

**From:** Marion Crooke [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 16 March 2017 1:01 PM  
**To:** Youth Justice System in Victoria Inquiry  
**Subject:** Legal Injecting facility

As a long term resident of Abbotsford, I have seen the utter futility of current legal procedures to effect the number of drug transactions, and consequent use of drugs, in Victoria Street. People from around the State are drawn to the street to supply their needs. We are confronted with people suffering from a range of mental and physical issues, desperate to assuage their pain. Consequently, criminal elements are drawn to supply the trade and bring others under their power. It is a waste of police resources to have officers strip search an addict on the Street; huge amounts of money exchange hands and the trade continues to grow. Meanwhile, residents have needles littered outside their homes, or thrown over their fences. Addicts take water from front gardens; are found collapsed in the laneways or shoot up in their cars in front of small children. It is disgraceful that 35 people should overdose with so little public reaction. These people have family and friends who are left bereft. Addiction needs to be monitored with safe facilities provided and an alternative path offered to addicts; the trade needs to be stopped by providing supervised injecting. There is plentiful evidence (including a glowing reference to the success of the Sydney safe injecting facility by PM Turnbull). Please, stop the political posturing and support a genuine reform for all of our sakes.