

## Item 7 of Schedule 1 (Prohibited Firearms) of the Firearms Act 1996.

I'd like to address the below Schedule of the 1996 Firearms act.

There are almost 800,000 licenced gun owners in the country, All of whom have passed back ground check with the police, passed safe storage and done at least 1 -2 safety courses.

Legal licensed firearms owners are some of the mot the most law abiding, responsible and trust worthy people in this country.

To continually attack them and collectedly blame them for the crimes of a very small minority is unacceptable.

This must stop and it must stop today.

7

Any [firearm](#) that **substantially duplicates in appearance** (regardless of caliber or manner of operation) a [firearm](#) referred to in item 1, 5 or 6.

1

Any machine gun, sub-machine gun or other [firearm](#) capable of propelling projectiles in rapid succession during one pressure of the trigger.

5

Any self-loading centre-fire rifle of a kind that is designed or adapted for military purposes.

6

Any self-loading shotgun of a kind that is designed or adapted for military purposes.

My issue with this law is the "**substantially duplicates in appearance**" clause. In reality it should not matter what a firearm "looks" like but how it functions.

If we go down the path of laws based on people's feelings about a particular object, we are on a very slippery slope for ANYTHING to be banned if someone doesn't like it.

This clause is too ambiguous, it needs to be re written to clearly state the operation of the firearm or abolished all together.

I feel that every firearm in Australia can come under the "designed or adapted for military purposes" clause in schedule 5 + 6, as its currently written and could be summarily "prohibited" the next time the Gov wants to be seen to be "doing something about firearms"

Below are a few examples of the "designed or adapted for military purposes" clause in schedule 5 + 6 that are freely available in AU.

### Any Lee-Enfield .303, K98 mouser, Mosin Nagant

These 3 rifles were actually used in wars in the early part of the 1900's, but are freely available.

#### Lee-Enfield



#### K98



#### Mosin Nagant



A Remington 700 in a McMillan A4 stock. –

The M40 looks exactly the same as the civilian model, but it's freely available.

Rem 700 in McMillan A4 stock.



M40a5



## A Remington 700 in an AI stock

The L96 not only looks like the civilian model but you can freely buy the military rifle and use in Australia.

## Rem 700 in an AI stock



## L96



But then we have the below rifles that are bolt or pump action category B rifles in AU, that attract the "substantially duplicates in appearance" a firearm "designed or adapted for military purposes" clause, and are on the prohibited list.

WFA1 - this has never been used by any military, its Australian made and yet it is banned in NSW + WA (The banning of this rifle has directly impacted on myself gaining employment as a professional shooter)



Remington 700 in a TAC21 Chassis, all parts are freely available, yet once you put it together, you are in danger of your rifle being seized.



Remington 7600/7615, these are perfectly legal in Australia but if you put a few after market parts on them, you are in danger of your rifle being seized.



This makes NO sense when actual military rifles, rifles used in actual WARS are freely available, then CAT B civilian rifles that have NEVER even been near a battlefield let alone used in a WAR are prohibited.

Why, just because a firearm may be black & scary, should it be treated any different to a wooden stock, blued rifle? It makes no sense. It's not the look of the firearm, it's the function. Further to that, as licenced shooters, we have been deemed safe to own. It's not the action or the calibre of the firearm that we should be discussing, but how to stem the illegal flow on to the black market

If we can have remove clause 7 or re write it to take into account the "manner of operation" of the rifle, this will have 5 instant benefits as I see it...

1 This would give current firearms owners piece of mind and firm legal ground for firearms they choose to purchase.

2 It would prevent firearms being seized because an officer was "having a bad day" or didn't like the "look" or a rifle.

3 A lot of younger people will show more of an interest in shooting sports, As they will be able to have firearms similar in appearance to the guns in the video games

4 This will also open the door up for legalization of AIR SOFT in Australia. A fantastic sport that I cant wait to play legally in AU.

5 And the Gov will benefit from a massive windfall in GST from the update of AIR SOFT and new + existing shooters purchasing new equipment.