MOBILE SPEED CAMERA ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS IN NSW

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I think there is insufficient quantitative data to conclude that the removal of mobile speed camera signage leads to less speeding on our roads. Most of the empirical data suggests that the main beneficiary from the removal of signage is the state and partnered stakeholders. With speeding infringements (mainly ranging from 0-10kmph over the speed limit) increasing over 1200%, this monetary benefit has not seen any changes in attitude in speeding.

Speed cameras are set up as a deterrent and operate usually in black spots and high risk areas. Having the presence of a camera known in those areas is sufficient to deter speeding. In my local area it is common knowledge where the mobile speed cameras frequent, I see cars pre-emptively slow down in those areas. Therefore I think that having the presence and making the presence known is a larger deterrent. Removing the signs creates a constant culture of fear in drivers having to look over their shoulders. I do not believe this is the solution to fix the culture.

Speeding is heavily embedded in our culture and I agree that it is a problem. It causes deaths on the roads and costs government a great deal of money. However creating the sense of continued surveillance is not the answer, it generates negative attitudes towards the state and constantly questions how this surveillance protects us.

As government becomes more user centric I believe that there is work to be done from a service design standpoint at how we solve this problem. There is an opportunity here to work with citizens to collaborate and create real solutions to the speeding culture. I would rethink traditional means of road surveillance and advance our thinking in this area.

Thank you for reading my submission. Feel free to contact me if required.