

Inquiry into the use of Cannabis in Victoria

Dr Anton Allen

Organisation Name:
Your position or role:

SURVEY QUESTIONS

Drag the statements below to reorder them. In order of priority, please rank the themes you believe are most important for this Inquiry into the use of Cannabis in Victoria to consider::

Public health, Social impacts, Public safety, Young people and children, Mental health, Education, Accessing and using cannabis, Criminal activity

What best describes your interest in our Inquiry? (select all that apply) :

Individual

Are there any additional themes we should consider?

Select all that apply. Do you think there should be restrictions on the use of cannabis? :

Personal use of cannabis should be legal. , Sale of cannabis should be legal and regulated. , Cultivation of cannabis for personal use should be legal.

YOUR SUBMISSION

Submission:

Cannabis is not a harmless drug, especially when used by children and adolescents, but the harms associated with cannabis use should be approached as a health issue rather than a criminal one. For it is clear by now that social and human cost of cannabis prohibition far exceeds the harm that the drug itself would cause if properly regulated.

Children and young people should be protected from the harms associated with using cannabis, but this protection is not achieved by a blanket prohibition. Because the people employed in illicit cannabis supply and distribution have no incentive to do so responsibly - selling to children is illegal, but so is selling to adults. By contrast, a properly regulated legal market would make selling to children, intoxicated people, or people otherwise at risk, an unprofitable decision as well as an unethical one.

The harms caused by cannabis prohibition can be measured in fines, criminal records, lost jobs, prison sentences, and broken families. These harms fall disproportionately on the most marginalised groups in our society, people who are least able to bear the costs. And these measures fail to protect those who are most at risk of harm from using the drug - children and young people. By any measure of justice, cannabis prohibition has failed.

Do you have any additional comments or suggestions?:

FILE ATTACHMENTS

File1:

File2:

File3:

Signature:
Anton Allen