

REQUIEM FOR PROHIBITION.

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REQUIEM FOR PROHIBITION.

“Friends, Colleagues, Specialists, lend me your ears. I come to bury Prohibition, not to praise it. The evil that policy does lives after them. The good is oft interred with their bones. So let it be with Prohibition.”

PROHIBITION HAS ENDED.

DEFINE THE TERMS:

- Prohibition Era
 - Al Capone
 - The Speakeasy
- Prohibition policy
 - Outlawing of substance or activity
 - Zero tolerance

PROHIBITION ERA

- USA 1920-1933
- Specifically targeted Alcohol
- Organised Crime & the Speakeasy
- