value. It contains micronutrients, whole grains, fiber, protein, and fat. And crucially, it takes up space in your stomach. Calorie-containing drinks—essentially anything besides water, tea, and black coffee—on the other hand, usually lack any functional nutrition and often are packed with astonishing amounts of sugar. Sugary beverages like soda, juice, energy drinks, and sweetened caffeine drinks should be enjoyed rarely or in moderation.

Recent research showcases

the outsized benefits of this simple, yet powerful lifestyle choice. In January, researchers at Tufts University published a study revealing that 2.2 million new cases of Type 2 diabetes and 1.2 million new cases of cardiovascular disease occur each year globally due to consumption of sugar-sweetened beverages. More recently, scientists at Brigham Young University [BYU] published a meta-analysis showing that sugar-sweetened beverages are far more hazardous to health than sugary foods. Analysing data from over half a million people across multiple continents, they found that sugar consumed through beverages was consistently linked to a higher risk of developing Type 2 diabetes, while sugar consumed through other sources was not. Because sugary beverages are rapidly digested—thus spiking blood sugar while doing little to assuage hunger—they uniquely contribute to perhaps the single most pernicious chronic condition plaguing humanity today: insulin resistance.



A clearly unethical cigarette ad from 1947 by R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company.



Outside of alcohol and tobacco smoke, sugary fluids might be the most harmful substances humans regularly put in their bodies. With cigarette smoking at an 80-year-low in the U.S., it's not a stretch to claim that sugary beverages are now a greater public health threat, promoting diabetes, obesity, cancer, kidney disease, and other serious conditions. Sugary drinks are the new cigarettes.

And it's not just soft drinks. Soda consumption has actually declined steadily for the past 25 years, but for many people, sports drinks, bottled tea, juice smoothies, and sweetened caffeinated drinks have filled the sugary void. If you're a daily Frappuccino, macchiato, mocha, or latte drinker at Starbucks, you're potentially imbibing thirty or more grams of sugar each time you slurp one down.

The BYU researchers estimated what such a habit does to an individual. **"With each additional 12-ounce serving of sugar-sweetened beverages (i.e., soft drinks, energy drinks and**

sports drinks) per day, the risk for developing Type 2 diabetes increased by 25%. This strong relationship showed that the increased risk began from the very first daily serving with no minimum threshold below which intake appeared to be safe." At least a half a billion adults worldwide have Type 2 diabetes. It's a common disease, and sugary beverages make it even more common.

The rise of GLP-1 weight loss drugs like Wegovy and Zepbound has been rightly hailed as a massive boon to public health. If much of global society did away with its sugary beverage habit, the benefits to individuals and societies would be even larger, manifesting in reduced healthcare costs, extended lifespans, and many more years free from pain and disability.

■ *This article was originally published by RealClearScience and made available via RealClearWire at <https://realclearwire.com/>*

The PABS Negotiations Must Be Stopped

By **JAMES ROGUSKI**

■ *James Roguski is an author, researcher, and natural health advocate known for cutting through institutional fog—turning complexity into clarity and passive concern into active resistance.*

The most recent meeting of the InterGovernmental Working Group that is guiding the negotiations for the Pathogen Access and Benefit Sharing System was held September 15-19, 2025. Regardless of where you live in the world, the negotiations for a Pathogen Access and Benefit Sharing (PABS) System will impact your life in the future.

The ongoing World Health Organisation (WHO) InterGovernmental Working Group (IGWG) negotiations seek to reach an international agreement to create a global network to isolate "pathogens with pandemic potential," identify their "genetic sequence data," and then send them to a central BIO-HUB in Switzerland.

These pathogens and genetic information will be shared globally with members of the WHO Collaborating Laboratory

This is an attempt to create an evil cartel that will profit from the fear generated by propaganda surrounding the never-ending threat of man-made "PHEICs." THE PABS NEGOTIATIONS MUST BE STOPPED.

Network (WCLN) in order to create Vaccines, Therapeutics and Diagnostics (VTDs). Only those organisations and corporations that are willing to sign contracts in alignment with the details of the PABS System will be permitted to participate.

NOW is the time to raise your voice in opposition to the proposed

PABS System and the WHO Pandemic Agreement.

The WHO is ignoring obvious facts about their failed pharmaceutical response to COVID-19:

- Using RT-PCR as a diagnostic test is a fraud.
- Ventilators (along with Midazolam) killed thousands of people.
- Remdesivir (Run-Death-Is-Near) also killed thousands of people.
- The mRNA platform is not a vaccine; it is a biological weapon that has harmed billions of people.

The negotiators seem to believe that the only answer is more pharmaceutical products. More fake diagnostics, more deadly devices, more dangerous drugs and more mRNA biological weapons masquerading as "vaccines."

They are ignoring the fact that people in nations of the "Global South" that did NOT have "equitable access" to the pharmaceutical industries' vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics have actually fared much better and are



NoPABS.com

NOT now suffering the long-term adverse events that have reached pandemic levels among people in the "Global North."

The proposed Pathogen Access and Benefit Sharing (PABS) System is essentially a multinational trade deal to establish a WHO controlled infrastructure for obtaining biological weapons grade pathogens, research (Gain of Function?), development, manufacturing, and distribution of dangerous products that only benefit the Pharmaceutical Hospital Emergency Industrial Complex (PHEIC).

Participating pharmaceutical manufacturers must agree to share financial and in-kind benefits with the nations that provided the access to the pathogens and

their genetic sequence data.

THIS INCENTIVISES THE SEARCH FOR, AND THE CREATION OF, "PATHOGENS WITH PANDEMIC POTENTIAL."

Natural remedies and pre-existing essential medications used by intelligent and creative health care practitioners who work outside the Pharmaceutical Hospital Emergency Industrial Complex (PHEIC) were more than adequate to prevent any and all pandemics. During COVID-19, the denial of such early treatment using existing options was a crime against humanity.

