

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, Young people and children, Education, Public health, Social impacts, Mental 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.

YOUR SUBMISSION

Submission:

To the parliamentary committee,

I am writing this submission to inform you of my position that the criminalisation of marijuana does more harm than good to society. I will presume that more informed authorities have iterated the alarmingly disproportionate ways that the criminalisation of marijuana are enforced against people of colour and disadvantage, so I will instead focus on putting forth my own experience with the drug.

Firstly, the criminalisation of marijuana, coupled with a complete lack of education about responsible consumption, resulted in my seeing children all throughout my high schooling from the age of 12, finding access to the drug before their brain was properly formed. Because of this, I witnessed notable long term effects on their mental health and cognitive function. Were marijuana to be legal, but regulated in the same way as alcohol, those vulnerable in my cohort wouldn't have had the same access to such a high quantity of drugs. Unfortunately, it seems that outside of the legal framework, drug dealers are not beholden to the same code of responsible service as legalised drugs such as alcohol are.

Currently, when I interact with people who are obviously intoxicated with marijuana, they are far less of a threat as they exhibit less anti-social and destructive behaviour than those intoxicated on alcohol. It is my position that if cannabis were legal, it would be far less of a blight to society than alcohol already currently is, and there is no talk of prohibition whatsoever, as the sheer thought is patently ridiculous.

I end by simply noting, if the parliamentary committee were to evaluate other wealthy countries like our own who have legalised the sale and possession of cannabis, have those places suffered from chaos? The only

thing they have suffered from is a new sector in the economy that has encouraged the entry of new businesses and a reduction in pointless imprisonments, pointless trials, and pointless jobs for overworked police.

Regards,

Do you have any additional comments or suggestions?:

FILE ATTACHMENTS

File1:

File2:

File3:

Signature:

