

**Submission  
No 89**

## **MOBILE SPEED CAMERA ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS IN NSW**

**Name:** Name suppressed

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Partially  
Confidential

The public has little confidence in the accuracy of the way information justifying the use of speed cameras is presented to them. The feeling is the primary motivation is other than as advertised.

Several reports, including allegedly from former traffic police, cite the overwhelming number of vehicle accidents involve the use of drugs and alcohol as the primary cause rather than speed, which has been a secondary consequence of their actions.

The public therefore believes that, while speed is present in drug and alcohol related accidents, addressing speed as the primary cause is like addressing the accident vehicle's age or tyre brand and is avoiding the real primary cause of the accident.

There have been no attempts by the authorities to address this and to properly justify the use of speed cameras in relation to it, except by repeating the mantra of speed being the problem.

The fact that drug and alcohol users pay little or no attention to speed limits, the relative low numbers of alcohol detection operations in comparison to speed detection and the fact that drug and alcohol users while bearing little consideration to speed, generally make extreme efforts to avoid detection, gives the public no confidence that the targeting of speed is appropriate.

The public is well aware of the ability of politicians and the like to manipulate and present statistics to suit their cause. The popularity of "fact check" news articles supports this view. However the public has no access to "fact check" the real statistics that make up those underpinning the authorities claims of speed being the primary cause of accidents in NSW.

We are unable to determine if the statistics themselves do not contain the necessary detail. Is the presence of any excess speed is used as justification and noted as the primary cause of an accident regardless of other factors? Are other factors not noted or used to indicate the accident cause?, Or are all relevant factors noted but not used in the justification of speed cameras, only using speed as a noted cause rather than a consequence?. The public has no confidence these figures are not being misrepresented or are not detailed enough.

In the view of the public the above view is vindicated by the huge increase in speeding fines capturing not those likely to cause accidents, but mostly targeting people who have never been in or caused any accident nor otherwise being at risk of contributing to road accident statistics.

Until this is properly addressed the public will continue to believe this is all a "revenue grabbing" exercise, or at best a fast and easy way to be seen to be addressing accident statistics without addressing or properly explaining the real cause.