

**Submission
No 64**

**INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE REGULATORY
FRAMEWORK FOR CANNABIS IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

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Cannabis Inquiry

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A healthy functioning society often faces challenges. The challenge of incorporating substances is crucial to the longevity of a community, society and consciousness. I personally have walked one of the darkest paths possible when it comes to substance use, abuse, and the difference between the two. For now, we are focusing on cannabis. Please bare with my esoteric nature, as I come from a unique strain of existence, but one that needs to be included in this decision. I am open minded and do not understand much about the political system, but I use this to my advantage to help moderate and harmonise between different perspectives and see that what we share is a pursuit of the continuation of society and existence.

The issues revolving around cannabis, health and legality is best tackled by asking ourselves “what is the best way forward, if we can’t go back?”. The truth is that cannabis has been apart of existence for so long, in so many cultures, Australia even had its own unique strain originating from our land called Australian Bastard Cannabis or ABC.

We have tried the war on drugs for long enough to understand it is not an efficient way to keep society safe, and in some cases, makes it worse. We need to understand that as with any challenges threatening the health and safety of our society, being ahead of the curve to help guide society and consciousness in the right direction is key. We need to be proactive enough to create an industry utilising and respecting the power of the plant. This is done through regulation and education. If approached properly, the legalisation of cannabis can open up a whole new front of therapeutic holistic healing, to assist in the understanding, evolution and safety of our Minds, bodies, and spirits.

I have personally been in touch with a cannabis coach from America, who has helped me defuse my unconscious connection with cannabis, and helping me develop a conscious relationship with cannabis. I haven’t used cannabis in roughly 3 years, but because of a lack of quality of the cannabis available and a lack of focus on understanding how the plant works, I have been in and out of psychiatric wards and on heavy medication to combat the effects of unconscious, uneducated drug abuse. This is proof that the current structure of our laws and response to substance use is flawed. Please help me save people and give us a quality of life we deserve. If the war on drugs was working, we would have got there by now or at least seen a change in society. But we haven’t. The war on drugs does not work. We are not tackling this health crisis correctly. We should be accepting that cannabis is a tool if used correctly and furthermore, asking how we do that.

If we could educate society on this perspective of conscious cannabis use, it would create a realm of safety and understanding that is not as present as it should be in majority of cannabis use. As I stated, I have walked a dark, dangerous path with substances, and with correct education and regulation of substances, we can progress into a brighter and safer future, where members of our society do not have to be endangered by our ignorance of the truth, that people will use substances.

I could continue for ever on this topic, and I have listed my email so you can contact me if you would like to discuss further, (or get super esoteric and converse on metaphysics and spirituality), but I will list two starting points for a progressive perspective of safe cannabis integration and steps we can start to plan today!

Endocannabinoid Mapping - The process of testing your DNA to find what strains of cannabis work for you and what the effects different strains have on your Mind Body and Spirit. Cannabis is like the TV, We all have shows we like and don't like. With the legalisation of cannabis we would see a vast amount of strains hit the market, covering a whole spectrum of combinations of cannabinoids allowing people to find what plant is best and safest for them. We DO NOT have that at the moment. Cannabis is being poorly cultivated for many reasons including profit and getting super high. The majority of product on the street is full of chemicals and cultivators are not cultivating for health and safety, as we should be.

Holistic health and wellness - As I have stated I have worked with a cannabis coach, and the understanding that cannabis can be a tool is an interesting topic. Without getting too esoteric, conscious cannabis use and the avenue of viewing cannabis as a tool could help society open pathways in the brain and areas of consciousness that we don't understand and could greatly benefit us. We need to start studying cannabis to further understand this point. The fact that we have oppressed the plant is not a bad thing - we tried it - it didn't work, so how can we move forward proactively? Correct education around cannabis could be beneficial to the mind, body, and spirit and most likely, more beneficial than our current approach to cannabis.

Thanks for reading,
Ryan Garner