

Submission
No 123

INQUIRY INTO USE OF CANNABIS FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES

Name: Mr Jason Olbourne
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Partially Confidential

The Hon. Sarah Mitchell, MLC
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Hi Sarah,

I understand that you are the chair for the Public Hearings into the Use of Medical marijuana.

As a member of the public I wanted to tell my story in the hope that it may be included in the submission for the committee.

Medical marijuana or the using of Cannabis for medical purposes has been used for thousands of years for pain relief and remedy.

It has been used to treat and even cure cancer in many people.

It is already used in Israel, Canada, USA and The Netherlands in similar forms to what I am writing about to you today. There are already over 10,000 registered users in Israel.

But, you already know this.

This is my story.

I am 41 years of age, live in Kellyville Ridge with my wife and 2 children aged 13 and 5. We are expecting our third in June. I work as a TV producer for TVSN, the Home shopping channel. My wife works for the NSW Department of Sport and Recreation.

My 4 grandparents and all their siblings have since passed on. Numbering 21 in total they all lived from 60 to 91 years of age. Not one died from cancer.

My father, my wife's father, her first husband, two of my best friends, my mother's two best friends, my father's best friend have all died from cancer.

So, in my family, in one generation, we have gone from 0% of loved ones succumbing to cancer in one generation to 100% succumbing to cancer in the next. That is an impossible statistic. And treatment has not changed. It did not work then and does not work now. People are dying every day, contracting it in greater numbers and dying younger.

In an age of smoking and eating fatty foods, my grandparents lived to 60, 70, 85, 91.

My father was 63. My parents friends were just 58 and 57. My friends were just 29 and 35. My wife's first husband was also 35. These figures are appalling and its not just bad luck.

Now my mother, Tanya Hill, a 66 year old full time Flight Nurse with Air Ambulance has just been diagnosed with a cardiac angiosarcoma, a very rare tumour of the right atrium and blood vessels. It is very aggressive and has already spread to the lungs, liver and spleen with small spots detected.

She presented with stomach pains thought to be gall bladder and after one month and two hospitals, our worst nightmare was realised.

She has been given a three to six month prognosis with chemotherapy using doxorubicin a 50 year old chemo drug the only treatment so far offered..

When I asked the oncologist, [REDACTED] about the new breed of cancer 'starving' drugs, Avastan, Sprybel and Pazonpanib he brushed them all aside. I asked him about Thalidimide as well which he explained was a very crude version of these new medicines. He only offered Chemotherapy.

With access to the internet and by sheer chance a Facebook post from the Zeitgeist page I learnt about the medicinal use of Medical Marijuana and its positive effects. I was astounded to learn about this 'secret' treatment.

Cannabis oil was touted as the most effective powerful cancer fighting medicine. In oil form it provides no high and can be administered quickly, conveniently and safely. It must not be smoked but ingested.

Not only does it show that it is effective in pain relief but also in creating autophagy (self-eating) of the cancer cells. Studies by Salazar et al confirm this.

<http://scienceblogs.com/scientificactivist/2009/04/02/thc-gives-cancer-cells-the-mun/>

It is well known in certain circles but shunned by others.

The oncologists choose to ignore these facts but similarly do not discourage it. As a patient or a support person, what are you meant to think?

All advice I have been given so far from doctors including specialists and GP's and other health practitioners is; use everything in your arsenal to do everything you can.

We have explored an alkaline diet, cancer loves and acidic environment.

Mum is off any and all sugar, cancer loves sugar.

She is oxygenating her cells, cancer cannot thrive in an oxygenated environment.

She is taking a host of natural therapeutic medicines in the hope she can build up her immune system to protect her when the chemo comes.

Now we need to let her and others have access to Cannabis oil. She like thousands of others needs access to this medication. Properly grown, manufactured and administered with correctly balanced levels of CBD's and THC's.

Not only will it help her condition, but it will provide her hope, it will provide her pain relief and an appetite.

There are trials out there for everything, but they are just too slow.

There are methadone programs and injecting rooms. This is far less controversial and universally required.

Personally, I have never tried the drug marijuana or any illicit substances in my life. I simply do not believe in their use for recreational purposes. However, for medicinal purposes I am 100% convinced of its merits.

I implore the committee to please recommend unanimously to the government that the use of medical marijuana be allowed and soon for terminal patients.

I also think that the government could successfully run programs of the safe manufacture of naturally grown organic crops and at the same time manage the trade and market for the product. Furthermore, agricultural training programs, and advancement of work for the dole programs and indeed job creation, education, trade apprenticeships, could all be offered as part of a state and/ or national Medical marijuana government regulated program.

In 2013, with the world changing so rapidly, humanity simply cannot afford to sit on its hands and ignore this natural remedy anymore.

Hemp Oil was only banned last century and when you research why you realise it was partly based on a campaign from oil barons.

Nothing short of a full recommendation for a trial will be a satisfactory result for the committee. We must move forward and provide people with real hope.

Cancer is a despicable disease and doctors' simply DO NOT HAVE THE ANSWERS. They do not even know why we get cancer.

There is no promotion of a correct diet, no information on PH levels as a means of slowing the growth of tumours such as an acid/ alkali diet or even the benefits of oxygenation of the blood. They just advised to eat rather than not eat. That is backward, ignorant and somewhat negligent.

To fight cancer off, we need all the tools, all the support, mental and physical. We need to find out what causes cancer as well as what feeds it.

We need leadership, progressive thinking and a human approach.

When told you are terminally ill, all bets are off. You cannot be told that our hands are tied because some anonymous lawmakers think that there may be 'harmful affects'. There is no long term. There is only now. Right now.

Mum's life is sacred. She is our mother, our saint. She has and deserves time to enjoy the fruits of her labours, her grandchildren, her day and time to smell the roses. She has raised three children, she has worked for 45 years as a registered nurse. She is a contributor to the community and much loved and respected by all who know her. She does not deserve her diagnosis or her hopes and plight to be funneled into hands of current oncology. There is more, much more that can be done.

It is in your hands.

Urgency and action, massive action is all that counts.

Yours sincerely,