

Christianne Andonovski

From: Richard Smithers <wordpress@wp.greens.org.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 28 February 2017 11:34 PM
To: LRRCS
Subject: Submission of Richard Smithers, 4 Jackson Street Richmond

RE: INQUIRY INTO DRUG LAW REFORM

Submission of Richard Smithers

I strongly support a safer supervised injecting room for Richmond. It has been shown to work extremely well in Sydney and other places overseas. It does not encourage drug use but reduces the harm that is being done by injecting on the street. There is also a significant toll on health workers and members of the local community who have to deal with the aftermath of overdoses and for children to see people in public in such a terrible state. I find it difficult to explain to my children why our society doesn't do something to provide safe places for these people and the opportunity to connect them to support services. There is also the significant impost on the local community and council of used needles in the community. I also feel that the drug problem has a significant and unfair impact on people in public housing in North Richmond, many of whom are recent migrants to Australia, and who have to deal with the problem on a daily basis on top of the challenge of establishing themselves in a new country. I urge the inquiry to support safer injecting rooms for Richmond. Thank you.

-- Richard Smithers

[REDACTED]

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