

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

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

Individual

Are there any additional themes we should consider?

Economic

YOUR SUBMISSION

Cannabis is commonly used and decades of prohibition have not been able to prevent it's circulation in the population here in Victoria or abroad. It cannot be practically stopped and keeping it illegal only pushes it underground where the power to manage the impacts is reduced.

I have people who I care about that are effectively dependent on cannabis and they will not stop consuming it - the fact it's illegal is stigmatises them and only furthers damage to their mental health.

For people who will continue to use cannabis, and we know those people will always exist unless we are choosing to put our head in the sand, they are therefore forced to associate with "dealers" who could be involved other criminal acts, who do not pay any tax on this income, who operate in an unregulated environment that can increase harm beyond the effect of pure cannabis alone.

Final point I would make relates to the impact of covid-19. Given the market for cannabis is unregulated I've heard from multiple people that the price for an ounce has risen from in the range of \$200 to in the range of \$400. People who are dependent on drug will still purchase it at that price otherwise it would not be sold at that price. Consider the economic impact on those people and the larger impact on society when all this money is being sucked into a black market.

Do you have any additional comments or suggestions?:

Legalize, regulate, tax.

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. Cultivation of cannabis for personal use should be legal.

FILE ATTACHMENTS

File1:

File2:

File3:

Signature: