

# ***FIRE WATER***

## ***Australia's Industrial Fluoridation Disgrace***

**Exposing the systematic industrial waste poisoning of Australian drinking water supplies**

### **Marilyn Pollard – Interview Transcript**

**Interview conducted by  
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**[00:00:33]**

**Marilyn:** My name is Marilyn Pollard.

**Jaya:** And what is your relationship with water, um fluoride in water?

**Marilyn:** Ok. The realisation back in September, 2008. I was brushing my teeth with the fluoride toothpaste and teeth started hurting, changed to Sensodyne. They got worse, so then I opted for a fluoride-free toothpaste and 'hello', my teeth settled down, the pain went away and at the time I was having a lot of over the years random vomiting and nausea and I thought it was my medication that I'm on. But it wasn't. It was the fluoride that was doing it to me.

**[00:01:12]**

**Jaya:** So what symptoms do you actually get from continuing to use fluoridated water?

**[00:01:19]**

**Marilyn:** Ok. Headaches, itchy skin, if I wash my hands all day with the water, they'll just go red and feel, like fine grade sandpaper and then the skin will just start splitting open and bleeding. These days when I have my once a week shower, I usually vomit within the first 24 hours and I'm in bed for two days because I just can't move, wobbly legs, dizziness, just extreme exhaustion and the brain is just not working at all.

**[00:01:55]**

**Jaya:** So how do you shower or clean yourself or wash your hair or...?

**[00:02:00]**

**Marilyn:** Ok. I use baby wipes to clean myself every day. Not ideal, but what else can I do? You've gotta have some form of hygiene. And wash my hair. It's once a week, I have council people coming in and we do it over the kitchen sink. So, we just get a get big stainless steel bowl and we boil up the water in the kettle, Dr. Nobel's Pureau and head over the sink, which it's no good for my back and they just pour the water over my hair and wash my hair and that's it and very, very frustrating because you know, I even have to brush my teeth in the kitchen and that's a couple of trips backwards and forwards to

the bathroom and yeah, so virtually I feel like moving everything into the kitchen so I can just stay here and...

[00:02:55]

**Jaya:** It's, why do you have to use the kitchen so much. Why can't you use your bathroom?

[00:02:58]

**Marilyn:** Well, I can't turn the taps on to use to brush my teeth cause the fluoride and therefore one of these (pointed to water container) takes up too much room on the vanity unit in the bathroom. It's just in the way, so it's just easier to do it here and physically for me to carry them or you know, have one heavy and, yeah, it's just less messing around. It's just easier. This is where I do to wash my hands, turn the tap on and hopefully with these containers, it's a good tap. Sometimes they're bad taps and I have to change them over. So, I collect the taps. I don't throw them all out and I save the water that I use from washing my hands cause then I use that to rinse dishes so that I cannot have to have so much exposure to the fluoride. And that's daily what I do. That's how I wash my hands. It's just part of my life now and But I have to rely on neighbours to bring these containers in out of the car for me because I just cannot lift them um due to my back issues. I've had a bad back problems due to an accident as a child and with this whole fluoride thing it just hasn't helped at all. It's just made life more unbearable, but we work around it. [01:04:23]

This is where I do all my food prep now because I cannot eat anything that's bought from a restaurant or takeaway. Anything like that, no processed foods because of the fluoride is in everything. So I try and do everything I can. I do have help from the council because of my back. I cannot stand and and cut and do things for long periods of time. So, I wash all the vegetables and whatever I need to wash with my container of water and like a production line, I put everything in here (showing container) and the person cuts it all up for me. When they go, I hit the stove and cook it all up and then I package everything when it's cold and freeze it cause I do everything en masse like big bulk amounts just to limit how much I have to do food prep. So, I have got a very good variety in my freezer now of food.

