

From: Carole Whitehead  
To: robert.mcdonald@parliament.vic.gov.au  
Date: 25/04/2012 09:51 AM  
Subject: Submission to Car Dooring Bill Inquiry

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Dear Robert,

I thought I'd send in my car door incident.

It was an early morning, and I was riding south-bound down Chapel Street. Most shops weren't open yet, and the road was relatively free of traffic, so I felt safer than I usually do on that particular stretch of road.

Passing Windsor Station, a car door flew open right as I was passing, and clipped my left leg, and hard. I managed to stay on the bike, but stopped to speak to the driver. He yelled at me, thinking it was my fault, and that I was in the way of his door. I corrected him, mentioning the law against opening a car door into moving traffic. He continued to tell me I should have gone around the door, and I told him this was impossible, otherwise I would have done so.

Over the next couple of days my leg swelled to an amazing size, and became purple and black with bruises. I did escape lucky though, and I'd hate to think what would have happened to a less-experienced cyclist, and in regular traffic.

If perhaps drivers knew what the consequences were, they may think a little more before swinging open a door into traffic. Perhaps it'll save some lives.

Thank you, and I hope you consider this.

Carole Whitehead