Reforming the coronial system



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Medico-Legal Society, 20 March 2019

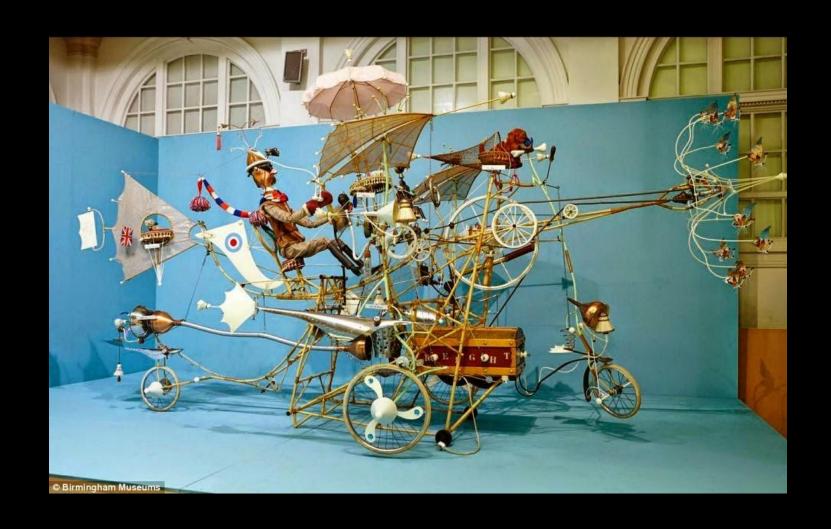
Why do we need reform?



Doing it on the cheap in NSW

- 6600 deaths per annum (20,000+ bereaved relatives?)
- NSW spends \$1065 per case Victoria \$2641
- NSW spends half the Commonwealth average per case
- NSW has 5 full-time coronial positions Victoria 9
- NSW spends \$6.5m on its coronial system Vic \$16.7m
- Clearance rate 98.2% (4th in the Commonwealth)
- 2016-2017 inquests falling

The end result...



What's happening?



Rethinking coroners: principles

- Respect for human life the fundamental Human Right
- 2. Death prevention
- 3. Public health thinking epidemiological approaches
- 4. Healing and therapy
- 5. Accountability of the State
- 6. The coronial system as a multi-disciplinary complex
- 7. Coroners at the hub of the system not the apex





Thank you for listening...