[00:05:23]

**Jaya:** What about when you have to go out like you said, you have to go to hospital?

[00:05:26]

**Marilyn:** Oh, when I go, every three months, I go to hospital for treatment for my medical condition and my doctor has told me that I'm have to take all my own food and water because if I eat the food in the hospital and drink their water, I'll get very, very sick. The treatment won't work and it's wasting his time and my time, plus a lot of money. That you know it costs a lot of money to have this treatment. And every three months, it's just like going camping. I have to take everything with me and it takes the nurses about two wheelchair loads to get everything into my room at the hospital. And they've been great. I even have to take my own bowls because in hospital they've got that heavy plastic that they use for bowls and when they go into dishwashers, it's very hot water. Lots of steam and they just absorb the fluoride. So I have to take all my own things to eat with as well so.

[00:06:26]

**Jaya:** What about if you go, like, do you go on holidays?

[00:06:28]

**Marilyn:** I can't go on holidays because where in Australia is there no fluoridation? Ok, you can go to a little country town, but that's it might be exciting, but basically, if I want a decent holiday and have a relaxing time not having to do anything, I have to go overseas. Europe, Scandinavian countries - cannot afford that on a pension.

[00:06:51]

**Jaya:** Why Scandinavia specifically?

**Marilyn:** Ah, they've got no fluoride in their water. They've taken it out. They've taken it out quite a few years ago. Same as a lot of countries in Europe as well.

[00:07:04]

**Jaya:** Why? Do you know why they've taken it out?

[00:07:06]

**Marilyn:** Because of the health effects that it has on people. After 40 years of it being in their water, they've looked at the bigger issues and seen what it does to people and they've decided that it's got no health benefits. No benefits for your teeth, so they've taken it out and they've been finding what it's been doing with organs. The damage to the internal body when they've done autopsies and that's how they've been, you know, working it out.

(Back in the bathroom) [01:07:38] Right, if I bring the container in, it's just gonna sit here and it's just gonna hang over one end here and and just there - it's just not going to work. It just doesn't give me room to move and, you know, it's just not feasible. So I just do it all in the kitchen and but I... here's my baby wipes (laugh) to wash myself. I do that in here and that's a daily process.

[00:08:07]

**Jaya:** So, here we are in your washing area. Perhaps you could tell us a little bit about what happens when you wash your clothes.

[00:07:13]

**Marilyn:** Well, I do what I normally do, used to do before the fluoride went into the water, but now I wash them and I just pray that it's raining so that I can hang my washing out on the line and it gets rinsed. Ok, the rain's probably not perfect, but at least it's rinsing out the excess fluoride in my clothes because I found that in summer, especially, when I perspire, all the fluoride that's in the clothes just comes out and I'm just constantly scratching and it's just horrible and I wouldn't wish that upon anybody. [00:08:54] I just wish I wasn't so sensitive to it, you know. I just want my life back.

(Office) [01:09:01] I originally was a librarian and started making soap while I was being a librarian and ventured into being aromatherapist. I made soap purely because my son, being special needs and myself, we just don't like chemicals and so one way of controlling what our bodies have in contact with is, to make it yourself. So I, you know, been making soap now for about 26 years and absolutely love it, but, since the fluoride has been put into

Geelong's water, I've just been too tired. I just haven't had the energy or the physical strength to continue making the soap and it's just frustrating the living daylights out of me because, why should I something that I thoroughly love doing, I cannot do any more. And you know, but the authorities don't care. I'm just another little person, just doing what I do and, um, yeah. I would love to make soap again but at the moment, I don't think I can.

[01:10:13]

**Jaya:** So what's this about a fluoride baby?

[01:10:16]

