

Inquiry into the use of Cannabis in Victoria

████████████████████
Organisation Name:
Your position or role:

SURVEY QUESTIONS

Drag the statements below to reorder them. In order of priority, please rank the themes you believe are most important for this Inquiry into the use of Cannabis in Victoria to consider::

Education,Public health,Public safety,Accessing and using cannabis,Mental health,Young people and children,Criminal activity,Social impacts

What best describes your interest in our Inquiry? (select all that apply) :

Public sector body,Academic and research,Advocacy body,Working in the health sector

Are there any additional themes we should consider?

Select all that apply. Do you think there should be restrictions on the use of cannabis? :

Personal use of cannabis should be decriminalised.

(Decriminalised: there are no criminal or civil penalties instead a person is referred to a drug diversion program or other health/ treatment service),Personal use of cannabis should be legal. ,Sale of cannabis should be legal and regulated. ,Cultivation of cannabis for personal use should be legal.

YOUR SUBMISSION

Submission:

I have been researching the benefits of cannabis use to aid in management of various health conditions including but not limited to epilepsy, cancer and severe pain management. I feel we have released far dangerous drugs into our community as "legal". I have watched family die from alcohol consumption, I suffer myself from pancreatitis due to over consumption- something I feel I was NOT educated sufficiently on. Australia has a firm alcohol culture, if you don't drink, your not Australian. Cigarettes are killing my brother with emphysema and hes 30, smoking related cancer has killed Numours loved ones. My father overdosed on a cocktail of over the counter and prescription medication 8 weeks ago and his doctor refused to sign his death certificate as he was culpable. No one has overdosed on cannabis. No one has beaten their wife or children high on cannabis. How can something that hasn't ever killed anyone in history, that has proven to shrink cancer, assist in tremor management and aid in chronic pain management, either consumed orally or in the lungs via vapor or in its original form, be more "evil" than what we accept as "culture". I have located and used a THC removed CBD oil to aid in my pain, it helped me avoid hospital with no side effects as it was a topical ointment, but it's far more evil than if I was to over consume opiates. The law forbids me from using something that won't promptly or slowly kill me, I must consume substances that will damage my organs, that comes solely from laboratories, that I could take 1 too many and die. How is this still up for debate? I'm not saying every one should have a great time and get on it, I'm not an uneducated fool. I know consumption can be harmful depending on how you take it. Bongs add water to your lungs have a spin off of complications that could lead to potential death, food consumption is generally paires with high calorie foods which can have a different sent of complications. To restrict it's use entirely is foolish and ignorant. Don't limit all access due to a few modalities that it can be taken. Control the substance, distribute it in oil form if the fact it's smoked concerns you so. If we look at cannabis from an economical stand point, it will prove to be a very profitable enterprise. If it is produced ethically and regulated, growing a plant that

takes off like a weed, hence it's name, will benefit not only the users, but will generate an entirely new sector or jobs. We are currently struggling profoundly and understandably from this global pandemic . Why not assist our country and its people by not only giving them access to life changing medicine, but assisting millions in doing so whilst improving the lives of the able bodied with jobs before the over indulge in the legal drugs in despair due to excessive financial devastation. Is it more favourable for them to die from legal alcohol, cigarettes and pain medication or to swallow pride on the evil cannabis and actually do something that will aid our citizens in a multifaceted approach and enrich so many lives whilst potentially saving them? Please do the right thing and let go of this war against cannabis.

Do you have any additional comments or suggestions?:

I would appear if front of a committee but I'm concerned I will be targeted and seen in favour for other drugs. Please understand I only advocate for the use of cannabis. The evil and fear are so strong in our community I fear for my future if i was to appear. I would be happy to discuss this further in a non public setting as anonymous.

FILE ATTACHMENTS

File1:

File2:

File3:

Signature:

