

## Inquiry into the use of Cannabis in Victoria

### 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:**

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

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

Individual

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

### YOUR SUBMISSION

A snippet from Wikipedia on the effects of marijuana legalisation in Oregon, USA:

Effects have included an increase in cannabis-related calls to the Oregon state poison center, [13] an increase in perception among youth that Marijuana use is harmful, [13] a decrease in arrest rates for cannabis related offenses, [13] stores sold \$250 million in cannabis products which resulted in \$70 million in state tax revenue (higher than a predicted \$36 million in revenue), [14] 10% decrease in violent crime, and 13% drop in murder rate.[14]

It is without question that many cannabis users pose themselves a great risk each time they wish to acquire cannabis. Not only this, but cannabis grown using plant growth regulators have been shown to produce toxic side effects. "Combustion of Paclbutrazol (as when smoked) causes the compound to break down into nitrosamines – the most carcinogenic component in cigarettes." from friendlyaussiebuds.com. PGR grown marijuana is becoming more common in the unregulated market, with potentially detrimental effects for smokers. I believe it would be irresponsible for both the safety and health of smokers, for the Victorian Government not to consider this in their law-making decisions. There is also significant financial incentive in this.

I do acknowledge there are also many cases where marijuana usage is dangerous - particularly with young and vulnerable people. This is also why I propose education be the forefront with any progressive moves in the direction of legal cannabis. This should be free of past biases and up to date with well conducted studies.

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

**Select all that apply.**

**Do you think there should there 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.