

Submission  
No 97

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

**Name:** Name suppressed

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Partially  
Confidential

To whom it may concern, I have been taking cannabis since my early 20's as I noticed it helped me in life. I had my moments in life where I was seeking help & turned to alcohol which poured fuel to my fire & made me very aggressive. I was introduced to cannabis by a friend's older brother. After trying it, I realised that I could actually function & not allow petty things to upset me.

I'm not the only one in this world with problems but I am lucky enough to have found something that helps me in my life.

In general, I want to be a normal member of the community by working, paying tax, saving money & working for that holiday.

With cannabis it has been hard. I had to stop cannabis when I went to Western Australia to work FIFO on the mines. I couldn't drink as it scared me. I had no release & I turned into someone I hate. Depression, anxiety & PTSD crept up on me. I finally left the mines, returned to Sydney, where my family & friends are. I needed them more than ever as I fell into a deep hole. Started seeing Specialist Dr's, taking prescription pills which drove me down further. I became suicidal. Long story short. I decided to return to cannabis. Almost immediately, I felt better. Slowly I started regaining my life but not without its hiccup's. I was limited to my work (Excavator operator) as urine drug tests are the worst to do as they pick up "traces" from 3 months ago. Very unfair compared to alcohol & not being under the influence. This situation caused EXTREME anxiety & depression as I found it hard to find work & money pressure from the wife & life in general.

I felt good about me & started thinking clearer. I knew what I wanted in life.

After a few years of seeing a psychologist, I was advised that I can get Medical Cannabis. I didn't wait, Got registered ASAP.

The problem now is POLICE RDT'S. I can get tested positive from the day before. It's not accurate & I was even told by a guy I knew that he got stopped & tested while being under the influence & was told he is negative?

Cannabis may not be for everyone, but it is my miracle for life & the laws around it just make it hard to not stress.

I can't speak for everyone but I'm a responsible person & will not put others at risk. I'm mature & don't do silly things.

I just want the chance to have a good, happy & healthy life without living in fear for my license or being restricted with work.

I'm currently doing a Tafe course for Trainer and assessor. I'm proud of myself and grateful for the family and friends who have helped me get through hard times.

I could go on for hours or should I say pages but I'm sure you understand what I'm trying to say.