Now they want to reward those who find or create "pathogens with pandemic potential." This is NOT a path to prevent, to prepare for, or to respond to "pandemics." This is an attempt to create an evil cartel that will profit from the fear generated by propaganda surrounding the never-ending threat of man-made "PHEICs." **THE PABS NEGOTIATIONS MUST BE STOPPED.**

■ *For more information visit <https://NoPABS.com>*



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Covid Lockdowns Devastated an Entire Generation of Children

By IAN MILLER

■ *Ian Miller is the author of “Unmasked: The Global Failure of COVID Mask Mandates.” His work has been featured on national television broadcasts, national and international news publications and referenced in multiple best-selling books covering the pandemic. He writes a Substack newsletter, also titled “Unmasked.”*

In what we now understand were completely theatrical attempts to control the COVID-19 pandemic, experts demanded, and politicians mandated all sorts of intrusive policies. Mask mandates were one of the most obvious. School closures. Lockdowns. Curfews. Capacity limits. Fear campaigns. The list is and was endless. And unfortunately, the public willingly complied with all of them. On and on they went, for years in some cases. But in their discussions of those useless policies, one thing they always, without fail, ignored was the ancillary cost.

Sure, you can mandate masks, but what are the effects for those who are forced to wear them? What does it cost in terms of lost social cohesion, normalising anti-social behaviour? What are the trade-offs that result from closing schools, from forcing businesses to shut down, or locking down society? Are there harms to physical, emotional, or verbal development?

These are important questions that were completely ignored by those in power during the pandemic, because they were inconvenient to the architects of the covidioty. But new research is out confirming yet again that the collective absurdity of Covid policies caused immense damage and permanent harm to a generation of children. For nothing.

Covid Shutdowns, Masks, Stopped Childhood Development

A new study was released this month [July 2025] tracking the developmental outcomes among young children growing up during the pandemic period, aged between 1-5. This study was a systematic review; essentially an examination of over a dozen studies on childhood development for those who started learning and growing in the era of masks and mandates.

Sure enough, of the 17 studies included that covered how developmental outcomes unfolded during the pandemic, “almost all” of them reported a “negative association” between the Covid years and educational and emotional development. “Among the 17 studies that reported developmental outcomes, almost



In 2022, Western Australian authorities delivered a masterclass in bureaucratic brilliance: Year 3 students were ordered to wear masks, while Year 2s—seated beside them in the same classroom—breathed freely. Photo by The Healthy Leper Photography

all reported a negative association between the pandemic and developmental domains screened,” the study says.

It wasn’t just one issue either; children saw significant “negative associations” in multiple areas in 15 of the 17 included studies. “Fifteen out of 17 studies showed negative associations in several domains (behaviour, communication, language, gross motor, fine motor, problem solving, emotional, and personal-social skills), measured with ASQ-3 and ASQ SE-2 (Ages and Stages questionnaire).”

Children who were born and started growing up during the era of Covid restrictions fell behind in virtually every single important area of development. *They were worse behaved. Worse at communicating, worse at learning languages. Worse at their physical capabilities. Worse at solving problems. Worse at handling emotional situations and growing their capability for social interaction.*

Good thing none of that’s important for growing into well-adjusted, productive adults, right? Lest there be any doubt as to the explanation for this catastrophic decline in childhood growth, every single study that used the Ages and Stages questionnaire found that pandemic-era children fared worse than those born prior to Covid shutdowns. Every single study. “...all studies that used the ASQ-3 and ASQ SE-2 found at least one deficit in developmental domains when comparing pandemic cohorts to pre-pandemic cohorts,” the study says. Remarkable. We set back a generation of children in every important area of learning and physical and social growth. All

progressed,” the review explains.

It’s not possible to overstate how monstrous this is. Anthony Fauci, authoritarian politicians, teachers’ unions, and the collective media harmed millions of children unnecessarily with “significantly reduced” skills in every single important category. And worse, because these indefensible simpletons refused to admit they were wrong, those harms only grew over time.

When politicians like Ron DeSantis wanted schools open, teachers brought coffins to protest. When outsiders brought up Sweden as a counterpoint demonstrating that schools should be open, they were laughed at, ignored, or demonised. When the Great Barrington Declaration provided a blueprint for obviously correct pandemic strategy, Fauci and NIH’s Francis Collins worked with the media to orchestrate a “quick and devastating takedown,”

because children born during this period have had their futures seemingly deliberately affected by Anthony Fauci. Of course, since we all know who’s at fault for these abhorrent policies, there will be no further exploration. Just quietly pretending as though none of it ever happened.

And as a clear example of purposeful ignorance, even with these horrific results which underscore the damage mask mandates, school closures, and lockdowns caused to children, the review authors just can’t bring themselves to go against the scientific herd. “It is still not well understood why and how the pandemic may have been associated with changes in certain domains of development for children,” they write.

Really? It’s not well understood why and how the pandemic may be associated with development milestones for children? Really? Not the pointless masking that covered faces and expressions and hampered their ability to learn verbal cues? Not the school closures that stopped their learning and academic growth? Not the lockdowns that forced them to stay home and miss out on valuable socialisation and observation? None of it comes to mind when thinking about children and their delayed development during the pandemic? Imagine writing that sentence—ostensibly as a scientific researcher—and feeling satisfied with what it says about your intellectual honesty.

The explanation for these results, as any functioning adult knows, is that Anthony Fauci, the CDC, and the cohesive class of self-important “experts” advocated for harmful policies that had no basis in evidence. They apparently never even considered the downsides to those policies because their sole focus was supposedly trying to stop the spread of a highly infectious respiratory virus. And look what they did to children in the process.

What makes this all even more infuriating is the lack of accountability, the lack of even the minimum amount of acknowledgment of the harms they caused. Randi Weingarten. Fauci. Rochelle Walensky. Gavin Newsom. All of them. They’ve either ignored what they did, gotten away with it, or, in many cases, been rewarded for it. The people who haven’t been rewarded? The children whose lives they destroyed. That’s the real legacy of Covid.

■ *Follow Ian Miller on Substack*
<https://substack.com/@ianmiller>

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because prolifically incompetent or even in some cases wilfully malicious adults were too self-obsessed to listen to those warning of side effects and ancillary harms.

Among 3–4-year-olds, those who should be approaching the start of traditional schooling and accelerating in terms of verbal, motor, and cognitive skills, the effects were even more pronounced. While there were just two studies that examined neurocognitive assessment based on an early learning system, the results were devastating.

