

## DO YOU CHOOSE WHERE YOU LIVE? DO YOU CHOOSE WHO YOU LIVE WITH?

If you are a person with disability living in Queensland, the chances are the answer is no.

People with disability in Queensland are being forced to live in group homes with strangers, often against their will. These people have little say in who provides their care, where they live and who they live with. These group homes can be hours or even days drive from their home towns and families, in areas that are completely foreign to them. This unnecessary practice is known as "forced co-tenancy" and is blatant discrimination.

Here is a video we made in conjunction with Speaking Up For You (SUFY), which is a local Brisbane disability advocacy agency. The video is of Jean and Mike Reynolds as they discuss the issues facing their daughter (Sam) and the issues preventing her from choosing WHERE she lives, WHO she lives with and WHAT care she receives. These are all basic human rights which are being ignored by the Queensland Government and their practice of forced co-tenancy (see below for more details).

The video can be found on Youtube and Vimeo. Both are identical, but the Vimeo version is better quality. Just click on the links below to view the video.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GZ304Nh5rEE>

<http://www.vimeo.com/6750225>

The issues faced by Sam are representative of the issues facing hundreds of people with disability in Queensland. SUFY is a member of the Community Safeguards Coalition (CSC), which is currently challenging the government on their practice of 'forced co-tenancy'. The aim of this video is to raise awareness of this issue and encourage the Queensland government to be more flexible in the funding models provided to people with disability in Queensland. Forced co-tenancy results from block funding, which is an outdated funding model that does not meet the needs of people in care. Governments around Australia and around the world are moving towards **individualised funding** models that provide clients with more choice and opportunities in a more cost-effective manner.

Sam and other people with disability in Queensland are in a very vulnerable position and unless their voice gets heard nothing will change. Please contact your local members of state and federal parliament and anyone else of influence you feel needs to see this video.