

I was informed about the opportunity to be heard on the topic of medicinal cannabis by the Australian HEMP Party facebook page and that sending an email might potentially having a slight impact.

Here is my personal general backgorund and thoughts regarding cannabis.

- I smoke cannabis in order to alleviate my concerns regarding the past or future and be able to participate in the moment with vigor and excitement. For some reason, i seem to generally experience a boost to my mobility, mood, clarity, thirst for life and urge to go outside after consuming cannabis (the largest factor which prevent me from leaving my house now is the stigma attached to this issue and the potential legal ramifications).

The issues which i believe i have used cannabis, and in my opinion, to effectively, self medicate are:

-I was the victim of a "king hit" attack which put me into a hospital for 3 days while the doctors observed the development of potential blood clot. I had no alcohol, my attackers were drunk idiots trying to impress themselves.

Cannabis consumption helped me cope, alleviate and re-focus the stress from this traumatic event and continue some normalcy in my life.

-My dad was a sobered alcoholic who committed suicide whilst being on anti-depressant prescription medication.

- I am of the strong belief that if alcohol abuse was replaced by even in the worst case, marijuana mis-use, my family would still have a father figure.

- Finally with no real evidence other than personal observation and experience, i am of the very firm opinion that cannabis is much less harmful than the currently legally and socially celebrated alcohol. If 1 unit of alcohol is required to get someone drunk, then 5 units of alcohol would be bringing them near death, very scary.

I have also experienced cannabis being given to the victim of a stroke who was no longer joyful and not eating. After consumption, her appetite and mood were increased.

I have also experienced Cannabis being utilized by pensioners with body aches and fatigues used to alleviate chronic pain.

I think cannabis should be legal to grow independently and collectively for personal consumption (be treated the same as tomatoes).

And i also think the government should make it commercially taxable. Australians love paying tax on death dealing consumables such as cigarettes and alcohol, why not cannabis, which is not only a recreational possibility, but a source of medicinal opportunities.

I hope i receive some sort of response regarding the validity of my input..

Thank you very much for reading,