

**Submission
No 175**

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

Name: Mr Anthony Schmidt

Date Received: 10 August 2020

I am a licensed firearms dealer and a qualified full time gunsmith based in sydney.

I believe that the proposed law changes will be open to misinterpretation by the police and is a major breach of the Privacy for no real benefit to slowing gun crime.

An example would be an innocent person who is simply interested in the inner workings of a firearm could be severely charged and jailed for having blue prints and drawings on their computer. Where is the line drawn? What if somebody has blueprints of a fantasy space gun for example? Or they may have detailed blueprints of a firearm but without the capability to manufacture it.

I already believe people should be able to make firearm parts to repair their own licenced Firearms (when it is safe to do so) but this is already illegal to do so in australia and subject to severe penalties and jail time. Imagine going to jail for working on your own car.

The law should simply stop at the point of charging someone when they are obviously manufacturing firearms to be sold to unlicensed criminals and shouldn't be open to the interpretation of somebody simply having drawings on their computer or working on their own licensed firearms as an innocent hobby.

In Australia we do not have a major issue of homemade firearms circulating in the community. And there is no point having draconian laws that will put more innocent people in jail or ruin innocent peoples lives.

We need to forget about the gun problems they are having in America and focus on what, if any gun problems we actually have in Australia. It is easy to get caught up in the anti gun agenda when social media is continually flooded with Americas gun problems.

More effort should be focused on the illegal importation of firearms from overseas which is probably quite difficult to track and are far easier to obtain and more effective than homemade firearms.

Thank you for your consideration.

Anthony Schmidt.