

The Inspector

Legislation & Development Review Services

GPO Box 308

HOBART TAS 7001

strategy.support@dpfem.tas.gov.au

Re: PROPOSALS FOR POSSIBLE REFORMS TO THE POLICE OFFENSES ACT 1935 REGARDING ORGANISED CRIMINAL GROUPS LEGISLATION

Dear Sir,

I wish to express my opinion, and that of 18800 responses regarding the proposed changes to the above Act.

I have many concerns regarding the proposed new Organised Criminal Groups Legislation, one of them being that it has been suggested that the majority of the Tasmanian public feels threatened and intimidated by Outlaw Motorcycle Clubs. I personally do not believe this statement to be true, so I took it upon myself to initiate a Facebook poll regarding the issue.

As a result of that poll, there has been a unanimous response indicating that the public are not threatened or intimidated but quite the contrary in fact that 97% of 8800 odd people who participated in the poll said that in no way did they or have they ever felt threatened or intimidated by Outlaw Motorcycle Club members.

Of the 3% that felt somewhat intimidated, it was more so from groups of loud motorcycles passing them on our roads, whether wearing their club colours or not.

I have also launched an online petition on change.org, against the proposed laws of which has attracted the attention of around 10 000 people who have signed the petition, opposing the new proposed laws.

So, with a combined response of around 18880 people it would seem to me that the public do not feel threatened or intimidated by Outlaw Motorcycle Club members and would like to be consulted more on this issue, before any changes are made to the legislation and more research needs to be done on this matter.

It is our job as members of the public to inform our politicians and such what we want, and you as politicians and government have a job to deliver that. Not change the rules as you go. Not change laws as you feel, without listening to us. That's the Australian constitution. That's the Australian way.

I believe that by not allowing Outlaw Motorcycle Clubs to wear their identifying colours, that the work of police will be so much harder. If the public can't identify who they are dealing with to the police if they have an issue with a club member, then how on earth are the police supposed to identify them? I put to you that you actually ask the police around the state how they feel about these clubs losing their identifying patches.

Everyone on a motorbike is going to look the same. Everyone on a motorbike will be pulled over and harassed, everyday members of the general public will now be treated like a criminal because members of Outlaw Motorcycle clubs, according to government and police, are all classified as criminals. Which brings me to the subject of discrimination.

It is wrong to assume that every member of an Outlaw Motorcycle club are bad people. Yes, there are bad people among them, but there are bad people among every group, every religion, every aspect of life and I don't see them being discriminated against. And those bad few should be treated and charged as individuals as the present law permits. Those minimal bad few should not determine the way all members are looked at. That in itself is discrimination at its worst.

Many of these club members that have been so wrongly labelled as bad are hard working "normal" everyday blokes that just so happen to be a member of a motorcycle club, whether deemed to be a member of an Outlaw Club or otherwise. They love their bikes, they love their mates and they feel a sense of belonging. For some people, these clubs are the only family they have, they have mentors among them that help them through the tough times or with life's choices.

They have families of their own, they are grandfathers, father, uncles, brothers, cousins and sons. Their input into society is amazing and they also pay their taxes. Let's not forget the amount of charity work that a lot of these blokes do. A lot of people hold them in high regard.

I understand the urgency in solving Tasmania's drug problem but I don't believe this is where the problem lies. The problem lies with how easy it is to get drugs into Tasmania. There is only two ways to achieve this and that's by air or by sea, in the eyes of the public it's that simple.

I urge you to please, as a concerned member of the Tasmanian public, take all of my concerns and findings into consideration.

Please find attached my findings from the online poll, online petition and petitions from the "Support your local MC colours Day"

Regards

Narelle "Doris" Smith and many concerned citizens of Tasmania.

Email or Phone

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Doris Narelle Smith created a poll.
26 April at 05:32

I would like to know how many of you (the public) are threatened by bike club members OR them wearing their colours?
Please vote and PLEASE tell me why

3% Threatening

97% Not Threatening

This poll has ended.

41 Likes · 129 Comments · 534 Shares

8.8K Votes

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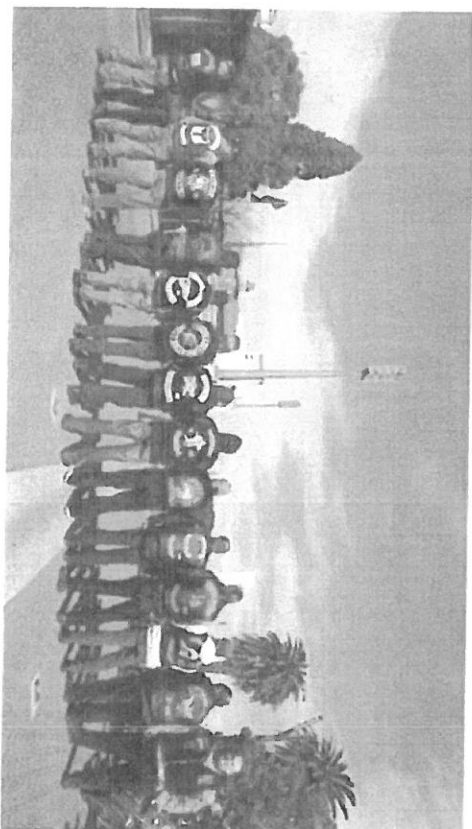
See more of Doris Narelle Smith on Facebook

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or

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Scrap the new "bikie law" legislation



Doris Narelle Smith started this petition to Tasmania's Assistant Police Commissioner Glenn Frame and the Tasmanian Government

We, the undersigned, respectfully call on Tasmania's Assistant Police Commissioner, Glenn Frame and the Tasmanian Government to scrap the proposed new laws regarding Outlaw Motorcycle Groups in Tasmania.

We believe that the majority of the Tasmanian public do NOT feel threatened or intimidated by Outlaw Motorcycle Groups as stated by you.

We believe that by taking away club colours, there will be no way to tell who is who and all motorcyclists will then become part of the 1% and harassed every time we try to enjoy our freedom. We believe that changing the law is taking away our human rights and nothing short of discrimination.

Thank you

Concerned Citizens of Tasmania

9,677 have signed. Let's get to 10,000!

mia madsen signed 10 minutes ago

Sharon Smith signed 27 minutes ago

Tasmania's Assistant Police Commissioner Glenn Frame and...

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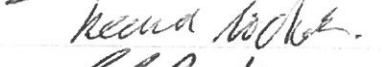



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Thank you

Concerned Citizens of Tasmania

NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
Groy Phillips	Sheffield Rd	
Red Wells	SPRYN	
TRAVIS DASSI	SPRYN	
Ailsa Conkie	Liverstone	
Kara Andrews	East Devonport	
Clare Best	Devonport	
Neil Doyle	Capeville	
Lee Roberts	Youngtown	
M. O'Connell	Huxley	
NK O'DONNOR	SMITHTON	
ERAG HENSLEY	HEYBRIDGE	
LES DAVISON	UNIVERSITY	
RON JONES	BURNIE	

NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
CAROLYN JAMIESON	120 DEVONPORT	
Trent Smith	Devonport	
Keara Nichols	Devonport	Keara Nichols
Emma Beck	D'port	El Beck
Jay Seymour	D'Port	
Zer Lardausius	Dulynple Rd Mt Direction	
Mark Butner	Cheneyway	
Kerrigan Jonasson Exeter		