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From: Inquiry into Drug Law Reform [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 14 March 2017 10:09 PM
To: LRRCS
Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into Drug Law Reform

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Drug Law Reform

Mr Michael O'Brien
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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I contend that cannabis should be legalised, regulated and taxed for recreational purposes. Colorado has demonstrated the benefits with a higher tax income, lower road toll, and reduced violence in general, but particularly domestic violence, not to mention the economic and employment boom this new product has created in the agricultural, manufacturing, and retail industries.

"In a 2004 survey, it was reported that one in three Australians aged 14 years and over had used cannabis at least once in their life, with more than half a million indicating use in the last 12 months."

http://www.aic.gov.au/crime_types/drugs_alcohol/drug_types/cannabis.html

and under current laws, everyone a criminal. A criminal record can have unseen impacts years later, such as inaccessibility to a career such as teaching, police, military or nursing, not to mention the hurdles it can bring up when travelling. It's current illegal and unregulated nature means that it is at times adulterated with other drugs and chemicals, which is I believe the true cause of most cannabis induced psychosis cases, and is the mainstay of a lot of criminal activity. All this would cease if the market was legalised and regulated. Portugal has decriminalised all drug use in 2001, and the sky hasn't fallen yet. In fact, overall drug use has fallen slightly, and more users are in treatment. I would support this model if proposed, as I believe it is more humane, and more effective at helping people.

I would also add that psychotropics and MDMA should be available under prescription for certain psychiatric conditions such as PTSD, depression, anxiety, terminal illnesses etc, as decided by the appropriately qualified medical professionals.

This is my submission.

Michael O'Brien

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File1:

File2:

File3:

