



Royal Commission
 into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation
 of People with Disability

Statement of Kalena Bos

Name: Kalena Bos

Address: Known to the Royal Commission

Occupation: Customer Service Assistant

Date: 6th August 2020

1. This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence that I am prepared to give to the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability. This statement is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.
2. Where direct speech is referred to in this statement, it is provided in words or words to the effect of those, which to the best of my recollection, were used at the time.

Background

3. I am a 30 year old woman living in Burnie, Tasmania with my husband David. We have lived together for three years and have been married for two years. We have three cats and a dog.
4. I have a learning disability. It started out as ADHD and then as I got older it was a learning disability. I can't remember a lot from when I was a kid. I can remember from about Year 10 onwards. High School was horrible because kids used to pick on me. College was better because people treated me better.

Signature	<i>Kalena</i>	Witness	<i>[Signature]</i>
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5. I have an NDIS plan and a support worker who comes to my house once a week. It used to be twice a week but because of COVID-19 I only have one support worker now, who only comes once a week.
 6. When I was 18 years old, I did a program to work with The Speak Out Association of Tasmania (**Speak Out**). Speak Out is a state-wide advocacy service for people with disability, and a membership organisation for people with intellectual disability.
 7. Since then, I have been on the Executive and used to be a Regional Representative for them. I am currently a Member of Speak Out and I work for them part-time.
 8. I have recently started a job at Kmart in the clothes section. I work three days a week. This is my first real job.
 9. I am a very social person. I often visit family including my elderly parents.
 10. I make sure that I always follow the rules. This is really important to me.
- COVID-19 experience**
11. During COVID-19, I stopped watching the news because I didn't like it and it was confusing. I found the things the Premier was saying on television was very confusing.
 12. Speak Out ran a Facebook Live session every day at 5.30pm during the pandemic. We would talk about the coronavirus and things like using sanitiser. I prefer to watch Facebook Live because it is easier

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CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: KALENA BOS

to understand than the news. I also trust the people who are on Speak Out's Facebook Live.

13. On 14 April 2020, I wanted to have my sister in law come over to the house for the day. David, my husband, rang a friend of ours to get some advice about whether we were allowed to have my sister in law over because of the COVID-19 restrictions.
14. After the call, our friend started calling and messaging me about all the restrictions and she was saying horrible things about me. She was saying things to me like:

"Kalena it IS THE LAW RIGHT NOW. U CAN'T VISIT OR HAVE VISITORS

U CAN'T WALK TO YOUR MUM AND DAD UNLESS U HAVE A PERMIT AS THEIR CARER LIKE [redacted] IS FOR ME.

IT'S A \$16,000 FINE AND 6 MONTHS GAOL..JAIL....

You are being very immature about it. The law applies to ALL OF US" (see document marked IND.0034.0001.0001).

15. Our friend also said that if I didn't comply with the law she would have no choice but to file a report with the police. In the same text message, she said:

"...I've called them and u need to stop this bullshit immediately or you will be fined and get locked up. Not kidding you Kalena...." (see document marked IND.0034.0001.0002).

16. It was really frightening.

Signature	<i>Kalena</i>	Witness	<i>[Signature]</i>
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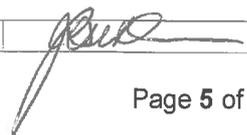
CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: KALENA BOS

17. Our friend was a good family friend before this happened. Sometimes David would go to here for advice. She has never done anything like this before.
18. I ran out and sat under a tree at the park. I told Julie Butler from Speak Out what happened. Julie met me at the park so we could talk about it. I was so terrified that I would be arrested and charged.
19. Julie drove me to the police station so I could hear the rules from the police.
20. The policeman said that our friend had said all the wrong things and that I was allowed to leave my house as long as we were social distancing and stuff. He said that some people don't know all the rules.
21. I asked if the police would come to my home. I did not want the police to come to my home.
22. The police officer said he can't guarantee they won't come because it could still be followed up. He gave us his badge number and said if anyone came to visit me, I needed to use his name.
23. The officer said that police may still come and may tell me the wrong information as well. He said that many of the police don't know the rules and enforce it differently.
24. Two days later, I got a phone call from a female detective telling me what I could and can't do. She was saying that I can't leave my

Signature	<i>Kalena</i>	Witness	<i>Julie</i>
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CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: KALENA BOS

- house and if I left my house I would get a fine. She told me that they were watching me.
25. When I tried to explain what had happened she wouldn't let me talk and said she had to go because something was happening. She spoke really rudely to me.
26. I was really afraid and I told Julie. I gave Julie the number I received the call from (03 6145 0950). Julie rang this number and it went to a Coronavirus Hotline.
27. Julie told me that she spoke with a lady who answered the phone and tried to find the detective who had called me. The lady Julie spoke with said it wasn't her but said that there was a detective who answered those calls.
28. Julie told me that she told the lady on the phone that she wasn't happy and wanted to make sure that the detective knew what she had done to me and how afraid it made me.
29. Julie tried to find out who it was but nobody ever owned up to it.
30. Julie told me that she was working with Sarah Bolt, Anti-Discrimination Commissioner for Equal Opportunity Tasmania at the time.
31. Julie told me that she spoke with Sarah about what happened and Sarah put her in touch with Stuart Wilkinson, the Acting Commander (Western District) for Tasmania Police.

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CONTINUED STATEMENT OF: KALENA BOS

32. Julie told me that she spoke to Stuart and arranged a time for him to come and speak with me at my home.
33. A few weeks later, Stuart visited me at my home and apologised on behalf of the regional police for them saying I wasn't allowed to leave my home.
34. He said that police don't just go up and arrest people.
35. He told me all the things I can do and that I can leave my house. He stayed and talked to me for about 20 minutes.
36. I feel like he did a good job and he made me feel a lot better.

Signed: Kalena

Date: 6/8/2020

Witness: J. BAKER J. Baker

Date: 6/8/20

Signature	<u>Kalena</u>	Witness	<u>J. Baker</u>
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