

**Submission
No 20**

INQUIRY INTO PROVISIONS OF THE FIREARMS AND WEAPONS LEGISLATION (CRIMINAL USE) BILL 2020

Name: Cr Arthur (MARK) Hall

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Thankyou for the opportunity to make a submission.

In the strongest possible terms, I wish to convey my TOTAL OPPOSITION to Schedule 1[3,10] and Schedules 2 and 3 of this Amendment. 1[3 and 10] of this Amendment are unbelievably poorly and vaguely worded. It will affect hundreds of thousands of law abiding shooters, metalworkers, armourers and others who lawfully participate in legal firearms related activities such as making replacement parts or custom fitting grips, stocks, sights, improved triggers etc on LEGALLY OWNED AND USED firearms. It is time to stop harassing law abiding shooters with these horrendous and discriminatory, badly-written regulations under the guise of increased security from supposed threats such as those "horrid, terrible Outlaw Biker people" that are incessantly attacked under Parliamentary privilege as Minister Elliott does several times in his Parliamentary Speech to introduce this Bill. Minister Elliott's Speech in Parliament on this Proposal links illegal firearms manufacture with the Lindt Cafe disaster - which is a total distortion. That man, whose man I will not print used an unregistered, prohibited firearm that was also illegally shortened. That does not constitute manufacture in any way. The Proposal severally mentions Outlaw Biker Clubs as a potential target of the Bill, but the Bill is so poorly worded that it does not separate LEGAL firearm modification/repair/improvement by legal owners FROM ILLEGAL/Prohibited Firearms manufacture. Further:

The idea of pre-cursor firearm parts makes EVERY hand and machine tool in existence a precursor - and while this is recognised in the Speech, there are NO PROTECTIONS under the proposal for anyone who the Police might choose to prosecute! Because it all falls under "interpretation", there are also no protections from false accusation or from deliberate intent to harm any person. To make instant criminals of Law Abiding Firearms Owners who wish to customise or repair their own firearms is unacceptable and unjust and yet this proposed Alteration of the Firearms Laws will do this - either accidentally by the terrible wording of the Bill - or by deliberate intent; which I sincerely hope is not the case. Many are asking why is this being brought to Parliament during this Covid19 pandemic - when there is so much less opportunity for honest and thorough review and debate? Many will see this as another conspiracy against Law Abiding Firearms Owners.

This MUST go back to the drawing board. There must be vast clarification and limits put on this Bill before it could possibly be incorporated into Law. To not delete or amend this Proposal will be proof positive that this Government's intent is to establish a total Police state where there are no rights whatever for Law Abiding Firearms Owners nor for any other groups that might become the next target of Government ire and control! In complete disappointment and concern I repeat that I am utterly AGAINST this Bill in it's current form. I am not against the idea of Firearms Prohibition Order changes as per Schedule 1[4, 6, 7 ,8] of this proposal, but again, they must be MORE clearly and unambiguously written.

Arthur MARK Hall