Submissions.Strategy.Support

From: Bernard Phillips [redacted]
Sent: 14 August 2026 10:14
To: Submissions.Strategy.Support
Subject: Knives … consultation feedback.

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I am sympathetic for those impacted by knife crime but feel the proposed amendments are excessive.
The proposed amendment diminishes responsibility in our young people and gives such a range of offences the police will have to pick and choose how they can apply the law which is not good lawmaking.
What does it achieve? How many knife alternatives are there? Are we going to ban steel, files and sandpaper? Knives (or sharp objects) can easily be made and in addition there are a great many stabbing alternatives, many of which can be concealed.
I have a [redacted] of the type used by three great uncles who I died and my grandfather who was wounded in WW1. It means a lot to me. Will that suddenly become a prohibited weapon? If so, will I be compensated? It has been legal for the last 110 years. It also has sentimental value.
I have a [redacted] brought home from the Philippines by my father where he served in the Royal Australian Navy during WW2. For 80 years it has been used occasionally for garden use. As it doesn't look like I can get an exemption because I am not employed in the agricultural industry will this become a prohibited weapon and suddenly it is against the law to possess it. I do not think possession of items owned before a ban on sale should be an offence, just as the use of steel jawed rabbit traps was outlawed 50 years ago but their possession is still allowed. It is worth nothing except memory of my father and his lifestyle and the sacrifices he made for his family and country.
As for supplying a knife to a young person, does that mean I have to bait the hooks of my grandchildren until they are 18? Responsible use and care of knives is a life skill which is diminished by the proposed legislation. We should be encouraging responsibility and accountability in our youth, not trying to ban things because some drug crazed or mentally I'll person used a similar item.
The law will be impossible to police consistently. How many knives already exist. Young people wanting to commit crimes will simply steal a kitchen knife from their parents.
Hunting and fishing should be exempted uses along with agricultural use and food production.
The sale of machetes can be banned … there are now many gardening alternatives to a rudimentary hand tool of a bygone age but possession of historic memorabilia should not be an offence.
Thank you for the opportunity to contribute.
Bernard Phillips
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