“Neurocognitive assessment using the Mullen Scales of Early Learning (MSEL) found that children born during the pandemic had significantly reduced verbal, motor, and overall cognitive performance compared to children born before the pandemic and that these skills continued to decline incrementally across the population level as the pandemic

because they couldn’t handle being proven wrong. And this is what they did to children as a result.

Put simply, “The authors found that children born in the pandemic period showed significantly lower performance on the neurocognitive assessments compared to infants born prior to the pandemic.” The review’s authors highlighted that these studies provide overwhelming evidence that children were harmed during the pandemic, because these effects were consistent when using a “wide range of assessment tools.”

“The studies included in this review used a wide range of assessment tools, measured a variety of between-group differences, recruited different age groups, and had different reporting periods; therefore, the results warrant further exploration,” it reads.

Well, that’s the understatement of the century; of course it warrants further exploration,

What **THE LIGHT** Actually Stands For

Despite attempts to paint us as something we are not by Wikipedia and the media, a summary of our real beliefs:

We are neither left or right wing. We are pro-freedom.

We abhor violence and intimidation and welcome healthy, public, inclusive, democratic debate and the free exchange of views, even ones that may be offensive or not politically correct. We oppose cancel culture and deplatforming.

We don't mind what your ethnicity, class, creed, sexual orientation or gender is.

We are non-aligned.
We promote no political party.
We are only concerned with truth.

We are opposed to all forms of political, social and economic authoritarianism.

We are of various religions, faiths and spiritual orientations. Those of any belief are welcome, including atheists, agnostics and seekers.

We are concerned human beings – we oppose the 'Great Reset', the fourth industrial revolution, the worldwide implementation of a cashless, digitised, surveillance society.

We believe solutions to the world's problems start at the individual level, by realising their root causes and then effecting changes within ourselves, our families and friends and our communities. Life should be much simpler and more peaceable for all.

We are all individuals, not a group or box to be easily labelled. This is because we are all human beings, and every single one of us is unique.

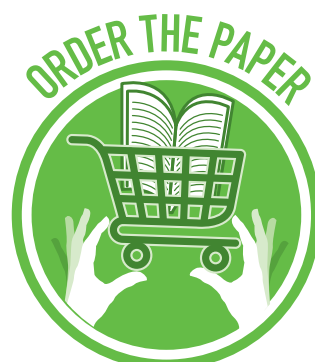
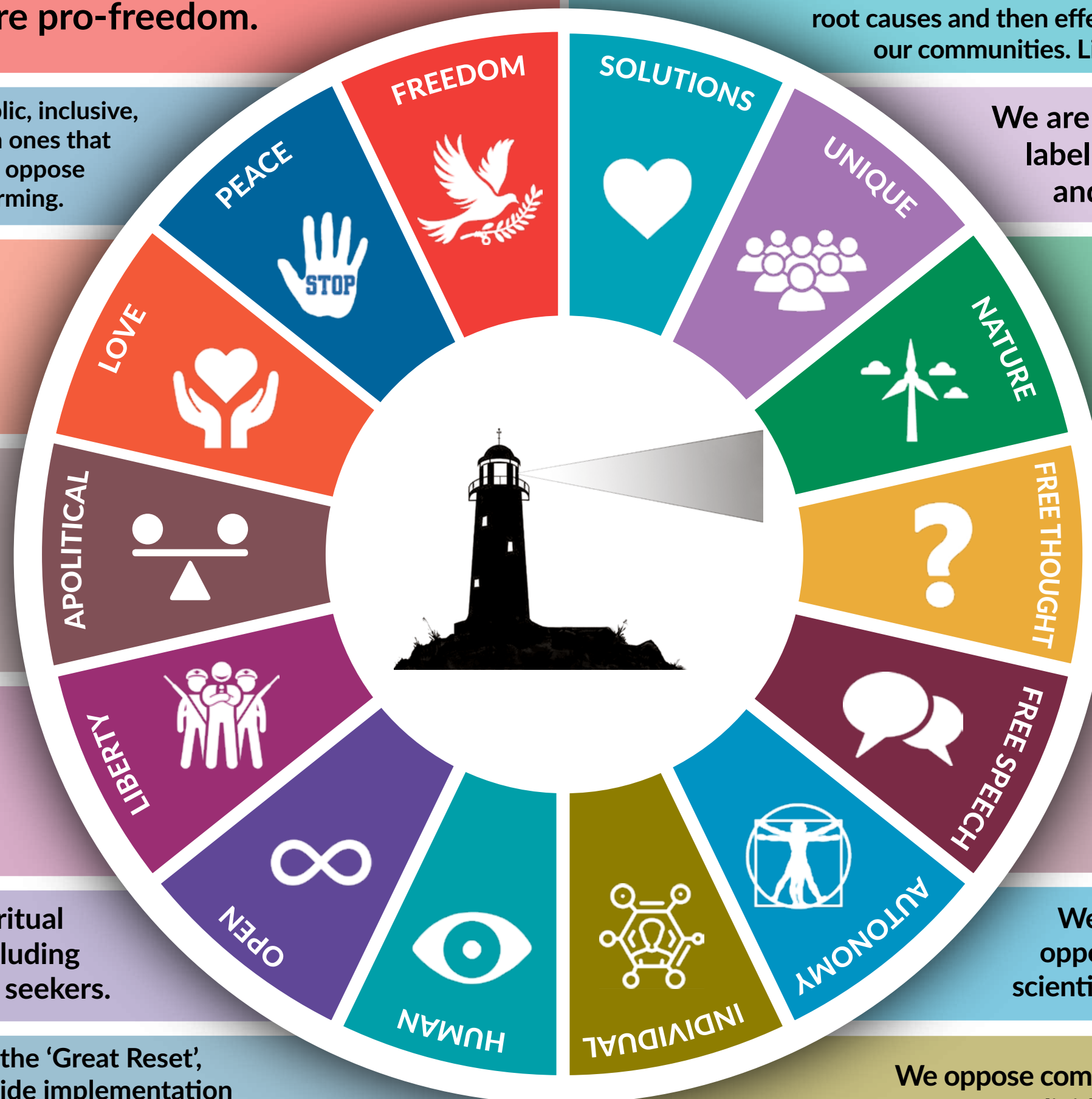
To question the climate crisis is not to be anti-environmental. We are pro-ecology, and against policies that destroy our environment including so-called 'renewable' energy technologies.

