



## *Dissection Connection*

DEBRA COOK - DISSECTION SPECIMEN SUPPLIES

**When I was little I wanted to be a lawyer, a doctor, a teacher, a hairdresser and an astronaut. Not necessarily in that order.**

When I grew up I became a school science lab technician - and I had to be a little bit of all those things in that job.

One of the least pleasurable tasks for a school lab tech is going out to a butcher or an abattoir in your own car and picking up a bucket of blood and bits to bring back to school and sort through for dissection classes. Half the time the organs wouldn't have been collected, or everything you ordered wasn't there or had bits missing or were almost dissected in the abattoir before you got your hands on them. Things were better in places like Gympie

with ready access to an abattoir, but in the city, where butchers are an endangered species and they are negotiating with a wholesaler standing between them and the abattoir, it's nearly impossible to get your pound of flesh.

Dissection Connection sources and supplies dissection specimens for schools and educational institutions. The organs are inspected for dissection quality, vacuum packed, frozen and delivered to the door. The specimens are guaranteed to be suitable for dissection. No more hearts with the top cut off. No more cancelling eye dissections because they can't get the stock. All the lab techs have to do is defrost them when they need them.

My first delivery of specimens after I started work at Tin Can Bay school was so good that it got me thinking about making them available to other schools. The more we thought about it and looked into it the more it looked like we could really have a business here. Then, late one night and out of nowhere, Miss Vivi Section popped into my head. I don't know

where she came from but she arrived looking exactly as she does today and everything started to fall into place. People are drawn to her and she has made it so easy to market the business and have a bit of fun. In this business if you didn't laugh you'd cry.

We do have a bit of trouble getting people around for barbecues now and I have some interesting conversations at parties. If I hadn't moved to Gympie this business wouldn't exist. We are perfectly placed for access to stock and freight carriers and everything I need is right here - from eyeballs to styrofoam boxes to printers and graphic artists. We outgrew a couple of chest freezers in the garage really quickly and I'm now full time in the business after a couple of years working part time at school.

In the photo:  
Zombie Pinup necklace by Pussy's Bowtique  
Day of the Dead handbag by Inspired Insanity  
Miss Vivi doll Made With Madness by Maiden Madness  
Dress by Bettie Page  
Shoes by Funtasma

Mr Vivi - my best accessory and the one thing I wouldn't be without!