

From: Anne & Bill Bate
To: [Select Committee on Personal Choice and Community Safety](#)
Subject: Attention: Parliamentary Officer, Select Committee on Personal Choice and Community Safety
Date: Tuesday, 25 September 2018 6:16:54 PM

Dear Sir or Madam,

We would like to express our views about "Personal Choice and Community Safety".

We believe that risk assessment and steps to minimise harm to self and others is necessary to support a society that is economically, physically, mentally and emotionally strong and healthy.

Even if a person's personal choice appears to only pose harm to her/his self we would suggest that this is not the case. A person who chooses to ignore safety regulations risks harm to her/his self and if injured costs taxpayers money to treat, causes distress family and friends and is a poor role model for all children.

Vaping

We know quite a few smokers, both in the UK and Australia. All the smokers who switched to vaping have not managed to quit their nicotine addiction and have no intention of ever quitting vaping. Those who used gum and nicotine patches had more success.

Bike Helmets

One of us was knocked off bike and the helmet (instead of a skull) got cracked. Life saving! Catastrophic brain injuries leave people requiring life long care which certainly hurts others due to the emotional and financial burden.

Speed Limits

A recent proposed trial of 40 KMH zone in residential streets within the City of Vincent created a backlash of letters from civil libertarians who proclaimed a "Nanny State" and that they, of course, drive very safely at all times. Rather than taking time to actually understand the rationale behind the reduced speed they seemed to be outraged at the idea that people need to be told how to drive safely in a residential street.

A legal Document should be signed by "Personal Choice" advocates to state that they will pay their own costs if hurt while making a "personal choice" to ignore safety regulations. Taxpayer funded Medicare and Workers' Compensation should not be available.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our points of view.

Anne and William Bate