We believe in the right to demonstrate, and to question history, the media and all political and economic systems, including those that run them for their own benefit.

We believe in free speech, free association, free enquiry and the freedom to educate children as parents wish.

We stand for bodily autonomy and personal sovereignty and oppose enforced medical procedures. We oppose all forms of scientism and technocracy, which are subtle forms of fascism.

We oppose communitarianism, corporatism and totalitarian digital governance. Individual rights are the supreme law above any collectivist ideals.



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Science Groupthink Flounders on State of Great Barrier Reef

By **DR PETER RIDD**

■ *Dr Peter Ridd is an Adjunct Fellow at the Institute of Public Affairs.*

The latest 2025 statistics on the amount of coral on the Great Barrier Reef (GBR) show the reef is still doing fine despite having six allegedly cataclysmic coral bleaching events in the last decade. There should be no coral at all if those reports were true.

The normalised coral cover dropped from a record high number of 0.36 down to 0.29, but there is still twice as much coral as in 2012. The raw coral cover number for all the last five years has been higher than any of the previous years since records began in 1985.

However, when one considers the uncertainty margin, the present figures are not significantly different from many of the previous years. The Australian Institute of Marine Science collects coral data on around 100 of the 3000 individual coral reefs of the GBR. Analysis of the data at smaller scales shows the GBR is doing what it always does—change. There is a constant dynamic as cyclones, starfish plagues and bleaching events dramatically kill lots of coral in small areas, while it quietly regrows elsewhere. Guess

whether the “science” institutions emphasise the death or regrowth.

The institutions often justify this embarrassingly high coral cover as just “weed coral.” But the type of coral that has exploded over the past few years is acropora, which is the most susceptible to hot-water bleaching. How can we have record amounts of the type of coral that should have been killed, again and again, from bleaching? The acropora takes five to 10 years to regrow if it is killed.

There are two conclusions that must be drawn. First, not much coral has been killed by climate change bleaching—at least not compared to the capacity of coral to regrow. Second, the science institutions are not entirely trustworthy and are in need of major reform. And not just with regard to GBR or climate science. It is well recognised that most areas of scientific study are suffering a problem of reliability, which is damaging the reputation of science itself. It is well accepted that around half of the recent peer-reviewed science literature is flawed. Is there any other profession with such a high failure rate?

This last point has been noted in the US, where American science is going through a process of genuine revolution. Scientists who were once victimised and ostracised have been appointed to lead science



and medical research institutions. Among the more notable and encouraging appointments have been Jay Bhattacharya, who famously

opposed the groupthink on Covid lockdowns, especially for children. He is now head of the National Institutes of Health and is proposing radical changes in the funding methodology to break the cycle of groupthink. He is also changing funding rules to encourage bright young scientists with new ideas rather than the present system that rewards older scientists who are wedded to conventional wisdom and often enforce groupthink. In short, Bhattacharya is encouraging dissenters.

The US Department of Energy recently released a report on whether the conventional wisdom on climate change is entirely defensible. It is written by five eminent scientists, all with spectacular careers, who have consistently challenged the view that climate change is an existential threat. Their report includes data about the GBR that

shows there is little to worry about. Significantly, it systematically addresses many other aspects of Climate-Catastrophe Theory, such as wildfires and deaths from extreme weather events. And it points out the oft-ignored fact that carbon dioxide is a wonderful plant fertiliser that has already increased crop yields and plant growth.

Most importantly, rather than shutting down critics, the report’s writers are actively encouraging criticism, which they will respond to. Science progresses through argument, logic and quality assurance systems that make sure debate always takes place. Groupthink kills science, and groupthink is being challenged like never before in the US.

This revolution seems a long way off for Australia. But it will come, simply because US science, and science funding, dominates all other countries. Australia’s science agencies would do well to contemplate whether they need to change their ways before the revolution comes to these shores. Better to adapt before the scientific guillotine falls.

■ *This article was first published in The Australian and later by the Institute of Public Affairs 6 August 2025.*

■ Visit <https://ipa.org.au/>

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Cloud Seeding and Unnatural Rain: A Threat to Soil and Food Security

By **BRONWYN HOLM**

■ *Founder of Earthfood, Soil Truth Seeker, Farmer’s Voice.*

In July, Sydney vanished under a thick white fog for three days. Authorities dismissed it as “unusual but harmless,” but residents reported burning eyes, tight lungs, and a lingering unease. Across streets and forums, people whispered: “Something’s not right.” This wasn’t just fog—it was a warning of a deeper, more insidious issue: cloud seeding and its devastating impact on our soil and food supply.

Cloud seeding, a documented practice of atmospheric modification, is no conspiracy. Governments and private contractors globally engage in “weather enhancement,” “geoengineering,” or “stratospheric aerosol injection.” Patents like US5003186A detail

methods to artificially alter weather, while historical programs like NASA’s Operation Cloverleaf and Project Popeye reveal weather manipulation’s military roots. In Australia, the Bureau of Meteorology and CSIRO have conducted cloud-seeding trials in New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, and the Snowy Mountains since the 1940s, often under the guise of “climate resilience” or “water security.”

The substances used—silver iodide, aluminium oxide, and barium salts—are not benign. These conductive particles, detected in air and rainwater across Australia, exceed World Health Organisation safety standards. Aluminium, barium, and strontium are linked to neurological issues, cardiovascular stress, and muscle fatigue. PFAS and nanoparticulates have been found in soil, food,



A Cessna aircraft fitted with cloud seeding equipment at Corryong, Victoria in 1966. Photo by Athol Hodgson

and even human blood. These neurotoxins and soil sterilizers don’t vanish; they accumulate in the environment, disrupting microbial networks, damaging plant roots, and reducing nutrient uptake. The result? Sterile soil, less nutritious crops, and increased reliance on synthetic fertilizers—paving the way for centralised control of the food chain.

Snowy Hydro and Hydro Tasmania boast rainfall boosts of up to 25%, but the environmental toll remains undocumented. Private contractors and industrial emissions further compound the problem, releasing heavy metals like lead, cadmium, and mercury into the air and soil. Urban areas like the Sydney Estuary show elevated levels of lead and nickel, while rural soils harbor aluminium, barium, and arsenic above safe thresholds. Yet, public oversight and ecological

impact studies are scarce.

