

**Submission
No 188**

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

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This bill currently in the NSW Parliament has me highly concerned. From a lay perspective this bill would make vast swaths of materiel and tools illegal. Every garage, men's shed, man shed, workshop in the state in violation. The fact that prisoners in the past and probably into the future have made zip guns out of paper and successfully used them to commit murder could even make paper a material under this poorly written document a target for ever increasing intrusion by police into our lives. I support responsible gun laws in this country. I do think that the systems in place are not managed well but the laws themselves aren't the worst. I am a LAFO and I value highly the ability to legally own and use my rifles. I find it highly concerning when government uses a time of distraction being the corona virus to basically sneak (or seem to) legislation through which is badly written, that could be used to hurt people. To the best of my knowledge there is already an offense under law regarding the illegal manufacture of firearms or firearm parts. Why do we need MORE legislation when the government need only utilise the current laws effectively.

With a materials purchased from Bunnings, you can make guns, cannon, etc. A peice of pipe, a metal plate, a drill, a nail, a hammer, a welder, and access to the internet is all you need to make a very crude, but yet still very deadly gun. This new legislation will cause real and actual mental and physical harm to firearms owners.

LAFO already feel the weight of the Government looking over them every step they take to own and keep guns. We feel it when we go to purchase them, when we buy ammo or ammo parts for reloading for them. When we pay club fees for a valid reason. When we pay for licences. Feel the increased stress if being RBT'd as no doubt a cops computer will give big warnings that we are licenced. Anytime we travel to and from the range or hunting grounds or gun shops with guns and ammo in the car. We work and commit to work hard to get and keep these prized posessions. Statistically all the gun crime in Australia is committed by persons who would not be able to legally obtain guns. They wouldnt pass the background or psych tests. They obtain guns illegally. They commit crimes with them, and when this happens, the Government bring in MORE laws to "lower gun crime" when they wouldnt have prevented them in the first place. This bill is just laziness on the Governments part as they know full well as LAFO we wont protest (regardless of corona) because we dont want to draw the eye of the government and their enforces the police down on us. Almost any excuse could be used by the police in order to take our guns. Even if successfully defended in court the LAFO is stil out of pocket for costs, and the guns arent treated with respect by the cops cause they didnt sink the thousands into them.

How the government, if they truely cared would overhaul the justice system and give the judges a kick up the arse and start demanding better from them with actual tough sentences that would already be in law for them to use. Instead of being anti cop and siding with the crooks all the time. Too many bleeding heart judges wear the robe, maybe its time for a full cleanout of the justice system and start a new with judges that have proper moral character and the view of protecting the innocent not the guilty.