

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

**Name:** Name suppressed

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Partially  
Confidential

How do you use cannabis?

Since 2012 I've been using cannabis (less than once a day) in one of two ways:

- (1) Vaporizing: I have only ever used a dry herb vaporizer, which is reliable, effective, and much safer than smoking.
- (2) Consuming: I have often enjoyed adding cannabis (the same amount I would otherwise vaporize) to small food beverages, which works nicely as well.

How does the law get in the way?

The existing law that makes cannabis a criminal product causes this delightful and beneficial substance to be much harder to acquire and disturbingly expensive to purchase.

How has it held you back or caused you suffering?

Throughout my adulthood (i.e., 1980 to 2024), based largely on the 'Social Anxiety Disorder and Selective Mutism' that I inherited from my father, the frequent absence of cannabis has made me unable to routinely handle my long-term depression and social isolation. Cannabis has worked very well (and still does) in helping me deal with my mental health condition, but only when I have access to this surprisingly beneficial plant substance.

What changes to the law make sense to you?

Decriminalizing cannabis makes a lot of sense to me. The ACT, SA, and NT have already decriminalized cannabis, which is a great change for a decent percentage of Australian citizens so far. But NSW, QLD, WA, and TAS must decriminalize this product too. Legalizing cannabis for recreational use will benefit a remarkable number of people, while still not forcing anyone to use it if they don't want to.

What's your solution to drug-driving laws?

Obviously, the solution to drug-driving laws is to create a professional method that measures the exact amount of THC individuals have in their system, and to equate the illegal driving amount with the 0.05 percent or more alcohol driving law. Strangely enough, cannabis actually makes people drive more slowly and carefully, which is the exact opposite of alcohol. But, if people are particularly stoned and drive too slowly and less acceptably, then a measure of their THC level equivalent to the alcohol level of 0.05 percent or more becomes a legitimate drug-driving charge for police to impose.