

Christianne Andonovski

From: [REDACTED] <wordpress@wp.greens.org.au>
Sent: Thursday, 16 February 2017 11:35 AM
To: LRR CSC
Subject: Wake up and be brave for once!

RE: INQUIRY INTO DRUG LAW REFORM

Wake up and be brave for once!

Our countries take on drugs is ridiculous. I'm the first to admit that drugs can be dangerous and drug abuse is a horrible problem we have in society. Yes, there is no easy fix but saying "drugs are bad don't take them" doesn't work. It's as simple as that... seriously!

So a little context. I'm a 27-year-old, full-time employee of a respectable medium sized business. I went to a good school, I went to uni, I've traveled a bit, I have a girlfriend of 4 years and live in a nice house in the inner city with two friends. I love taking drugs... I know this last part doesn't seem to fit but I'm being realistic here, I'm about as normal as you get for someone my age in this country.

Now I actually don't do drugs very often. Most of the time it's twice in a big month or not at all for a few months and it's mostly MDMA, rarely Ket and very rarely coke (if I can afford it). Drugs are fun and I like to party with my mates and that's about it. I'm not an addict and I don't plan on taking drugs for the rest of my life and when I do take drugs I drink plenty of water, know my limits and look out for myself and others. I can honestly say I am more a hazard to myself and people around me if I've drunk too much alcohol (which I never really do).

I don't understand why the people who are actually making the decisions about these things don't get that I am the majority of people taking drugs in this country. 99% of people who get hurt and injured taking "bad" and "unsafe" drugs in this country are just like me. They just want to take a little something to make them feel good on a Saturday night, then go home and continue living a normal life.

Now I fully agree that there are drugs out there that need to be stopped but I feel like that should almost be a separate issue. There is a huge difference between the person that takes a cap at a festival and someone who is addicted to ice.

YOU NEED to PLEASE take a realistic look at this problem and understand PEOPLE ARE ALWAYS GOING TO TAKE THE RISK!! Look what prohibition did for alcohol, it made it more popular and DANGEROUS than ever. Can we please stop living in the deluded and nieve past and start thinking that fewer people would take such huge risks if there was a more realistic view on drugs in this country.

Imagine a country where drugs were controlled and people could be sure of what they were getting. Or at the very least a country where I could check my drugs before I take them to ensure I wasn't putting myself at risk.

If you want to solve the problem you need to get your head out of the sand and treat drugs the same way we treat alcohol. Understand that it WILL happen and work on SAFTY for users, not just a ban. If you want a perfect example look at Rainbow serpent. Their standard on safety is by far and away the best of ANY event I have ever been too including the grand finale and the Melbourne cup.

I hope this helps in some way and reaches someone because this is really what it's like out here.

Thanks

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[REDACTED]



I'm happy for my submission and details to be made public.