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MEDIA RELEASE

WILL VACCINATIONS BE MANDATORY IN AUSTRALIA?

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The Prime Minister's comments earlier today have sparked controversy among civil libertarians and others who are concerned about the manufacture and use of vaccinations in the pharmaceutical industry.

There are many in the community who have sincere concerns that certain vaccinations may be made from the genetic material of aborted foetuses, or are worried about the health risks associated with vaccinations made with dangerous chemicals such as aluminium or mercury.

However, there are others in the community who have cynically used these genuine concerns for political gain, and have enflamed public fear by sensationalising or misquoting official statements about vaccinations and their planned or potential use.

It should be remembered that the Prime Minister did not say that the Covid19 vaccine, which does not yet exist, will be mandatory. What he said was that it would be "as mandatory as you can possibly make it". Understandably, his choice of words may have been better, but this matter must be approached with caution.

[For more information on the Prime Minister's interview and comments, see this link]

The importance of guaranteeing the safety of the community is the first and most important concern of any government. This extends to health related matters such as the control and management of viral outbreaks such as the one we are all struggling with today.

We must always remember that we live in a society. Individuals' private decisions can sometimes have public consequences. For this reason we must be very careful how we deal with the present crisis and be sure not to add to the public fear and confusion.

Having said that, I am not oblivious to the fact that it may indeed be possible for something to be voluntary but which may effectively have a mandatory effect on the lives of people. If the voluntary thing is made a condition for basic aspects of an individuals' life, such as travel or access to public utilities, that thing may for all intents and purposes be considered mandatory, even if a formal "choice" is available to the public.

In the context of the Prime Minister's comments, I would be more concerned about the nature and composition of the vaccine than his poorly phrased comment to the press. I am curious why the Federal government has not yet engaged a formal inquiry into the alleged risks of vaccines which are made with dangerous chemicals, or the impact of vaccines which may involve productions methods that offend the sensibilities of faith communities. This seems to me to be the root of the controversy.

I look forward to the Prime Minister clarifying his comments, reassuring the community about its concerns, and answering questions about the content and manufacturing process of any vaccine that may or may not be made mandatory for Australians.

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