

Inquiry into the use of Cannabis in Victoria

Mr Andreas Nikakis

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

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

Individual

Are there any additional themes we should consider?

Potential Benefits

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:

Here are a few points in response to the terms of reference.

1. Prevent young people and children from accessing and using cannabis in Victoria;

A similar level of regulation that prevents young people and children from accessing alcohol should be applied to Cannabis.

2. Protect public health and public safety in relation to the use of cannabis in Victoria;

I think research should be done into other countries that have legalised Cannabis to ascertain whether public health and safety have been negatively effected as I think this is a baseless assumption as my reading on other jurisdictions who have legalise Cannabis is that they have enjoyed the opposite effect on public health and safety, for a number of reasons.

3. Implement health education campaigns and programs to ensure children and young people are aware of the dangers of drug use, in particular, cannabis use;

This could be useful if it highlights respect for these substances but also possible benefits, the full story needs to be told not just a scare campaign. If a format along these lines is decided on then it should be applied to similar substances namely; Alcohol and Caffeine.

4. Prevent criminal activity relating to the illegal cannabis trade in Victoria;

This criminal activity will be eliminated once cannabis is legalised. Again we don't have to reinvent the

wheel here, we should partner with countries who have already legalised and find out what if any challenges arose in this area.

We should be looking to other countries who have been caring enough to already have made these changes.

5. Assess the health, mental health, and social impacts of cannabis use on people who use cannabis, their families and carers;

This is most definitely worth doing and the research would suggest positive outcomes in these areas.

Do you have any additional comments or suggestions?:

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FILE ATTACHMENTS

File1:

File2:

File3:

Signature:

Andreas Nikakis