



Inquiry into the Use of Cannabis in Victoria - Youth Forum

Discussion questions worksheet

Name: [REDACTED]

Do you consent to this worksheet being accepted and published by the Committee as evidence for the inquiry?

Please tick for yes

Do you consent to your name being published along with your worksheet?

Please tick for yes

Discussion 1: How can we improve education about cannabis and other drugs in Victoria?

- a fact-based approach about harm minimisation - kids will still do drugs even if you tell them not to therefore ~~we~~ we need to be honest

- use of positive role models to fix the stigma around cannabis and other drug users. Not encouraging drug use per se but having an honest ~~discussion~~ discussion about drug use

= difficult to have a common-sense, factual and frank discussion about drugs with the current ~~status of~~ criminal stigma of drug use



Discussion 2: The impacts of cannabis use and how the Government can deliver better services.

- difficult to deliver ^{effective} health services around cannabis use given its criminal status

- government should treat cannabis as a health issue rather than a criminal justice issue

- giving citizen greater autonomy and information about the medicinal use of cannabis - (dr who have a stigma around cannabis use is a major problem that currently exists)



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Discussion 3: Cannabis and the law – how cannabis prohibition affects young people?

- Drug driving tests are antiquated and do not test impaired state of the driver - This needs reform
- Cannabis consumption is a victimless crime - It is an expression of a person's life choices and the criminal aspect of it is due to its criminalisation
- Use of sniffer dogs at festivals doesn't stop people - it can actually make the mental health impacts worse
- Creates a black market that's unregulated - prohibition does not work to prevent people from use



Discussion 4: Should cannabis be decriminalised and/or legalised in Victoria?

Yes - legalise it, regulate it, tax it and put that back into the health system
rebuild trust between the people and their government
restrict marketing of cannabis products
harm reduction
black market does not want legalisation - that should be a ~~red~~ red flag to lawmakers
decriminalised still encourages a black market
regulated market so that benefits can ^{flow} ~~go~~ to medium/small businesses rather than Multi-nationals