

Inquiry into the use of Cannabis in Victoria

██████████
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, Young people and children, Public health, Public safety, Education, Criminal activity, Mental health, Social impacts

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

Individual

Are there any additional themes we should consider?

Human rights.

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

Personal use of cannabis should be legal. , Cultivation of cannabis for personal use should be legal., There should be no restrictions.

YOUR SUBMISSION

Submission:

a. prevent young people and children from accessing and using cannabis in Victoria;

As regards the uptake of cannabis among children, there is wisdom in the proverb, Forbidden fruit tastes sweetest. Prohibition only enhances the appeal of cannabis, especially among the young and/or immature.

b. protect public health and public safety in relation to the use of cannabis in Victoria;

In terms of public health and safety, the comprehensive legalisation of cannabis in Victoria would deter profit-driven criminals from engaging in unsafe practices, including the use of carcinogenic plant growth hormones, and other toxic chemicals, during the growth and production of their product. At present, consumers have no way of testing the purity of illicitly produced cannabis; nor are they given any choice.

The comprehensive legalisation of cannabis would yield a further public-health (as well as environmental) benefit, in terms of reduced greenhouse gas consumption. Under present laws, huge amounts of cannabis are grown indoors in Victoria, under energy-intensive artificial lighting, primarily in order to thwart police detection. It stands to reason that the legally unrestricted growth of cannabis in natural (i.e. outdoor) conditions, will alleviate the state's net energy consumption.

d. prevent criminal activity relating to the illegal cannabis trade in Victoria;

Only the comprehensive legalisation of cannabis would effectively abolish criminal activity relating to the illegal cannabis trade in Victoria.

e. assess the health, mental health, and social impacts of cannabis use on people who use cannabis, their

families and carers;

As with any other beneficial plant species, the people of Victoria ought to be free to responsibly grow whatever herb they wish. This is their evolutionary (and in many cases, cultural) birthright. If the growth of cannabis were to be permitted only under corporate licence, even if appropriately taxed, then mental health issues born of social and economic inequality will undoubtedly persist.

Among adult users, the stigmatisation of cannabis use as “criminal” behaviour only serves to compound negative emotional states such as guilt, shame and anxiety—not to mention, disrespect for the rule of law.

Do you have any additional comments or suggestions?:

No.

FILE ATTACHMENTS

File1:

File2:

File3:

Signature:

