

Inquiry into the use of Cannabis in Victoria

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:

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

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

Individual

Are there any additional themes we should consider?

Socioeconomic impacts, financial impacts, age of access restrictions

YOUR SUBMISSION

Referencing section d.

The criminal activity related to illegal cannabis trade means that the product is not regulated, and with any form of illegal trade, leads to cutting costs. This has led to the sales of "synthetic" weeds, which were GMOs created purely for scientific research into the effects of cannabis, and are much more destructive to the health of people who use it than non GMO weed. However synthetic weed is much more readily growable and hardy than the non GMO version, increasing its spread into the illegal trade and selling.

Referencing section b.

This increases the already well versed and researched negative effects of cannabis on the population, especially in the younger populace who are not necessarily as informed/educated on the issues that pervade the sales of cannabis.

Referencing section c and a.

This should incentivise governmental bodies to educate the young people about, not just about the use of the drug itself, but also the dangers that accompany the unregulated and black market trading of the drug, further reinforcing the aims of "Section a" of preventing the access and use of illegally obtained cannabis.

Referencing section E.

There are a multitude of studies referencing the positive benefits on CBD oils and other cannabis derived products on mental health and disabilities. If the continued persecution of regulating cannabis sales pushes families to illegally obtain these products that are not safely regulated, just to stop their child from having seizures, isn't enough of an incentive to push for regulation, then I don't know what is.

The social impacts that will occur due to legalised sales will, in my opinion, greatly be outweighed by the positive impacts on the health of the population.

Referencing section b.

To protect the public, in the eyes of public safety, there should be instituted similar methods of measuring cannabis levels in the blood as is already in place for alcohol for those who are driving. These methods can be more invasive than breathalisers, however just as when police officers have can use a degree of reason-

able cause/suspicion with people who are too intoxicated in public, they should be allowed to in these situations as well. "Lollipop" tests are also functional for side of the road drug testing, however these are not always 99.95% accurate and this is where a degree of reasonable cause should be implemented, as there are many other physical and psychological cues that can support the officers decision.

Therefore, I don't think that some people's rationale that the legal sales of cannabis will "make the road more dangerous" is valid, as alcohol is already a drug that is socially acceptable while mind-affecting. The issues of public safety around this have already had measures against it that have been deemed satisfactory, so why not for the use of cannabis which can also be used for health-benefiting reasons, something which alcohol lacks.

Do you have any additional comments or suggestions?:

While I understand that for creating motions for assemblies being succinct in the number of subsections makes it easier, greater depth and breadth of terms of reference to address should be created/brought forward when dealing with such a multifaceted issue.

Select all that apply.

Do you think there should there be restrictions on the use of cannabis? :

Personal use of cannabis should be decriminalised.

(Decriminalised: there are no criminal or civil penalties instead a person is referred to a drug diversion program or other health/ treatment service), Personal use of cannabis should be legal. Sale of cannabis should be legal and regulated.