

Supplementary answer to the following question to Dianne Gorman by Senator Henderson:

Senator HENDERSON: You said in your submission that you took up smoking at the age of 13. Do you believe—and can you remember from that time—that the widespread availability of cigarettes at that time contributed to your taking up cigarettes at such a young age?

Of course the widespread availability and acceptance of cigarettes contributed to my taking up cigarettes. That is exactly why I am not suggesting that vaping be as freely available as cigarettes were in the 1950s and 1960s. I am merely suggesting that vaping be at least as freely available as cigarettes are now - in 2020.

Medicalisation would severely restrict access to vaping as a harm reduction method for adults who would like to stop smoking, whilst leaving the original harm – cigarettes – available to them at every supermarket, corner store, and service station.