**Marilyn:** Oh. When I went to pathology, I had to have some blood tests done because fluoride inhibits the absorption of calcium into your body and with my bone densities over the last four years, or more, they're querying me taking calcium and vitamin D, which I have been doing and now my doctor's actually starting to get concerned, because when I have a shower, I vomit and so we had calcium levels and just full blood workout and I told the person that was taking the blood, why I was having the tests done. And she goes "I'm a fluoride baby. I come from Melbourne," and I just thought, and she was proud of it, and I just said to her, well, she goes, "there's nothing wrong with me" and I said well maybe not for the time being, but you know, give it a the chance, and yea, but most of the people in the pathology places around Geelong, have not heard one good thing about the fluoride. [00:11:14] They just hear it from people coming in and yep, most of the people in Geelong are just sick of it. They don't want it and nearly every... There's that many people with filters on their taps. It's just unbelievable and I've got friends that are plumbers and they are just *flat out* putting filtration systems on people's taps and why does the government, you know, persist in doing what they're doing, when we're trying to avoid it and doing everything we can. Those that can afford the filtration systems and people are buying water. The supermarkets are saying they have not sold so much, you know, spring water or Nobel's Pureau water than ever before. Since the fluoride's gone in, they are making *that* much money on bottled water, it's just amazing. And that's just what's happening. It's part of the bigger picture.

[00:12:06]

**Jaya:** Do you know much about filters at all?

**Marilyn:** Um, I have researched.

**Jaya:** The sorts of filters that are needed to take or remove fluoridation?

[00:11:11]

**Marilyn:** Oh, you're going to be looking at full on four, five-stage filters and to really do a good job of it, you need a commercial filtration system, like a reverse osmosis, but that'll take it out, the full big commercial ones. But, like who's got ten to twenty grand plus, to buy one? Plus, environmentally it's a disaster, because 50% of the water is wasted and that has got all the heavy metals and the fluoride, all the chemicals that are part of the fluoride mixture they get taken out and it goes back into the ground. So, you're polluting your own property with chemicals that are toxic. So, that's not the answer either and so basically, you've just got to try and find a filtration system, a good 4-

stage one and hope that the section that takes out the membrane. It's like an ion section with a membrane that doesn't back up because once it backs up, the fluoride will just come back, straight into the water again. So, you have to be very diligent in watching, you know, the concentration levels and changing your filters on a regular basis, which can be expensive as well. [00:13:26] But none of us really know at this stage, how much, how long we can get out of our filters. How long they'll last for? You know, whether it's 3, 6 months, but different parts of your filtration systems do have to be changed – anything from 2 to 6 months, um and different companies have different, you know, things in place. But, that's it. But I can't afford a filtration system, and as far as I'm concerned, the government should be buying me one, but will they? No, because fluoride doesn't make you sick, according to them.

[00:14:02]

**Jaya:** It's apparently "safe and effective."

[00:13:01]

**Marilyn:** Yeah. Exactly. They think it's "safe and effective," but at the Department of Inhuman Services, in Melbourne, where Dr. Carnie in his little lackeys, you know, work, they're all drinking bottled water and filtered water. They don't really turn a tap on. They don't drink the fluoridated water because, bottom line is, they know what it really does to you. It makes you sick and they don't want to get sick themselves, do they?

[00:14:30]

**Jaya:** And about your lifestyle changes, which seem to be fairly dramatic. In what you can and can't do, like preparing food. What about your social life? How has this actually affected your social life? Obviously you can't go on holidays unless it's overseas, which is very expensive. So, how do you amuse yourself? What do you do to have a social life?

[00:14:54]

**Marilyn:** I don't really have a social life, most of, my fr... I haven't got any... I've only got two friends and they've stuck by me, especially one of them. He's been just absolutely amazing and I've got my mother who I do care for so that's sort of like, social contact and I've got a special needs young adult son and so that's virtually my social life. I'm helping them and doing things for them. No more Saturday lunches with friends, um because I just can't go to a pub or a restaurant and eat the meals there. I just get very sick and my friends just don't understand it because, like, it's just like a peanut allergy. Not everybody is you know, allergic to the fluoride, or has any problems with it and so my friends, they're ok and they just cannot understand how I'm so sick. Yes, it's very hard for them to wrap their heads around it. So, they've just walked away and I just hole up here. I'm a prisoner in my own home. I'm safe here, without the exposure.

[00:16:05]

**Jaya:** So what would you say to the authorities that have put this water in as a blanket supposed medicinal value with supposed nutrient qualities. What would you actually say to authorities?