Despite this silent poisoning, hope lies beneath the surface. Earthfood’s nitrifying microbes offer a solution, binding heavy metals, breaking down toxins, and restoring soil fertility. These microbial “first responders” rebuild the biome, enabling plants to thrive in contaminated ground. As cloud seeding becomes standard policy, threatening the purity of our air, rain, and food, protecting our soil is critical.

The Earthfood community calls for action: test your rainwater, raise awareness about geoengineering, and grow your own food with living microbes. The sky may be tampered with, but the soil fights back. Join the movement to reclaim our land and ensure a future where food remains sovereign and the earth resilient.

■ Visit www.yourearthfood.com

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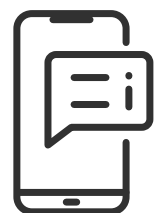
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Tasmania's Power Play: The AI Umbilical Cord of Marinus Link

By **MARTINE SHEPHERD**

■ *Martine Shepherd is an Environmental Protection, Marine Science and Coastal Zone Management specialist, Campaign Coordinator for #saveourbelovedgeography, and Edge Radio Australia presenter.*

“As coal retires, Australia needs access to affordable, on-demand electricity and the ability to store energy for long periods,” declares the opening line of the Marinus Link Environmental Impact Statement. MLPL, the company behind the undersea cable connecting Tasmania to the mainland, promises “low-cost, reliable and clean energy” for the National Electricity Market—powered by Tasmania’s future wind and solar, plus existing hydro. It’s a nice-sounding pitch. But the truth is starting to emerge.

The latest CSIRO report quietly concedes that coal remains cheaper

than renewables. Meanwhile, research from the Institute of Public Affairs found that Australia spent \$1 billion in 2024 subsidising mostly foreign-owned wind farms—projects that struggle to stand on their own. And let’s be honest: wind and solar are not “on-demand.” They’re intermittent. Remember Spain’s massive blackout?

Tasmania’s hydro is indeed clean, cheap, and reliable. But experts warn that exporting it via the multi-billion-dollar Marinus Link may be economically unviable. Even industry insiders admit the Marinus Business Case contains “ugly numbers.”

To justify the cable, Tasmania must dramatically increase its energy output. That means carpeting two-thirds of the state in wind turbines and solar arrays and slicing hundreds of kilometres of transmission lines through farmland and wilderness. Picture a small island state drained by an

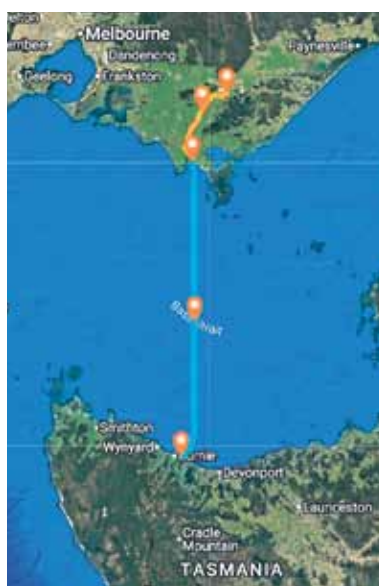


Image by Google Imagery

oversized, energy-hungry baby—the mainland—via its Marinus umbilical cord.

Local industries already struggling with high energy costs face projected bill increases of up to 45% once the link is commissioned. At the same time, Marinus is expected to enable a controversial new artificial intelligence industry on the island. The recently announced Launceston AI factory alone is projected to consume 300 megawatts in its second stage. More data centres will likely follow, drawn by Tasmania’s cool climate and Marinus Link’s fibreoptic cable. Few jobs. Offshore profits. Massive energy consumption. And no meaningful regulation of

AI in Australia. What exactly is Tasmania signing up for?

The Apple Isle—known for its wild beauty, farming, and tourism—is on the brink of transformation. Yet the people have had little say in the project driving it. The state government pushed the Marinus deal through during an election caretaker period, under a veil of secrecy. The Liberals broke their own promise, refusing to release the Business Case until after Energy Minister Nick Duigan signed the agreement. Crossbench MPs were given mere hours to read the 400-page document before the deal was sealed. When finally released, the Business Case was heavily redacted—some pages almost entirely blacked out, entire graphs censored.

Federal approval has also raised eyebrows. The Heybridge construction site sits on land contaminated by a former Tioxide factory, with acid sulphate soils that could pose risks to human health

and the environment. Noise from the cable-laying vessel may harm whales and dolphins, which rely on sound to hunt, navigate, and communicate. The Environmental Impact Statement euphemistically refers to “permanent threshold shifts in their hearing”—a phrase that masks the reality of injury or death.

Then there’s Hydro Tasmania’s proposed Temporary Workforce Accommodation Facility near the future Lake Cethana pumped hydro dam. With a helipad, gym, running track, and sports court—not to mention a deep offshore diver training facility nearby—it resembles a military training ground more than a worker camp. Who owns the land? Hydro won’t say. Who will build and operate the facility, and what happens to it after construction? No answers. Tasmania is being reshaped—electrically, economically, and ecologically. But who benefits? And who decides?

The latest CSIRO report quietly concedes that coal remains cheaper than renewables. Meanwhile, research from the Institute of Public Affairs found that Australia spent \$1 billion in 2024 subsidising mostly foreign-owned wind farms—projects that struggle to stand on their own.

Project Marinus at a Glance:

- Estimated cost: \$5 billion (Stage 1: \$3.89B; NWT: \$1.14B), with further blowouts expected.
- Infrastructure: 255 km of high-voltage undersea cable, 90 km of underground cable, 240 km of new and upgraded overhead transmission lines.
- Risks: EMF exposure, overheating of marine zones, ecological disruption on Victoria’s 90 Mile Beach.

Teal Businesses Want Coal—Can it be True?

By **STEVEN TRIPP**

■ *Steven Tripp is a political commentator who has been internationally published, most notably in the Spectator.*

96.4% of business owners in Sydney’s Northern Beaches are concerned about the future of energy price volatility. This is the feedback of a recent survey conducted by Let’s Rethink Renewables. The survey was conducted over an 8-week period in which paper copies of the survey were hand delivered to 260 businesses, of which 112 were completed and returned. The businesses were approached at random, with no prior knowledge of their operations.

