

**Submission
No 1480**

MOBILE SPEED CAMERA ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS IN NSW

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
Confidential

I have moved to the town of Lochinvar NSW in April 2021. I may have achieved my fear of getting a fine from the fixed speed camera after living here for four months. Today I was driving through at about 9.25 and I am almost certain I was doing about 55Km per hour. I may be mistaken and I could have been doing the 40 but either way it is a daily fear. For 34 years now I have been a safe courteous driver but I am concerned about the growing number of cameras and the focus on speed as the one true evil.

Speed is not the only factor involved in road fatalities. If it were your statistics would see a huge decrease in deaths. I know that the numbers are not going down so why is staysafe purely focusing on speed? Maybe the other factors are too hard to control?

The main issues I see are:

Most deaths are caused by reckless behaviour, illicit and prescription drug abuse associated with fatalities, driving under the influence of alcohol and unfortunately suicides where a single car collides with a tree or similar. Speed may or may not be a factor but speed is ALWAYS implicated. Modern cars are very responsive so it is easy to accidentally speed.

To make the whole population drive around in fear because of the bad behaviour of some is not fair and very counter productive. I feel that good people are destroying and vandalising the cameras as they are so stressed by the cameras. Mental health issues can be pushed to the limit due to this over governance. Is this what you want? Do you want to drive the mostly compliant population to the point of criminal activity? It makes no sense.

The solution is obviously to get more police patrolling the highways and catching the people who are behaving badly. Dash cams and street cameras are witnessing bad behaviour all the time. These can be used by the police to identify bad behaviour also to remove repeat offenders from the roads.

What is happening now is not fair. It punishes good drivers for making a simple human error. Do you want to fine the grandmother who is driving to the school to pick up the grandkids. She is driving a 2020 Honda Civic turbo she has saved all her life for. She accidentally speeds up to 52 in the school zone and gets a fine. She does the same trip twice a day every school day and stuffs up once. There is no recognition of the fact that she was perfect every other time.

The cameras are not dramatically reducing the death toll but they are detrimental to the mental health of the population. A duty of care approach would be to remove all cameras and focus on police on the roads targeting reckless behaviour. Other approaches like speed humps have some useful benefits.

Thanks for taking the time to review this letter. I realise there are many issues involved in the decision to use speed cameras but I honestly can not see any benefit to them at all while the number of fatalities remains the same as they were prior to camera introduction.