[00:16:20]

**Marilyn:** They have got no idea what they are doing. They think they're doing a good thing, but they're got their own agenda obviously because there are so

many other people out there that are as sick as me. Some not as and now I'm finding just from talking to people that there's been a cumulative affect with the fluoride in people's bodies in Geelong. Other people are starting to get minor symptoms after 12 months. It's just not on. Should not they should not be allowed to go and do something like that. You know, if you want medication, you go to a doctor for a script. You just don't dump a poison into the water because that's what it is and it's affecting, not only me, but a lot of other people.

[00:17:07]

**Jaya:** So what are some of the obvious symptoms from fluoride damage that you can tell us about?

**Marilyn:** Have you ever seen a fluoride tummy?

**Jaya:** No.

**Marilyn:** Would you like to?

**Jaya:** Go on.

[00:17:18]

**Marilyn:** (Shows tummy) It's just like permanently being about like 6 months pregnant and by the end of the day it just bloats right up depending on how much exposure you've had – and you know, you just look at that, it's not fat or anything, it's firm. It's... and you can have a feel.

[00:17:37]

**Jaya:** Just side on..I

**Marilyn:** It's just like being pregnant.

**Jaya:** My goodness. That's absolutely firm. And how long have you had a fluoride tummy?

[00:17:44]

**Marilyn:** About 16 years.

**Jaya:** Wow.

**Marilyn:** And the doctors just said, oh it's just gas. It just happens, but the pressure on my lumbar spine where my injury is and having this for that long has not helped everything.

[00:17:59]

**Jaya:** What do you actually think has caused the fluoride, what you call a fluoride tummy?

**Marilyn:** I just feel it's just done something to my intestines, to my stomach and it must be some form of damage in there for this to blow up like this.

**Jaya:** So perhaps enzyme inhibition.

[00:18:18]

**Marilyn:** Possibly yes. Um, nobody really knows at you know but obviously has to be some form of enzyme deficiency. I'm not eating properly, but you know, since the fluoride has gone into Geelong's water, I've gone from 60 kilo in weight down to 46 kilo, um not good but the stomach stayed the same, so it's not an overweight issue. The stomach stayed and the weight's just dropped off and I just have to live with this and it's very hard getting clothes to fit. And it's very uncomfortable especially when it bloats up at night time. It can get out like this and it just oh, you feel like it just wants to explode. It's absolutely insidious and nobody should have to put up with something like that.

[00:19:08]

**Jaya:** What do you actually know, in your experience, of what is happening out in the community that you feel might be fluoride-related?

[00:19:18]

**Marilyn:** Well, I've noticed that people that I'm in contact with, their memories aren't as good as what they used to be... my mum used to be as sharp as a tack and since the fluoride has gone in, on a daily basis her memory is not nearly as good as, and she's just putting it down to age. And I'm just talking to other people and they feel as though their brains are just not as alert as what they usually are. And I've noticed that when I've had contact, like, if I wash dishes and I'm breathing in the hot steam, so it's more concentrated, my brain just feels like it's numb for a while. And when I've had a shower, that's a different story. I get sick when I have a shower, but my brain is totally dead. It does not function at all and I end up in bed for two days after a shower with severe nausea and and vomiting. [00:20:18] Um, lovely life. I wouldn't wish it upon anybody but you know it's just more and more people are just having this brain foginess. And they're just putting it down to "I'm getting older" and they're feeling tired and not wanting to get out of bed in the morning. And again a lot of people especially the elderly, are just putting it down to I'm getting older and I really don't think this is the case. I think that... I'm sure the fluoride has got something to do with it. You know, for people's lives to change, you know, like that, in 12 months, um, what else could it be? Ok, even my cat, she hates fluoridated water. She will not drink it, and so therefore she um drinks the Nobel's Pureau water that I drink and of course, she loves her rainwater as well. [00:21:10] But, she's very specific on what she likes and what she doesn't like and you listen to your animals because they know they've just got this inner sense. They can, they just know when things are bad and they just avoid them, um and that's just what I love about animals. Their sixth sense. You can always rely on it. And regarding my teeth, what teeth have I got left? (laugh) I've got five bottom teeth left. My top teeth went oh probably about 20 years ago. Dental fluorosis. They were just falling apart and this year in January, I had to get the rest of my bottom teeth out because they were just, the brown lines on them, they were just literally falling apart in my mouth. No matter what I was doing. I've always looked after my teeth. I've just been very obsessive about, that's my upbringing my mum was, you know, very big on dental hygiene and what you ate as well. There was like very limited lollies and things like that so I've done everything you're

meant to do and including using the so-called fluoride toothpaste. But when my dentist took out my teeth, my teeth fell apart.

