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Dr Shaman Stone.
426 Wyndham St.
Shepparton.
Victoria 3630.

Mathew Gleeson,

29 JAN 2014

Dear Madam,

I understand that you are on a committee that is looking at examining the relationship of alcohol to Aboriginal Violence, especially in Aboriginal Communities.

I would like to make a comment on this.

The overall idea is very good except it needs to include in the terms of reference, the same relationship of Aboriginal violence to drugs, especially Cannabis and also the violence in Aborigines caused by petrol sniffing when they were very young children. To examine Aboriginal violence without taking into account illegal drugs and petrol sniffing will achieve nothing and be just a waste of taxpayers money.

Another point of interest in reference to alcohol but not Aboriginal.

In the 70s I promoted teenage dance halls in Perth. W.A.

I used to run a dance hall in Oxford Street Leederville .Every Friday night we would average 800 teenagers from the age of about 15 years up to about 18 to19 years. There was never any drugs or alcohol, we policed that very carefully.

The age for alcohol consumption then, was 21 years. The age was dropped to 18. The next Dance we ran, we had an attendance of 80 teenagers. That was the last show we ran. We found all our young

customers at the new Night Clubs that suddenly opened up. This included all the 15 year olds. The clubs were conveniently, not policed.

Community Violence.

The situation with alcohol and (male) violence is horrific right across the country with it being much worse among the Aboriginal population.

As parents, we have been stopped for "politically correct" reasons from chastising or punishing our children to guide them to being better adults. I was brought up to respect all women and treat a woman the same as I had to respect my mother. I was also prevented from any kind of violence on the school ground or in the street.

If I was involved in any kind of bullying or disrespect, I got a belting. In this day and age the young people have no guidance and are free to do whatever they feel like. This includes the extreme abuse of alcohol which leads to extreme uncontrolled violence and an open disrespect for women.

We are not allowed to bring our children up to teach them respect or decency, now society is paying the price for this .We deserve what we get and its not going to go away until young people are brought up to be stable individuals with the correct social values. The parents should be the main influence here.

All the "Politically Correct" ideas being sensationalised in the Australian Media about alcoholic Violence, are not going to work. Disciplining our children to know right from wrong is the only solution and we do not have the social integrity for this.

I am interested in whether the Terms of Reference for the Aboriginal Violence Committee will include an examination of the relationship of Illegal drugs to violence, especially Cannabis and wether the long term effects of petrol sniffing will also be examined in relationship to Aboriginal Violent behaviour. **Do you know if this committee will go ahead.?**

Yours Sincerely
Mathew Gleeson.
21-1-2014.