

From: Stephen Broderick
To: robert.mcdonald@parliament.vic.gov.au
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Subject: Submission to Car Dooring Bill Inquiry

I read the article in the Age and I think you are heading in the wrong direction.

This is a typical politician's response. Seen to be doing something while actually doing nothing. The fine issued by a policeman can still only be \$122. The only time the \$1,220 would be imposed would be by a court. The only time it would go to court is if the police thought it was a serious offence. Ie, someone was injured or killed. Then there is the argument of relativities. Because previous offenders have been fined only \$366, there is a strong argument to not impose \$1,220 unless someone has died. Then of course, \$1,220 is a pathetic penalty for having taken someone's life.

How many drivers actually drive around thinking about the consequences of killing a cyclist?

The most effective method is increased attitude change, followed by education and awareness, and then points. Obviously with the state of the budget, attitude change, education and awareness are not likely to be funded. That leaves points.

Drivers think much more about their points than any fine. The fact that it takes 2 years to get the points back means they think about it for all of those 2 years. And during that time, they think about all the other possible ways they might lose points because they don't want to lose their licence. Points therefore work to modify behaviours that are not even related to the offence.

Look at the impact that double demerit points has on NSW roads. THAT is the impact points can have.

Stephen Broderick