

## VARELA Patricia

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**From:** Caroline Mogford <carolinemogford65@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** 05 November 2018 21:30  
**To:** Special Rapporteur On Extreme Poverty And Human Rights OHCHR

Dear Mr Alston,

I am emailing you, in light of your upcoming visit to the United Kingdom, to look into poverty issues facing many people like myself . I have been diagnosed with post traumatic stress and have been awarded limited capability for work following a Universal Credit work capability assessment. While the decision makers agree I have limited capability for work, in line with the Substantial Risk law, they have not applied the same law in relation to work related activity. I was the victim of a sexual assault in my twenties, which has had a long term serious affect on my mental health. I have problems working alone with male colleagues, I get claustrophobic and have to flee situations imminently if I perceive threat. In addition I have a skin disorder ,which means that my skin bleeds and is vulnerable to infection. I feel let down by my government who put money saving before morals. I am also facing having to go to Tribunal stage to prove how my disability affects my daily living ( Personal Independence Payment ) ,which I have been refused up until now. I gave up on appealing the Universal Credit decision ,because I am overwhelmed by the prospect of having to go to Tribunal stage for this too. I was diagnosed with trigeminal neuralgia in 2013, a condition so painful, its been labelled ' The suicide disease ' .The government ( DWP ) are aware of my health conditions, but still make me live on £317 pounds per month , but do pay my housing rent costs. I have struggled to hold down work for 30 years and feel my future is so bleak, I have had thoughts that I don't want to be alive anymore. This is my story, and I'm sure is characteristic of many in this country ,who's financial needs are not being heard. I hope you have a meaningful visit to the U.K, and thank you for drawing attention to the plight of disabled people in my country

Regards Caroline Mogford