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SENATE INQUIRY INTO ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION
PARLIAMENT HOUSE,
CANBERRA

I HAVE SEEN THE PROBLEMS ALCOHOL HAS HAD ON THE HEALTH,BEHAVIOUR & FAMILY RELATIONSHIP IN MY OWN FAMILY.THE PROBLEMS WERE NOT CAUSED BY ALCOHOLICS BUT WHAT THE COMMUNITY WOULD CALL SOCIAL DRINKERS OF BEER.

BECAUSE OF MEDIA ADVERTISEMENTS & ARTICLES PROMOTING THE HEALTH BENEFITS OF ALCOHOL PEOPLE THINK IT IS THE FASHIONABLE , HEALTHY & NORMAL PASTIME TO DRINK LOADS OF ALCOHOL

I KNOW SO MANY PEOPLE WHOSE HEALTH & RELATIONSHIPS HAVE IMPROVED WHEN THEY HAVE STOPPED OR CUT DOWN CONSIDERABLY THEIR INTAKE OF ALCOHOL.

THERE IS AN EPIDEMIC OF OBESITY IN AUSTRALIA,MANY OF THESE PEOPLE NOT REALISING THE AMOUNT OF KILOJOULES IN A GLASS OF WINE OR BEER. LIVING IN MANLY WITH HOTELS OPEN 24 HOURS A DAY AND NO SPACE FOR DANCING IF THERE IS A BAND AT THE VENUE,ONE SEES A LOT OF BINGE DRINKING.WE HAVE ONE OF THE HIGHEST INCIDENTS OF ASSAULTS AND VANDALISM IN THE STATE.I LIVED IN FRANCE FOR SOME TIME & NEVER WITNESSED BINGE DRINKING.ALSO MOST OF THE WINE HAS A LOWER ALCOHOLIC CONTENT THAN HERE.

THE FOLLOWING MEASURES WOULD REDUCE THE COST TO THE COMMUNITY OF THE TERRIBLE PROBLEMS ALCOHOL ABUSE HAS CAUSED.

1.BAN ALL MEDIA ADVERTISING OF ALCOHOL.& INCREASE THE TAXES ON WINE & HIGHER ALCOHOLIC CONTENT DRINKS.

2.STOP THE PROLIFICATION OF ALCOHOL OUTLETS PARTICULARLY NEXT TO SUPERMARKETS.

3.PUBLICISE MORE THE HEALTH RISKS & INCLUDE THESE, AS WELL AS THE ALCOHOLIC CONTENT ,ON THE CONTAINERS

4.USE ROLL MODELS SUCH AS SPORTING PERSONALITIES.T.V.STARS TO PUBLICISE THE HEALTH AND SOCIAL BENEFITS OF NOT ABUSING ALCOHOL

A FRIEND SAID THE GOVERNMENTS,FEDERAL OR STATE, WOULD DO LITTLE BECAUSE OF THE REVENUES THEY RECEIVE FROM THE SALE OF ALCOHOL.FOR THE SAKE OF OUR CHILDREN I HOPE THIS IS NOT SO

