

I was born in Canberra & lived there until I was 16 years old & then moved to Tasmania with my mother & sister & resided in & around Cygnet in the Huon Valley until 2001. I then moved to Melbourne & my partner & 2 children then came over & joined me shortly thereafter as I could not get any full time employment in Tasmania. I now live alone in a caravan in the Latrobe Valley of Victoria. I am now suffering with chronic pain which my Doctor has been treating me since I became ill some years ago. I am also Bi-polar which full strength cannabis is not feasible for my Bi-polar but I am desperate for non opiate pain relief.

I would like to put a submission to Canberra about the potential possibility of the legalisation of medicinal cannabis in Australia in the up-coming senate inquiry. I personally would not want to see the U.S.A States like California or Colorado type model where the T.H.C levels are left to sky-rocket but rather C.B.D type of product. There needs to be some sort of products for different conditions & left to the Doctors to determine which product as everyone is different.

The impact of the non regulated market as it is now has seen many people take on the deadly “synthetic cannabis” as the access is very easy, as easy as buying petrol for the car & no need to get involved with criminals. I too have tried it many times & it put me in hospital. It is still readily accessible here in Morwell & Traralgon. The strength of it is stronger than my meds which is quite scary. I no longer go anywhere near it. I don't drink alcohol as my meds would be impacted by it. I am very worried by the amount of different meds I take that are keeping me going but I really don't know the long term affects?

I hope my submission is taken seriously as I am sure it will assist with the inquiry with my own story told.