

## **Inquiry into the use of Cannabis in Victoria**

Mr Ral Roncan

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

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

Individual

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

This inquiry is only about reducing the 'harms' of cannabis, were it to ever be legalised.

An additional theme should be "Do you APPROVE of people using cannabis? Do you think people should be ARRESTED for using cannabis?"

**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:**

VIC INQUIRY INTO THE USE OF CANNABIS:

**(a) PREVENT YOUNG PEOPLE AND CHILDREN FROM ACCESSING AND USING CANNABIS IN VICTORIA”**

As things stand anyone, old OR young, who wants to, can access and use cannabis in Victoria NOW, even though it's a CRIME.

Current legislation causes great HARM to young people and children, because they're automatically classified as criminals, they often have to deal with the underworld and black market to get it, and it's very expensive.

(Around 1 million Victorians currently use cannabis, and more than 80,000 Australians are arrested for it every year).

Studies over decades have shown that wherever cannabis has been legalised, fewer people use it, and less of it. Thus, legalising cannabis is the best way to prevent people from accessing it.

**“( b) PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY IN RELATION TO THE USE OF CANNABIS IN VICTORIA”**

Studies have shown that there are no health or public safety issues in relation to the use of cannabis in Victoria, apart from the far-reaching consequences of arrest (because it's a CRIME), and the dangers of having to enter the black market in order to get it (because it's a CRIME).

**“(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”

At great expense, cannabis awareness programs for children, young people, middle-aged people, old people, etc have been used for DECADES to little - or even worse – COUNTERPRODUCTIVE effect. (‘Stoner Sloth’ being the latest concept to backfire spectacularly ... it was so ridiculous it actually became a ‘rallying cry’ FOR the movement.)

Perhaps if ‘awareness programs’ didn’t finish with the threat “Just say NO, or we’ll ARREST you”, people might take them more seriously.

“(d) PREVENT CRIMINAL ACTIVITY RELATING TO THE ILLEGAL CANNABIS TRADE IN VICTORIA”

ALL cannabis trade in Victoria is currently illegal. If it was legalised, maybe it wouldn’t be as much of a CRIME.

“(e) ASSESS THE (MENTAL) HEALTH AND SOCIAL IMPACTS OF CANNABIS ON PEOPLE WHO USE CANNABIS, THEIR FAMILIES AND CARERS”

Studies have shown there to be NO health, mental health or social impacts on people who use cannabis, their families, OR their carers.

The only impacts are ARREST and JAIL, which are a direct result of being ‘in the VICINITY of cannabis’, which is the ACTUAL crime.

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

The rest of the world is winding back its War On Citizens ... sorry, 'Cannabis' ...

Most Australians support legalising cannabis.

Most Australians realise it's a disgrace to classify 4 million Australians (1 in 6) as CRIMINALS for what they do to and by themselves in their own homes.

Most Australian politicians couldn't give a toss.

Australia, STILL a convict colony.

**FILE ATTACHMENTS**

**File1:**

**File2:**

**File3:**

**Signature:**

Ral Roncan