The survey was conducted across the Teal electorates of Warringah and Mackellar, mainly

in Brookvale, but also in Dee Why, Mona Vale and Narrabeen, among others. In recent years, these former blue-ribbon Liberal seats have flipped to the Teals, due to growing support for action on climate change in the area—or at least that is what we are told. Interestingly, the survey painted a stark contrast to this narrative.

When asked if they would support the reintroduction of coal plants to stabilise energy supply and prices, 66.1% of businesses in the area responded with support (46.4% strong support / 19.6% somewhat support). A remaining 25% responded with neutral or that they did not know enough about the issue. Only 10 respondents indicated opposition to the reintroduction of coal—which begs the question, are voters supporting the Teals due to their stance on climate change? It would seem



not. It could be argued that these business owners may not live and

When asked what action they would like to see from government, the most common response was a reduction in energy prices.

vote in the Northern Beaches. But anyone that knows the area will tell you how insular it is.

Surprisingly, support for coal outpaced support for nuclear. 56.3% of respondents responded they would support the introduction of nuclear power as a long-term energy solution, almost

10% less than the support for coal. This raises the question; would the Liberal Party have had a better result at the last Federal Election if they had supported new coal plants instead of nuclear? Should Peter Dutton have doubled down on coal?

Alarming, 87.5% of respondents have seen an increase in their electricity bills in the past 12 months. Most businesses indicated that are already mitigating this by increasing prices, switching energy suppliers, reducing operating hours and switching off appliances, lights and air conditioning. When asked what action they would like to see from government, the most common response was a reduction in energy prices.

■ *Results of the survey can be found at www.letsrethinkrenewables.org*

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AIDS Set the Stage for COVID-19

A book review by **JERRY ROBERTS**

■ *Jerry Roberts is a Western Australian journalist.*

If ever there is an honest inquiry into the Covid tragedy it will conclude with the standard platitude—this must not happen again. Fat chance! It happened before with AIDS. The same story, same people, the same bizarre corruption of science, medicine, politics, journalism and the law that we have seen in the five years of the Covid project.

Neville Hodgkinson is a former science reporter who wrote a series of articles for the London *Sunday Times* questioning the AIDS panic and met the same wall of establishment opposition familiar to today's Covid critics.

His recently published book, *How HIV/AIDS Set the Stage for*

the Covid Crisis, is dedicated to biophysicist Eleni Papadopolus-Eleopulos and her team at Royal Perth Hospital in Western Australia "who worked tirelessly for four decades trying to convince the scientific world that declaring 'HIV' the cause of AIDS was an immensely damaging mistake."

Hodgkinson felt a sense of déjà vu when COVID-19 popped up in early 2020. "Perhaps the biggest commonality between Covid and AIDS is the way both outbreaks triggered a response more religious than scientific in nature. Wildly inaccurate statistics that supported the fear-inducing dogma earned immediate acceptance."

Studying AIDS research from many angles for his *Sunday Times* series in the early 1990s, Hodgkinson concluded that "a small, brave group of researchers based

in Perth, Western Australia—2,000 miles from the nearest city—had probably come closest to the truth on AIDS, challenging every pillar of the virus theory."

One of many critics quoted is John Lauritsen whose focus was the use of drugs including "poppers" by AIDS victims. "It is an epidemic of lies through which hundreds of thousands of people have died and are dying unnecessarily, billions of dollars have gone down the drain, the Public Health Service has disgraced itself and science has plunged into whoredom."

Earlier books on the AIDS fraud include *AIDS and the Doctors of Death* by Californian dermatologist and cancer researcher Alan Cantwell, *Emerging Viruses: AIDS and Ebola—Nature, Accident or Intentional?* by Leonard G. Horowitz, and Australian scientist John E. West's homage to Antoine Béchamp in *Western Medicine—A Blueprint for Disaster*.

Peter H. Duesberg's *Inventing the AIDS Virus* published in 1996 is another source and the subject is covered extensively in Robert F. Kennedy Junior's *The Real Anthony Fauci*. Kennedy is now chief medicine man in Washington DC so it is possible that intelligence

and integrity will find a path into American health policy and even travel to Australia.

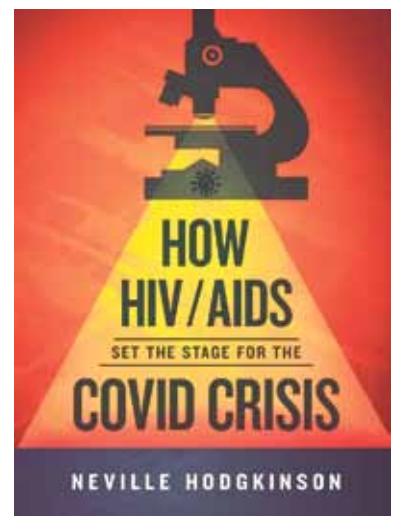
An excerpt from the West book published in booklet form in 1987 with a foreword by Ian Brighthope concludes: "Modern medicine based on Louis Pasteur's incorrect germ theory of disease is totally fallacious and geared mainly to high commercial profits."

Cantwell's book reads like John Buchan's classic espionage thriller, *The 39 Steps*, beginning with the author recalling a 1986 meeting "where I first heard a serious discussion of the theory of AIDS as a biowarfare experiment."

The big, illustrated Horowitz book pinpoints Henry Kissinger as a key player in the AIDS tragedy and traces the involvement of USAID, the WHO, the CIA and the pharmaceutical industry in the development of eugenics.

Hodgkinson quotes Professor Gordon Stewart who wrote to a colleague after years of frustration with medical journals and The Royal Society:

"The whole show from Socrates onward—Magna Carta, Bill of Rights, American Constitution, UN Charter—depends upon the need, no less than the right, to give and take



criticism. Given this, any amount of cheating in politics and public affairs can be somehow resolved. But if taboos are placed upon any criticism which conflicts with beliefs and opinions in official or influential quarters we shall instantly go back to a darker age."

Propagandists spitting out "anti-vaxxer" are abbreviating the central health debate between science and common sense. An innocent bystander might wonder why medical scientists and holistic practitioners can't work together in the interests of the patient but a world of trillion-dollar budgets and huge windfall profits for pharmaceutical stockholders creates a winner-takes-all culture and the loser is the human race.

