

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into the Increase in Victoria's Road Toll

Mr John Trevivian

SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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One easy to implement issue which has been totally neglected in road safety considerations is the issue of modified vehicles. Specifically, I refer to vehicle owners who modify exhaust systems deliberately to make more noise. This practice is endemic, not prevented by law except in extreme case and encourages bad road behaviour. The only reason vehicle exhausts are modified is to create more noise which is a bad outcome for the environment, other people who have to endure unnecessary noise, the risky behaviour that this causes and the extreme waste of valuable fuel resources.. There is no point in modifying exhaust systems unless you are going to deliberately create more noise by furious driving. One just has to stand by the side of an urban road and within minutes you will hear and see examples. With modern engine technology, modifying exhaust systems generally results in higher fuel consumption and higher pollution outputs as computer management systems built in have already optimised power and minimised fuel consumption.

I have lived and worked extensively in other advanced countries and the practice of deliberately creating more noise is almost non-existent and heavily policed. Not so in our Australian jurisdictions. It is rather a disgrace that politicians and the general community care so little about this issue and its effect on road safety. I wouldn't be surprised to hear that many modified vehicles have been involved in serious road crashes

I have regularly encountered dangerous driving situations which have been directly influenced by the mentality of making as much noise as possible. Also the fact that heavier vehicles are being deliberately modified to make more noise including heavy trucks is also a great concern but being one being largely ignored by the authorities.

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File1:

File2:

File3:

