

From: [REDACTED]
To: [taxiinquiry](#)
Subject: Taxi Inquiry Submission
Date: Friday, 28 June 2019 3:12:19 PM
Attachments: [REDACTED]

Hello,

please find attached my submission for the Taxi Inquiry.
Thank you for allowing me to tell my parents story,

kind regards,

Vicki Georgaklis

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

28/06/19

To whom it may concern,

I would like to take this opportunity to tell you about how the Victorian Government's decision to take my parent's assets and destroy their livelihood has impacted on their lives. My parents, Theo and Sia Georgaklis owned two taxi licences and they had leased them to drivers and were living comfortably as self-funded retirees. They were living off all their hard work with dignity and independence. Their health was good and they were happy.

Once the Victorian Labour Government announced that they will take their assets and livelihood and offer them one fifth of their worth, we started to see a slow decline in their physical and mental health and wellbeing. My father, now 80 has been so stressed that he now suffers from depression and his stress has directly triggered an autoimmune condition. His life has been dramatically impacted. He feels robbed and stripped of his rights as a hard working Australian, all he's worked for was taken from him and he still can't understand why this was allowed to happen. He lost his income and his assets, the taxi licences that were meant to pay for his retirement.

My father Theo drove a taxi for over 30 years and my mother worked as a cleaner and machinist. Both raised three daughters put them through school and university and were proud Australians who purchased two licences with the then state Governments assurance that it was a sound investment. I remember my mother waiting for my father worrying whether he was hurt somewhere as the time past 11pm. I remember my father telling us about his customers and his daily experiences.

I recall feeling so proud that this man and woman who came to Australia with very little money and knowledge of the English language and culture and were able to achieve their goal of having their own business and family. They had made it! They could help their children and grandchildren and could be self funded retirees. They never expected to be treated so poorly after so many years of hard work!

My mother, who is now in poor health due to stress, has had to become my father's carer and both live in regret for ever having trusted the government that endorsed the purchase of two taxi licences. Their lives have been turned upside down full of stress, doctor's visits and a handful of medication twice a day. These are the years they were looking forward to and these years have been their hardest. Both my parents came from humble poor families and my father has been working since he was 12 years old. They've both experienced poverty, hardship, racism and bullying in their working life but nothing compares to the treatment they've had from the Daniel's Government.

They worked hard and despite the hardships they believed that their hard honest work will make their later years comfortable. They looked forward to retiring and wanted to enjoy the fruits of their labour but that's not to be. Their health has deteriorated due to the stress and anguish they've experienced with the loss of their livelihood and assets.

I'm hoping this process highlights how unfair our government has been to a small group of hard working Australians. I welcome the opportunity to provide you with more details if required.

Thanks you for allowing me to tell their story. (Licence details below)

Regards

Vicki Georgaklis

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]