"It is an epidemic of lies through which hundreds of thousands of people have died and are dying unnecessarily, billions of dollars have gone down the drain, the Public Health Service has disgraced itself and science has plunged into whoredom."

IPA Documentary: The Faces of Net Zero

Real Stories on the Devastating Impact of Renewable Energy Projects

IPA media release from
Institute of Public Affairs

Date: 24 July 2025

"Australia's farming families are being steamrolled by governments to meet the net zero demands of inner-city elites and the political class. There has never been a more important time for us all to hear their stories," said Daniel Wild, Deputy Executive Director of the Institute of Public Affairs.

Launched on Sky News Australia's *Credlin* program last night, the IPA's new documentary, *The Faces of Net Zero*, tells the stories of our farmers living with the threat of having their farms, their livelihoods and their communities destroyed to placate inner-city elites and the political class.

"Australians know the economic, social, and environmental devastation caused by net zero policies, but it is the human tragedy



unfolding in regional communities that demands the attention of policymakers," Mr Wild said.

"Every politician, faceless bureaucrat, corporate CEO, and university academic who supports net zero must look their fellow Australians featured in this documentary in the eye and understand what is being done to their lives."

"Renewable energy projects are

dividing regional communities – pitting neighbour against neighbour. The rights of property owners and farmers are being extinguished, and these projects are destroying our prime agricultural land," Mr Wild said.

The *Faces of Net Zero* documentary has been produced over the past 12 months and focuses on farming families impacted by the VNI West transmission project in Victoria's

Wimmera and Mallee regions. It is their story, in their own words.

Research Fellow at the Institute of Public Affairs, Mia Schlicht, said the release of the documentary is timely given the Victorian government's attempt to stripe further rights from farmers to stop these projects via its National Electricity (Victoria) Amendment (VicGrid Stage 2 Reform) Bill.

"Australia's farming families are being steamrolled by governments to meet the net zero demands of inner-city elites and the political class."

"The Victorian government is attempting to grant itself extraordinary powers that will give unaccountable 'authorised officers' the ability to enter farms, with force, if farmers refuse to acquiesce to demands to have net zero projects built on their property," Ms Schlicht said.

"Jacinta Allan's net zero agenda is unconscionable, draconian and violates the rule of law and the rights of farming families to defend their private property and their very own homes."

"*Faces of Net Zero* exposes the true impact of this unachievable policy. As usual, it will not be the wealthy, inner-city elites who face their livelihoods being destroyed in the name of net zero; rather it is families and small businesses in the outer-suburbs and regions who pay the price," Ms Schlicht said.

■ **For more information visit www.ipa.org.au**

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Global Snapshot

An Overview of International News

AUSTRALIA RECOGNISES PALESTINE

On 11 August 2025 Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese announced that Australia will formally recognise Palestine at the UN General Assembly in September 2025 joining France, the UK and Canada in supporting Palestinian statehood. 147 UN member states have already recognised Palestine however, Israel's PM Benjamin Netanyahu, and some Australian Jewish groups have criticised the decision, arguing it will embolden Hamas. The U.S. remains opposed to Palestinian statehood.

RUSSIAGATE: TREASONOUS CONSPIRACY?

In July 2025 U.S. Attorney General Pam Bondi ordered a strike force to investigate allegations the Obama administration lied and manipulated intelligence that Donald Trump colluded with Russia to undermine the 2016 U.S. presidential election. Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard produced criminal referrals stating a “treasonous conspiracy” was led by Obama-era officials including Barack Obama, CIA directors James Clapper and John Brennan, FBI officials James Comey and Andrew McCabe, National Security Advisor Susan Rice, Secretary of State John Kerry and Attorney General Loretta Lynch. Stay tuned...

PEACE TREATY: ARMENIA & AZERBAIJAN

A peace agreement was signed in August 2025, at the White House to end the decades long war between Armenia and Azerbaijan (the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict). Brokered by the U.S., the treaty was signed by Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan and Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev. The agreement involves the U.S. gaining developmental rights (named the Trump Route for International Peace and Prosperity) to the Zangezur corridor connecting Azerbaijan with a direct link to its enclave through Armenia—a deal to facilitate trade and reduce Russian, Chinese and Iranian influence in the region.

BORDER CLASH: THAILAND V CAMBODIA

In late July 2025, Thailand and Cambodia engaged in deadly border clashes along their disputed 800-km frontier. Both nations accused each other of initiating hostilities, and the conflict involved artillery, rockets, and Thai F-16 airstrikes resulting in at least 33 deaths (mostly civilians) and displacing over 168,000 people. A fragile ceasefire was brokered on 27 July 2025 mediated by ASEAN and influenced by U.S.

pressure. In August 2025 Thailand's Constitutional Court removed PM Paetongtarn Shinawatra from power stemming from a leaked phone call between her and former Cambodian leader Hun Sen.

BLACKROCK AND THE WEF

Larry Fink, CEO of BlackRock, was appointed interim co-chair of the World Economic Forum (WEF) in August 2025 alongside André Hoffmann, Vice Chairman of Roche Holding. This followed the WEF's investigation of founder Klaus Schwab's misconduct allegations. Fink's leadership role underscores BlackRock's global financial influence and the WEF has long been accused of implementing globalist agendas including technocratic communism. One of the WEF's infamous mantras is “You will own nothing and be happy.”

PUTIN IN ALASKA

On 15 August 2025 U.S. President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin met in Anchorage, Alaska, their first meeting since the Russia-Ukraine War began in 2022. This meeting (Russia-US Summit or Alaska Summit) is seen as a step towards ending the Russian-Ukrainian War which has various casualty estimates being over one million (dead and wounded) from both sides. Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky was not invited although Trump and Zelensky met later at the White House on 18 August 2025. Negotiations continuing...

GAZA UPDATE

On 28 August 2025 the UN's Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs reported Israeli forces carried out heavy bombing and ground operations in Gaza and that over 2,000 people seeking aid were killed in recent months. On 22 August 2025, the UN Secretary-General stated, “Just when it seems there are no words left to describe the living hell in Gaza, a new one has been added: ‘famine’. This is not a mystery—it is a man-made disaster, a moral indictment, and a failure of humanity itself”. The ongoing conflict in Gaza escalated after Hamas' attack on Israel on 7 October 2023, and in September 2025 President Trump stated Israel was losing the war of public relations and the war needs to end.

IRANIAN DIPLOMATS EXPELLED FROM AUSTRALIA

On 26 August 2025 Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese announced the expulsion of Iran's ambassador, Ahmad Sadeghi, and three other Iranian diplomats

following intelligence from the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation linking Iran to antisemitic arson attacks in Australia. The diplomats were given seven days to leave, and it was Australia's first ambassador expulsion since World War II. Iran's Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi responded by calling PM Albanese a “weak politician” and Australia also suspended its embassy operations in Tehran.

SOUTH CHINA SEA NAVAL CRASH: CHINA & PHILIPPINES

On 11 August 2025, two Chinese naval vessels (a navy destroyer and coast guard ship) collided while chasing a Philippine coast guard vessel in the South China Sea. The Philippine ship was escorting a supply mission to Filipino fishermen when the Chinese vessels attempted a high-speed blockade. The collision caused significant damage to the Chinese vessels with China claiming Filipino interference in their territorial waters. The incident escalated tensions in the region with U.S., Japan, Australia, and New Zealand expressing concerns over China's actions.

LUCY CONNOLLY FREED FROM PRISON

In August 2025 Lucy Connolly, a 42-year-old former childminder, was released from a UK prison after serving 13 months of a 31-month prison sentence for publishing a social media post in 2024. The X post was a response to the horrific knife attack and murders of numerous UK schoolgirls at a dance class. The attacker was born in the UK to foreign-born parents and the incident resulted in widespread anti-immigration protests across the UK and Ireland. Connolly's case sparked controversy with free speech advocates arguing the sentence was excessive for a single X post, especially as she apologised and had deleted it. UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer defended the decision to imprison her.

FLORIDA TO DROP ALL VACCINE MANDATES

On 3 September 2025, Florida Surgeon General Joseph Ladapo, alongside Governor Ron DeSantis, announced plans to eliminate all vaccine mandates, including those for school attendance, making Florida the first U.S. state to propose such a sweeping change. In 1987 the U.S. established a no-fault compensation program for vaccine injuries paving the way for allegations of vaccine abuse, injuries and pharmaceutical profiteering.

Letters to the Editor



ISSUE 20 OCTOBER 2025

Dear Editor,

*Letter to all Councils;
In April 2025, Mornington Peninsula Council opted out of Net Zero emission targets, with Councillor Pingiaro stating the fiscal reality and the delivery of actual value do not match the rhetoric. In July, Port Stephens Councillor Watson voted in a 3-year halt on the yearly \$500,000 financial commitment that will destroy Port Stephens. WA electors can hold Special Electors' Meetings, demand 'out of Net Zero' to avoid fiscal ruin. The east coast is entirely driven by councillors who took an oath to represent the people, not foreign policies imposed by political parties. Are councils going to allow climate hysteria taxes destroy your communities? Councillors are your words worth anything?*

*Sincerely, Anonymous
Homeless, community member.*

Dear Editor,

Green energy businesses have their rents paid by the Climate Change and Energy Minister. I, however, live in Minister Chris Bowen's head rent-free. Not that I make an easy tenant. He has taken the time to attack me in opinion pages as a “climate denier” (“Climate sceptics deny potential for economic boom”, 15/8), even as he defends the carbon excesses of the world's biggest emitters in China and India. Perhaps the truth hurts his green heart: that people are waking up to the moral hypocrisy at the heart of the net-zero economy. That it makes no sense to deny the Australian people access to cheap coal and gas-fired power if we export those same fossil fuels to the world's biggest and fastest growing emitters. That Labor is presiding over a massive transfer of wealth from some of the poorest Australians to some of the wealthiest with its legislated labyrinth of carbon taxes, subsidies and penalties. That Labor's net-zero plan will ultimately lower our living standards and turn Australia into an energy supplicant dependent on China for the importation of our solar and wind power. People are waking up to his false narrative. Bowen knows it, and this latest screed from his pen tells us everything we need to know.

Andrew Hastie, Shadow Minister for Home Affairs.

Dear Editor,

The Australian Vaccination-Risks Network (avn.org.au), founded by Meryl Dorey in 1994,

advocates for vaccine safety and informed choice. Entirely volunteer-run, AVN opposes compulsory vaccination and promotes medically referenced discussion.

With member support, AVN acquired the Vaxxed Bus, modelled on Polly Tommey's original U.S. version. Now affiliated with CHD, Tommey operates the bus under its banner. Chaired by Mary Holland, CHD raises awareness about vaccine safety and collects reports of adverse events. The Australian branch has completed seven tours and 856 interviews.

Our August tour team included Aneeta Hafemeister (AVN President), Derek Phillips (driver), Shelly Beech, and me. We travelled from Coffs Harbour to Katoomba over one week.

Aneeta, a veteran of past tours, noted a shift in public attitude since July 2020. Instead of being evicted from venues or treated like pariahs, we were warmly welcomed bar one or two exceptions. On the road, friendly waves from passing drivers reflected changing views on vaccination.

Stops included Coffs Harbour, Port Macquarie, Newcastle, Gosford, Narrabeen, Penrith, and Katoomba. All ran smoothly except Katoomba, where the mayor again tried to ban the Bus. We received a parking ticket outside Town Hall, which we're contesting, but still conducted many interviews.

Most stories involved Covid injection injuries, many children were harmed by the childhood schedule. Some parents—already caring for vaccine-injured children—were themselves injured by Covid shots taken under duress to keep jobs or access treatment. None of these injuries have been officially recognised, while the TGA continues to claim vaccines are “safe and effective.”

Our next tour runs from 10 to 18 November, starting in Wollongong and continuing through Kiama, Nowra, Ulladulla, Narooma, Merimbula, Yass, Goulburn, and concluding in Bowral.

Sincerely, Rosie Marshall

Letters to the Editor Policy

The Light Australia (TLA) welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be concise, no longer than 100 words, and must include the writer's name and phone number for verification (only the name and state will be published). All submissions are subject to editing at the discretion of the editorial staff. The opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of TLA. Please email letters to letters@thelightaustralia.com

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