

MESSAGING ON SCHOOLS GETS A FAIL

ONE of the mysteries in this virus panic is why schools were closed.

Now a top health official admits: it was done to scare you.

And I suspect that wasn't the only "noble lie" told supposedly for your own good.

From the start, we were correctly told by the Morrison Government and its medical experts that schools could stay open.

The evidence was clear: children were highly unlikely to catch and transmit this coronavirus.

But state premiers still closed their schools — and nowhere with more determination than in Queensland and Victoria.

Why?

In the *Brisbane Times* we finally get a telling admission from Jeannette Young, Queensland's Chief Health Officer.

In it, Young explains why she told Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk to shut down Queensland's schools in March.

True, the newspaper reported, Young believed "evidence showed schools were not a high-risk environment for the spread of the virus".

But she felt that "closing them down would help people understand the gravity of the situation".

Young added: "If you go out to the community and say, 'this is so bad, we can't even have schools, all schools have got to be closed', you are really getting to people.

"So sometimes it's more than just the science and the health, it's about the messaging."

Pardon?

So schools were closed and parents frightened out of their wits just to send a message? Not really to protect children?

That's just treating people like idiots. And I wonder again how many other bans in this absurd over-reaction were made with the same cynical calculation.

For instance, why did Victoria ban even golf and fishing?

Why did NSW and other states close beaches?

Almost nobody has caught this virus in the open air. Sunlight dramatically shortens its half-life, and the breeze minimises exposure.

Were these bans also just for "messaging"? To make us think this virus is so deadly that we shouldn't dare leave home?

Were claims that the virus would kill up to 150,000 of us also just "messaging"?

We should also wonder why NSW and Victoria did not relax their restrictions on home visits until immediately after Mother's Day.

Was that because making so many people happy by letting them visit their mums would be the wrong "messaging" to a public that's been made docile with fear?

So what other bans are kept just for the "messaging"?