

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2021 1:38 AM
To: LC Table Office <council@parliament.vic.gov.au>
Subject: Submission to Council on Legalisation of Marijuana

For the attention of; Keir Delaney/Secretary, Assistant Clerk (of) Procedure/Dept of the Legislative Council/Parliament House/East Melb 3002.

Dear Ms Delaney,
(I trust I have addressed you politically correctly);

For my entire Adult Life I have been a chronic user of marijuana at every opportunity, aside from a voluntary drastic term of 5 years in Odyssey House, no Court Pressure. Frankly most of the staff & residents considered me insane to put up with a quasi American Military School based system to try to find a way to live without it. I lasted, coincidentally, 5years 'clean'.

I was gainfully employed in Vic State Gov't Departments of various natures, always with good reports except for the last few months of my employment by the Alpine Resorts Commission, after beginning as Clerical Officer Grade 1, after 5 years I had made my way to CO5, handled a stressful series of positions on the way up the ranks & through the departments, with stints at higher duties as high as ADM6 (in Freedom of Information & Records Management).

After marrying, which again lasted just over 5 yrs, my marriage lasted 7 years, I had to quit my job in the midst of my life breaking down along with my marriage & a short venture into private business, ALL of which ended up in the possession of my ex wife.

My Sons have ceased regular weekly contact over time, after I returned to marijuana use, but was swallowed by the illegal heavier drugs associated with the same groups of people. I could say I was unwillingly drawn into heavier drugs, but I would be making excuses for bad decisions deliberately made. My marriage & Family collapse led me irrevocably back to marijuana, & then, again, further into heavier illegal drugs.

After yet another 5 year gap I found myself with ruined mental capacity, with Doctors repeatedly diagnosing me into the catch-all classification of Anxiety/Depression. It was one of my children who actually alerted me to the fact that when I stopped using marijuana, a very profoundly flawed character surfaced. Doctors since my teen years have tried what must be every blasted known drug used to combat "general anxiety/depression". I even took part in three or four trials of 'cutting edge' new drugs every one of which either failed miserably or actually made my condition WORSE.

I am now begging your Council to take the most logical step modern western medicine can make, given the state of the people of the world - confused, depressed, gullible, totally incapable of choosing adequate electoral choices. The World seems to be 'going to hell in a hand basket' as my Mum used to say. Stress killed her at 37, a stroke, burst blood vessel in her brain.

I am convinced now that I was NOT fooling myself that my use of marijuana WAS self medication. 50 years of real learning by experience has made it as plain as can be. Marijuana, the THC elements I think, are excellent treatment for anxiety, & the CBD elements promote appetite & loss of muscle aches & pains, PARTICULARLY for oldies like myself. At 65 I yearn for a time machine to go back & eliminate that American guy who crusaded against it (Ainslinger)? I do hope I haven't slandered the wrong name there.

Ironically, while I literally cry daily for the legalisation of marijuana, one of my Sons manages a Dan Murphys branch, causing untold organ damage with societys' blessing. One of the FEW Covid exempted protected trades. At least he had a job I guess.

Would the Council PLEASE, PLEASE set in motion RAPIDLY, the full legalisation of marijuana. There will always be idiots who use it, just as there are untold numbers of idiots destroying their organs one by one with 'just a little' alcohol every day, then 'just a little more' each day. But you could wager 'London to a Brick' that marijuana users could not kill themselves any quicker or more disgustingly than cigarette smokers. Perhaps processing by grade control chemists into the equivalent of the ancient Indian (& other peoples') forms of oil, pollen & leaf concentrates should be seriously considered. Why stumble our way into simple ragtag-quality legalisation, when we can avoid the need for smoking killing anyone while we go about it?

Come on, please give me 10 or 15 years of normality before I depart permanently.

Another way to look at it could be - if we dare contemplate the import of Indian Covid strain in the name of business profits, it simply makes no sense to continue conflating marijuana with cocaine & heroin. And for Gods' Sake subsidise the cost into line for poor people too.

Thank you for reading this far,



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