

Inquiry into the use of Cannabis in Victoria

Ms Karie Cornell

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

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. , Other – please explain.

The consumption of cannabis should be legal for Australians over the age of 21 - as their brains are mostly finished developing. It should only be allowed on private property, away from children and not in public spaces.

YOUR SUBMISSION

Submission:

I believe that while criminalising cannabis in Australia has served our country in the past, we need a more modern approach to cannabis use.

- There are over 729 known strains of wild cannabis.
- While some strains are psychoactive (and potentially harmful according to the literature), strains that are CBD-dominant are likely safe for human consumption.
- For example, cannabis containing THC in an amount of less than 1% is unlikely to contain psychoactive properties - which will not impair users ability to function, drive or make decisions.
- In places where cannabis has been legalised, tourism revenue has increased up to 400% (Washington and Colorado -

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/281830108_Lessons_from_Washington_and_Colorado_The_Potential_Fin

- Medical marijuana prescriptions cost the average patient over \$436 a week. These costs are partially due to needing overseas supply. If recreational cannabis is legalised, this supply is easier to source - decreasing cost to patients. (<https://freshleafanalytics.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Freshleaf-Q1-2020-Report.pdf>).
- Criminalising cannabis is expensive, and making it illegal does not effect its usage in Australia.

Therefore, I believe that Australians over the age of 21 should be allowed access to CBD-dominant cannabis small amounts. While the literature around long term effects is developing, adults should have the freedom to make this choice for themselves. There are too many potential economic benefits to ignore this industry.

Either we waste tax dollars on criminalising it, or we profit from it.

Do you have any additional comments or suggestions?:

FILE ATTACHMENTS

File1:

File2:

File3:

Signature:

k.cornell