

To: Strategy Support (DPFEM) <strategy.support@dpfem.tas.gov.au>
Subject: Att Inspector: Public submission, proposed new laws

To the Inspector, Legislation & Development Review Services,

I put forward this submission over concerns to the proposed new laws by the Tasmanian Government and Tasmanian police.

My name is Robert Ferguson (Bob), I am 64 years old and live at [redacted] in the [redacted]. I am a motor mechanic, specialising in all ranges of equipment and vehicle types, as well as having owned and run several businesses, I have also employed others in these businesses and have worked for several large companies as both a foreman and workshop manager.

I have ridden motorcycles since the age of 9 years, and ridden in 4 states of Australia over the years, in these times I have met all types and styles of motorcycle riders, touring riders, motorcycle club riders and what have now been labelled as OMCG.

I have worked on motorcycles of a lot of these people and have always found a strong comradery and loyalty amongst them all, if some of these individuals were engaged in any criminal activity, I would expect these individuals to be identified under the current laws, as has been the case in Tasmania and dealt with by the existing judicial system accordingly.

I have researched laws of this type as suggested, and have found a clear peer review, series of research papers by eminently qualified people, that raise doubt of both the effectiveness of such laws, and cost to the public purse of pursuing them, with the risks of persecuting innocent members of the public, and causing a profiling of all motorcycle riders and club members for the actions of the few disruptive individuals, who find their way into all sections of society. The laws we already have, have caught and prosecuted, without the net of broadly based, catch all laws.

I find that in the research into these laws and there basis, I have uncovered a plethora, of conflicting information, and suggest that we refer to it, before proceeding onto new laws.

Please see the following reference material, for which the majority of my research is based:

http://www.justice.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0017/463022/report-of-the-taskforce-on-organised-crime-legislation.pdf

http://www.organisedcrimeinquiry.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0017/935/QOCC115287-ORGANISED-CRIME-INQUIRY_Final_Report.pdf

<http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/documents/tableOffice/TabledPapers/2016/5516T432.pdf>

Yours in anticipation,

Robert Ferguson