

## Justine Donohue

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 4 March 2021 7:58 AM  
**To:** Inquiry into the Use of Cannabis in Victoria  
**Subject:** submission

Please note my enquiry could not be submitted on the mobile browser. I ask that the following be included as a submission to the enquiry:

The cultivation, use and regulation of cannabis can be no different to trailer building. I can build and register a trailer or I can pay for one to be built for me. The entire sector is regulated insofar that the trailer I built personally needs to meet certain standards to be road registered. Alternatively, I can purchase one from a manufacturer fit for purpose. Simple. Both options are legal, with little recourse unless there is inherent danger or risk to public safety. I very much doubt a single member of parliament can honestly say they've never seen a car or trailer on the road and thought, "geez, that really shouldn't be there".

How hard is it to "listen to the science" and acknowledge there are implicit benefits to safe and responsible use of cannabis. I recall when I was at school 25 years ago, the police would tell us "marijuana is a gateway drug". I'm sorry, state and federal governments have either legalised or criminalised the primary gateway drugs, being alcohol and tobacco, respectively. Both disgraceful drugs which cause an immense amount of harm within our communities; and yet here we are having a conversation about something whereby the only harm caused, is by the reckless hysteria created by bureaucrats and the rigorous and unnecessary criminalisation of such.

What's more, is now in this very state it's perfectly legal to carry an amount of incredibly dangerous illicit drugs down the street, walk straight into "supervised medical facility" and stick them into your body to produce 'who knows what' outcome. Talk about having your priorities wrong.

While we're on the subject of priorities, let's consider for a moment the immense harm caused to the economy amidst the covid 19 reaction. Then for just a second, consider the potential upside for savvy investors to get behind responsible development of cannabinoid products that can be utilised as effective medical treatment for common ailments. I myself have worked shift work for the better part of 25 years. Such are my sleeping patterns that I seek a prescription for potentially toxic, harmful & addictive medicine to assist with developing regular sleep patterns. On the subject of the TGA approval of over the counter use of cannabinoid products, recently I was given two chewables mailed from the US which contained low dose cannabinoid oil. The impacts of which were minor at best. So minor in fact, that were they a prescription medicine a simple advisory against the use of heavy machinery for as few as six hours after the consumption of said product would be sufficient advice. Moreover, as compared to other drugs, the interactions are all but non existent; and so, it is far safer to consume with alcohol and possibly other drugs as well should it be necessary.

As discussed, nothing really surprises me anymore. That a bunch of bureaucrats are incapable of providing a definitive response to the legalisation of something so harmless with so much potential, really highlights just how incompetent our bureaucracy has become. It's ironic really, that you're all so eager to push through legislation that is far less important and yet stomp and scream about a perfectly acceptable and completely harmless thing like marijuana. Criminalise sugar and salt for crying out loud. Collectively they've done far more harm and are far more addictive than marijuana has been in all of history.

Publishing this submission without my name attached I approved.

Sincerest,

[REDACTED]

[Redacted]

--

Kind regards,

[Redacted]