

## Inquiry into the Government's response to the Covid-19 pandemic

Mrs Ann Morey

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### YOUR SUBMISSION

#### Submission:

Although the government's handling of the COVID-19 crisis has been dismal it has provided Victorians with some insight into the workings of government. This has been a disillusioning experience. Daniel Andrews has, apparently, been subverting the processes and checks and balances of the government for some time. The fact that he has centralised power and decision making into the hands of a select number of MPs, and in some cases just his own hands, is disturbing. The fact that the select few agree with everything Daniel Andrews says, is appalling. Cancelling Parliament and gagging debates in Parliament are further signs that our democracy has been eroded from within the system. The power and decision making of public servants seems to equal or surpass that of elected MPs but comes without public scrutiny or accountability. One example is the bureaucrat who signed off on the curfew order after only nine days in her role. The retraction of our civil rights and liberties has occurred overnight without any scientific or medical evidence being presented to the public. It is all very well quoting numbers of infections and deaths but any statistician will tell you that numbers can be interpreted in many ways. I find it hard to understand how democracy, which I previously believed to be a core value of Australian life, can be overturned so quickly and comprehensively. I am concerned that the government's handling, or rather non-handling, of this pandemic will set a dangerous precedent for the future.

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#### Signature:

Ann Morey