

## 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::**

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

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

Individual

**Are there any additional themes we should consider?**

Personal freedoms, tax revenue, capitalist opportunity, removing power from the black market

**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:**

- a. prevent young people and children from accessing and using cannabis in Victoria;  
Legalisation and regulation of cannabis prevents youth from access and use in the same way that alcohol regulation and tobacco does; the black market will indiscriminately sell to customers of any age and in any quantity. Furthermore legalisation culturally normalises the use of cannabis which mitigates its alluring perception as rebellious and 'cool.'
- b. protect public health and public safety in relation to the use of cannabis in Victoria;  
Cannabis legalisation poses minimal risk toward public health and safety when compared to alcohol and tobacco. A purposeful and considered legal framework for mitigating addiction and intoxicated driving should be integrated into any legislative reform.
- c. implement health education campaigns and programs to ensure children and young people are aware of the dangers of drug use, in particular, cannabis use;  
Legalisation enables for more accurate research into developing preventative methods for youth access to cannabis. Tax revenue from the industry can bolster the scale, efficiency and effectiveness of these preventative strategies.
- d. prevent criminal activity relating to the illegal cannabis trade in Victoria;  
Legalisation and regulation of cannabis removes financial and cultural power from the black market. Associated criminal activities are removed such as smuggling, distribution and consumption. These are converted to legitimate, tax revenue generating, socially contributing activities.
- e. assess the health, mental health, and social impacts of cannabis use on people who use cannabis, their families and carers;

Legalisation and regulation of the cannabis market reduces the health issues associated with consuming low-quality black-market cannabis by introducing production standards and best practices. Black market sales of cannabis offer a pathway to harder drugs or illegal activity which have significant social impacts; this is mitigated by removing market power away from organised crime and toward a regulated industry. Consumption of the drug itself is relatively benign when compared to the social repercussions of incarceration and prosecution on the individual, family and carers.

**Do you have any additional comments or suggestions?:**

There are also considerable positive environmental effects to a legal cannabis market and promotion of related hemp products.

**FILE ATTACHMENTS**

**File1:**

**File2:**

**File3:**

**Signature:**

