

10 OPINION

# Your say

The best reader comments from print and online

## SMS 2 ED

■ Police to test every driver on Warrego Hwy. Hey druggies, see how your extremely selfish habit inconveniences everyone. You can expect much more of this testing and eventually you will be caught and prosecuted.  
**Dave, Twmba**

■ STATE ELECTION. Time for a change. The manner Premier Palaszczuk has mishandled Queensland's responsibilities of the Australian Laws of Governance in the recent fires and coronavirus issues can no longer be tolerated.  
**RD, Hfids**

■ If mayor does not want covid -19 in Toowoomba cancel Carnival of Flowers. Also it is going to be interesting if there is going to be a cluster up in townsville after the big fight.  
**JB, Wilsonton**

■ I hope Jeff Horn has the sense to retire now. He is too decent and humble to be a boxer!  
**PC Kearneys Spring**

■ Two mannequins got married and as in most weddings, they had a dummy run and then looked into each other's eyes for two weeks straight.  
**DS, Twmba**



BEELMAN

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Suicide prevention

MATES4MATES has welcomed new legislation from the government, bringing the establishment of a National Commissioner for Defence and Veteran Suicide Prevention one step closer.

At Mates4Mates, we see first-hand the impact of mental health issues on veterans and their families, and the risk of suicide, and will continue to support steps being taken to combat this.

Over the past year the discussion and awareness around suicide among veterans has been gaining momentum, locally and nationally, but we know there's still more work to be done in this space to ensure suicides are reduced.

Right now, the need is more import-

ant than ever, with some veterans experiencing increased levels of distress and isolation due to COVID-19.

No one - military personnel, veterans, or everyday Australians - should have to go through mental illness alone and our thoughts remain with all families and individuals who have lost a loved one to suicide.

At Mates4Mates, we will continue to work hard to support veterans and their families and we encourage locals to reach out in times of need.

For support, phone Mates4Mates on 1300 462 837, speak with a trusted GP, or call Open Arms or Lifeline.

**TROY WATSON, CEO, Mates4Mates**

### Victims silenced

VICTORIA'S new clandestine "gag" laws effectively silencing victims of childhood sexual abuse from talking publicly about their abuse, ordeal and suffering is an open Pandora's box.

Now, even disclosing abuse to one's family, a doctor, a psychologist, or a lawyer could land one in jail.

As victims assumed and expected, the Clayton's Royal Commission, the National Apology and the Redress Scheme were all geared to fooling victims into making themselves known so the government could assess its responsibility and liability.

Nothing ever was for and about the victims, survivors and their fam-

ilies.

As sure as chickens lay eggs, one can be certain the ramifications of the "gag" legislation will extend much further than abuse victims.

How long before domestic violence, rape and other victims of crime are gagged?

How long before other states seek to diminish their responsibilities and obligations to victims of crime?

How long before someone in your family is affected by such laws being enacted in other states?

One can only hope karma finds those who drafted, voted for, and supported the bill. Let's see these soul-

less cretins who passed the "gag" bill put their hands up, identify themselves and own what they did.

Those who passed the legislation have shown themselves for who and what they really are.

**GEORGE W. HELON, victim, survivor advocate, Toowoomba**

**HAVE YOUR SAY**  
[thechronicle.com.au](http://thechronicle.com.au)

### BIBLE THOUGHT

"He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions." (Psalms 107:20 AKJV)  
 Let God's Word bring healing to your life. He will honor His Word.



NATION'S SAY: A FINGER ON THE PULSE WITH EXPERT OPINION



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\*RP Core Logic Data 12 months to April 2018.

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