

**INQUIRY INTO LAW REFORM ISSUES REGARDING
SYNTHETIC DRUGS**

Name: Name Suppressed
Date Received: 12/07/2012

Partially Confidential

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Clayton Barr
Member for Cessnock
Vincent St
Cessnock

Dear Clayton

I write in relation to the sale of legal synthetic drugs in our area; most notably Kronic.

Our eldest son, [REDACTED], after many years of cannabis abuse, has been trying to rid himself of the habit for some time. As part of the process, he tried replacing cannabis with Kronic. On three occasions he had psychotic episodes that lasted for twelve or more hours. On the last occasion, his mother and I, in conjunction with an attending police officer, had him admitted to the mental health unit at [REDACTED]. He spent ten days there.

[REDACTED] A psychotic episode while at work is something that does not bear thinking about. He tells us that the use of Kronic by young people in this area is rife. Many of them are in jobs similar to his.

Cannabis is illegal for good reason. THC is fat soluble and builds up in fatty body tissue to the point where it can take years to be rid of it. It has diminished or destroyed the potential of many Australians of the last two generations.

Kronic, in all its forms and manifestations, must be viewed in the same light. One [REDACTED] Mental Health Psychiatrist I spoke to said he deals with Kronic users whose lives are now one permanent psychotic episode: an episode from which they will probably never return.

Legislation against these synthetic drugs needs to be worded in such a generic way that chemists are not able to modify a chemical configuration that will render an illegal drug legal. At the moment, the problem exists on a relatively small scale, being dealt with by loving Mums and Dads and dedicated Police, Paramedics and Hospital staff. As a community we need to ensure that it does not get out of control as a social disaster on a large scale.

My wife and I support your efforts to have legislation put an end to the synthetic drug loophole in NSW.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]