

Sent: Thursday, 10 May 2018 3:32 PM
To: Strategy Support (DPFEM) <strategy.support@dpfem.tas.gov.au>
Subject: Organised criminal groups legislation

To whom it may concern,

I would like to put forward my point of view in regards to the preposed criminal groups legislation.

I do not agree with the proposal in any way. How is it that we are repeatedly told by the government and the dogooders of this world, that we must not judge a religion, religious group, refugees, immigrants or minority group for the actions of a few, but you see fit to judge a group of like minded people who enjoy riding their (hard earned) motorbikes with their brothers. It would appear to me that in this country, you are free to do pretty much as you wish, without the threat of persecution, unless you are a hard working, tax paying Australian Citizen who, god forbid, has a patch on their back. What another waste of tax payers money.

I would have thought the budget for these preposed laws would have been better spent actually addressing real crime. The amount of stolen cars, assaults, homes and businesses being broken into ect is sky rocketing. Are the bikers the ones responsible? No.

I have spent the last 10 years in a business where I was working along side the police most days. I have seen first hand their frustations. I have picked up someone's stolen and burnt pride and joy and seen the devastation it causes the owners. I have dealt with the insurance companies on their behalf. The police finally catch the (usually young) offenders, they are charged and then let go, just to do it again. Is there a patch on their back? No.

It seems to me that the easiest thing to do is to blame criminal activity on bike clubs. Yes, there are a few that have done the wrong thing at times, but I think you would find that a vast majority of these guys are just people, like you and I, who work, pay taxes, have families, have morgtages and have better morals than most people these days, they just happen to have a patch on their back. I can guarantee you that you probably know a club member somewhere along the line and are probably completely unaware that they are a patch member. If you were to find out they were a patch member, would that change your opinion of them? Are they suddenly criminals? Because, to me, this is how you want to portray them.

I think these laws are being pushed through by a few very small minded people, who find it easier to blame a minority group for a much broader issue. Its very easy to point the finger and whip up a media frenzy to cause fear. Take a look in your own neighbour hood, at who are actual criminals are, their demagraphics. It is not the patch clubs that you should be concerned with.

Drugs? Ok, lets pull over all politicians, their staff and their drivers and drug test them (lick sticks) and compair the results. How about we pull all their cars over and go over them with a fine tooth comb. I can gaurantee you will find defects. Its pretty easy to target a particular group and get results if you want to.

Thanks for your time

Cassie Smith