[00:22:26]

**Jaya:** You would have to go to the dentist every now and again for oral checkups for good oral hygiene. What actually happens for you because clearly you have a severe allergy to fluoride? What happens when you go to the dentist?

[00:22:45]

**Marilyn:** Well I have to take my own water and the dentist, you know, how they have that irrigation water thing that they put in your mouth? Well he has to get a big syringe and he fills it up with my water and the dental nurse has to use that to irrigate my mouth because there was one time he used his water drill on me and I got ulcers in my mouth and he distils his water, but obviously, it's not getting out the fluoride. And yea, he just he's not coping any more and I've got dental fluorosis on remaining 5 teeth that I do have and I don't know how long they'll be in my mouth for but yea, it's just dental visits are a nightmare because I still have that impact or contact with the fluoride. When I do go there because you can't avoid it, you don't know what's in the fillings. I've talked to my dentist about it. Are there fluoride-free, you know treatments, and basically he cannot really tell me.

[00:23:49]

**Jaya:** You say you mention that the dentist isn't coping. Could you perhaps expand a little on that?

[00:23:54]

**Marilyn:** Well, I think it's challenging all his indoctrinated belief systems, because they've been told fluoride is very good for your teeth and he's got a patient that is intolerant to fluoride. It makes me sick. It puts ulcers in my mouth. The toothpaste hurts my teeth.

[00:24:13]

**Jaya:** So, you're talking about pharmaceutical grade fluoride aren't you or...?

**Marilyn:** Yes.

**Jaya:** And, would you say there's a difference between pharmaceutical grade and what we're drinking out of our tap?

[00:24:23]

**Marilyn:** Yes. Like, what we're drinking out of our tap is just pure toxic waste. It's got all these other you know, mercury, arsenic, and lead and cadmium. God knows what else it's got in it. It's just a toxic mix of chemicals and it's no wonder that there are people that are sensitive, you know, to a chemical overload and we're breathing it in. It's in the air as well. The hydrogen fluoride from all the companies around Geelong. ALCOA, SHELL, PILKINGTON'S, PIVOT, you know BLUE Circle Cement. It just goes on. We haven't got a hope, even our tank water's not usable, you know. I wouldn't even drink my tank water, let alone bathe in it.

[00:25:06]

**Jaya:** Why wouldn't you drink your tank water? That's rainwater.

[00:25:09]

**Marilyn:** It's filthy and it just smells. It's like I've seen what my garage roof looks like and and I've been up there and cleaned out the top of my tank and everything and it's just revolting.

**Jaya:** So, you're saying this is, stuff that's gone into the atmosphere, different chemicals that have gone into the atmosphere, that then fall down onto the rooftops and then are then washed into the tank?

[00:25:29]

**Marilyn:** Yes. Definitely.

**Jaya:** Perhaps you could share with the audience a little bit about what happens when you do your weekly or fortnightly shopping down at the supermarket.

