

Inquiry into the use of Cannabis in Victoria

Mr James Patrik

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::

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

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

Individual

Are there any additional themes we should consider?

Legalisation of cannabis for personal use.

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:

Do you have any additional comments or suggestions?:

FILE ATTACHMENTS

File1: [5f3c9e8fb33e8-Inquiry into the Use of Cannabis in Victoria submission James Patrik.docx](#)

File2:

File3:

Signature:

James Patrik

TO: Parliament of Victoria
Legislative Council
Legal & Social Issues Committee
Parliament House
East Melbourne VIC 3002

James Patrik


I am writing to express my strong support for the legalisation of cannabis in the state of Victoria.

The legalisation of cannabis for personal use would effectively negate individuals seeking out the drug in illegal ways. Not only is this a dangerous and dubious activity, but it tacitly supports criminal elements that deal this drug.

Legalisation and regulation of cannabis would ensure a measure of safety in regards to the cannabis itself. Users can be assured of the purity of the product they are consuming as it would be produced and sold to a unified standard. Often, illegal cannabis dealers sell products of uncertain origin – some of which have been sprayed with harmful pesticides which pose serious health risks.

In regards to the manner in which cannabis is legally sold, I support proof of age being a requirement (similar to when purchasing alcohol). Those under 21 would not be permitted to legally purchase cannabis.

In terms of how these changes would impact society, when compared to alcohol, cannabis carries very low health risks. I would strongly advocate for legalising cannabis for personal, recreation (and all medicinal uses where applicable) inside one's home. As a matter of common sense, I would suggest making cannabis use in public places (or around children) illegal.

The legalisation of cannabis would positively acknowledge just how easy it is to access for people of all ages. This is especially pertinent where it concerns children who may not have the necessary education required to make an informed choice.

I am strongly in favour of any thoughtful, balanced educational campaigns (whether they be advertisements or take place in schools) that enable children and young people to be better informed about cannabis and its potential side effects.

Legalising cannabis, undercuts the criminal elements in our society who will often sell it with impunity to whomever can pay. By legalising this substance, I believe that we as a society are able to gain greater control over it. Such a change would keep cannabis out of the hands of children and enable recreational users to make safer, more informed choices if and when they choose to use it legally.

Kindest Regards

James Patrik