

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,Education,Mental health,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?

Select all that apply. Do you think there should 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.

YOUR SUBMISSION

Submission:

I've been a cannabis user, off and on, for most of the past 20 years. When I was younger, I used cannabis recreationally, among many other illicit drugs. As an adult, I now use cannabis medicinally.

Purchasing cannabis for personal use has always required me to have contact with illicit drug dealers, which carries risks both to my personal safety and also provides exposure to more harmful drugs. Were cannabis to be available from legal and regulated sources, I believe it would no longer serve as a "gateway" drug to young people, in the way it has historically.

Furthermore, there is a growing body of peer-reviewed medical research demonstrating the medicinal benefits of cannabis for a range of conditions. In the past it had been unclear if the benefits outweigh the risks, but that is no longer the case; it simply does not make sense to ignore these benefits any longer.

From my personal experience, cannabis has been the only medicinal compound to provide consistent pain relief when other pharmacological compounds have failed to do so without severe side effects.

There are enough communities worldwide, similar in demographics to Victoria, that have legalised both recreational and medicinal cannabis use to provide a roadmap for how this may work in Victoria. I implore you to follow these examples and provide safe and regulated access to cannabis for both recreational and medicinal use.

Do you have any additional comments or suggestions?:

FILE ATTACHMENTS

File1:

File2:

File3:

Signature:

