Submission No 68

NON-REGISTERED MOTORISED VEHICLES

Name: Mr D G Jones

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Mr G Aplin, MP
Chairperson
INQUIRY INTO NON-REGISTERED
MOTORISED VEHICLES
Joint-Standing Committee on Road Safety
Parliament of New South Wales
Macquarie St SYDNEY NSW 2000

26/Apr/2013

Dear Sir,

I submit the following observations to the INQUIRY INTO NON-REGISTERED MOTORISED VEHICLES; an inquiry that is to address the use of non-registered motorized vehicles on public roads, footpaths and public lands.

My experiences as a seventy year old plus on sharing NON-DESIGNATED footpaths with non-pedestrians e.g. cyclists traveling at 20-30 km/hr, is that nobody in authority is policing the breach of the Australian Road Rules – nor for that matter gives a tinkers curse! Should 'motorised vehicles' be given carte blanc to terrify pedestrians on pavements (designated as shared, or otherwise), how will old gits such as myself have an opportunity to claim damages (or my missus give me a decent burial) if run down by a motorized vehicle.

As one who has been run down on three occasions by adult cyclists (approaching from behind at speed) on a local non-designated shared footpath, I have taken a vow that the next two wheeler that does the same (if I survive) will be eating hospital food through a straw. Suffice to say that two of the cyclists absconded from the scene with a torrent of obscenities, whilst the other cyclist was more concerned as to the damage to his form of transport!

It is ironic that if I hit a cyclist as I back my car out of my drive way across the footpath onto Concord Rd, even though the cyclist is traveling on a non-designated shared footpath, then (according to my insurance company) the cyclist's injuries are covered by my Comprehensive Insurance Policy. However should I be hit by a cyclist as I step onto the footpath from my driveway and sustain injury, I can whistle to the wind until the cows come home for any form of address – such as compensation for injuries sustained..

Unless the NSW State Government enacts universal insurance cover for all pedestrians who have no choice but to use the same footpaths as other non-pedestrian 'traffic', then 'motorised vehicles' (registered or non-registered) should use the vehicular road as other motorist do.

An acknowledgement of this submission will be appreciated.

Yours sincerely