[00:25:43]

**Marilyn:** Well I have to read all the labels. People have got no idea that water is an ingredient in nearly everything that's on the supermarket shelves. You know it just goes from tin food right through to your fruit juices, even your biscuits. Everything has got water in it or has been or had a water component and it's not filtered water. It's fluor – it's just obviously tap water. I've eaten frozen blueberries and on two accounts, when I've eaten them, I vomit within 10 minutes of them being inside me. I've eaten fresh blueberries organically grown a long way from, this is like past the Otways, clean country, not a problem. I didn't vomit them up. They stayed down. It was wonderful, but you know, the local abattoirs, they're, now, hosing the meat down with the fluoridated tap water. [00:26:35] So, it's in your meat. The fishmonger – they're, you know, washing the fish underneath the tap. Cleaning it up and then putting it on fluoridated ice. So, it's in the fish. The chickens. You know, they're on the chook farms. They're drinking fluoridated water. They're washing and cleaning the chickens with it as well and like meat, you know, I think it's what they call cariovaccated, or sealed you know. So, it's got longer life like, your corned beef. That's got water in it as well. So, I can't even eat things like that and when I of course I have to eat something, and so you know like a lot of vegetables. They, you know, higher water content. I can't eat them anymore because I'll just feel nauseous. And what happens is I get this build up in my system and every now and then, I'll just have this random, vomiting and nausea due to what I've eaten and it also affects my bowels with this really bad bowel cramping. Um, it's just horrible and I wouldn't wish that upon anybody. [00:27:38] Supermarket shopping is, and another thing that I found too, they spray the vegetables in the supermarket and in some greengrocers with the tap water. They have their little spray nozzle to make the vegetables and salads look nice and fresh and to keep them looking fresh. So, they're just being constantly dosed with the tap water and when I saw that happening, I just put down everything I had in my basket and walked out of the fruit and veg shop and I've never been back there again. And now, I have to ask, do you spray your vegetables with tap water to make them look fresh? And if they say yes, I walk away. (Outside) Ok. I've bought water yesterday and I've got to get it out of my car. Um the people at the supermarket put it in there for

me and so I usually get my neighbour, um or one of my neighbours to carry it inside for me. So, cause I just cannot lift a 10 litre container of water. It's just too heavy and you know, it's just part of my life now. It sucks. This is what I do. I buy water because I'm forced to.

[00:28:50]

**Jaya:** From Marilyn's car we move into her backyard garden. Pottering in her little garden is one of the few enjoyments left in Marilyn's life. But even this past time has been affected by fluoridation and also Geelong's air shed. Major scientific research bodies, along with individual researchers have either found evidence for or have called for further research, into fluoride's hypersensitivity reactions, but decision makers have arrogantly ignored calls for more research. However, there is also a deeper issue at play here. Why should those such as Marilyn, be exposed to industrial waste poisons via their tap water which water supply authorities are supposed to guarantee is "safe for all?" Why should even a single individual have their quality of life compromised to supposedly benefit the majority?

[00:29:54]

**Marilyn:** So, my garden I've been trying to grow lettuces etc just so that I you know got some form of green, you know green leafy greens are good for you and you need to eat them but I just can't you know, eat the bought stuff and I've got some silver beet over there but I'm still struggling with growing vegetables because of my back. It's very hard and this raised bed was meant to be wonderful but we're going to improve upon it.

[00:30:26]

**Jaya:** The ethical grounds of forced fluoridation onto all persons are disgraceful. Informed consent has not been obtained. Referenda in Australia according to official DHS, ADA state health officers and state premiers are not necessary regarding public health policies. Water fluoridation they claim is an important public health measure which merits mandatory implementation but according to Dr. Peter Mansfield, a physician from the UK quote: "No physician in his right senses could prescribe for a person he's never met, whose medical history he does not know, a substance which is intended to create bodily change with the advice, take as much as you like but you will take it for the rest of your life because some children suffer from tooth decay. It is a preposterous notion," unquote. That is not a single doctor can force a single patient to take a medication. They have to get the consent of the patient and to rub salt into the gaping wounds of those who do not want to be exposed to industry waste, no one benefits from water fluoridation anyway because, it does nothing to prevent decay by ingestion. Even dental researchers now admit fluoride only works topically.

