



PHOTO: PETER GLENANE

IT COULD HAPPEN TO YOU

In late February this year, 82 year old grandfather James Morrison, was rushed to hospital with a fever and difficulty breathing. The doctors told him that he had contracted Legionnaires' disease, probably whilst shopping with his wife in Preston, the week before. A number of local people were infected with the disease because of a contaminated cooling tower.

James Morrison was in hospital for a week and still has not recovered from the ordeal. "It was like being in a big dark pit that you couldn't climb out of," Mr Morrison said. He used to mow the lawn, enjoy going out with friends and looking after his pool. "Now he just stays inside on the sofa," his wife Frances said.

His daughter Julie said, "I can't believe that the law does not recognise the pain and suffering Mum and Dad have been through. It just seems unfair that even though this illness occurred through no fault of their own and was possibly due to negligence, they can't get any compensation".

"The law does nothing to look after older people like my dad, even when they are injured through no fault of their own"

JULIE DUNN

People's
Rights^{INC.}

TO THE HOUSEHOLDER

GONE TOO FAR!

What can you do?

- Find out more by visiting www.peoplesrights.com.au.
- Support the campaign by writing to the Premier or your local Member of Parliament, to tell them you think the changes to public liability law are unfair.

The Hon. Steve Bracks
PO Box 4912VV
Melbourne 3001

People's
Rights^{INC.}

INJURED?

The Government **abolished your rights**



PHOTO: PETER GLEWANE

Isabella Little was just six years old when she was injured at school. A damaged steel bench fell on her while she was playing with friends. She was very seriously injured. She broke two bones and had to have four operations on her leg. Flesh from her leg had to be removed and she was in a wheelchair for 3 months. After months of pain Isabella has made a strong recovery and despite scarring she did not reach the threshold for 5% permanent physical impairment.

Her mother Gihan said she thought the law would protect her daughter's interests. "After months of pain and inconvenience that this injury has brought to our family, Isabella is not entitled to any compensation. We can't even get answers about how the injury happened".

- Do you think it's fair that if you, or your family member, are injured through no fault of your own, you may not be able to claim compensation?
- Did you know that if your child is injured at school or childcare through the negligence of others, you may not be entitled to compensation?
- Or if your elderly parent gets injured in a public place through no fault of their own, they might not be able to get compensation?
- Many people assume that if they are injured in an accident they have the right to claim compensation but in many instances this just isn't the case.

Gone too far!

In 2003 the Victorian Government changed the law so that ordinary people, who are injured through no fault of their own, are prevented from seeking fair compensation for their injuries.

The reforms have gone too far and innocent people with genuine claims are being hurt twice: first by their injuries and second by a system that has taken away their right to be fairly compensated.

While insurance companies keep premiums high and earn massive profits, innocent victims and taxpayers are bearing the costs.

A message from People's Rights Inc.
Level 9, 91 William Street, Melbourne VIC 3000.
Authorised by Nicola Ballenden, People's Rights Inc.

**People's
Rights** Inc.