[00:31:46]

**Marilyn:** There's my tank that I use to water my garden but I wouldn't drink from it 'cause, the sludge that comes off that roof is pretty revolting. But, the vegetables seem to survive with it. My cats really prefer not to drink it but it's better than turning the tap on. That's all I can say. I turn my own tap on and I'm collecting water in the bath there. It needs a bit of a clean out at the moment but just excess water and I've got containers lying around. I'm very obsessive with catching as much rain water as I possibly can, so I can use it

in my garden because the plants do not like the fluoride water. I've lost a lot of plants and a lot of vegetables just won't grow with it. I've tried. It's just a non-event. Well my life is totally changed. I moved from Werribee um back in 1983 to get away from the fluoride that was dumped into the water back in 1977 and here we are in Geelong now. 12 months ago, they dumped the fluoride into our water. It was about July last year, 2009. I haven't got a life any more. I don't have any friends. I'm a prisoner in my own home. The authorities have got no idea what they're doing or maybe they do and they don't care. You know like their life hasn't been affected. [00:31:12] You know, my life's been totally turned upside down. You know, my poor son, who has special needs, he's not coping. He doesn't understand what is happening to his mother and just to see his face, you know, I go to visit him and he says to me "Mum, are you still sick?" and I go, "Yes but I can't help it because it's what they've put in the water. It's the fluoride and I know that it's not making you sick, but it makes me sick and I know you can't understand it. But it's just like a nut allergy" and he still doesn't understand. But he just wants his mum to be happy and I just want my life back and this poison, you know, it's just killing me and it's just making a lot of people unnecessarily sick. It's got no use. It's got no medical benefits at all, it is just total poison.

[00:34:09]

**Jaya:** What would you say to water authorities?

[00:34:14]

**Marilyn:** Take it out of the water. They had no right to put it in the first place. They didn't even ask us you know. We were promised a referendum but 'hello', what happened to it? Suck it up. They just put it in and just said wear it. They don't care. They just don't care about the average person any more. It's just not fair.

[00:34:39]

**Jaya:** Do you think that anybody should be made accountable?

[00:34:43]

**Marilyn:** The government and the industries that are providing this poison for the government to dump into the water. You know it just goes back to the government. You know, what I don't know what they're trying to prove. You know, mass medication. You know. What's the next step? You know it's just horrible. It's just going backwards. It's not going forwards. You know, the rest of the world has seen the bigger picture but like Australia, you know, I can't go anywhere in Australia for a holiday now. Why should I move from Geelong? I can't move, because family is keeping me here. But why should I have to move to avoid this horrible poison? It's destroying my life. [00:35:30] (Inserted text) "at this point Marilyn broke down... we did our best to comfort her..." But when you see Joel's face, you know, it's the look on his face when he just looks at me and just says, "Mum are you still sick?" It's just horrible (Crying) Like when I go to visit my son and he goes to me mum "are you still sick?" and I go yes. The staff at his residential unit, they've tried to help with me to explain to him and one of the staff has got is gluten intolerant, so he can understand that she can't eat certain foods, but when there's fluoride in the water and how it's affecting all the food that I eat and and just my whole life. He just doesn't understand it like we used to go out for a meal to a pub.

**[00:36:24]** He used to choose his pubs and we used to go and have these meals, at least once a month. We can't do that anymore. You know, what do I do for our birthday? You know he was born on my birthday. We can't go out for a birthday celebration any more. How do you explain to somebody who has special needs? They don't understand. He's got no logic and he's just seeing people, somebody that he loves dearly, just getting sicker and sicker and spending less time with him and that's not helping his life either. It's just hurting him and the pain that he's feeling and what he is going through, he shouldn't have to.

**[00:37:05]**

**Jaya:** What about your own pain?

**[00:37:08]**

**Marilyn:** And with myself. You know, like I just don't like, sometimes I even question is life worth living and I've thought about it, but you know, if I do that that just makes the bastards who put this wa... who did what they did to the water - just letting them get away with it. I need to stand and fight and try and gather as much strength as I can to make things go away and to make things the way they used to be. And I just hope that somewhere, somehow, somebody sees the light and the fluoride's taken out of our water, out of all of Australia's water, like the rest of the world. And then we can be healthy again and they wonder why so many people are getting sick. Maybe they should look at fluoride as the reason.

**[00:38:02]**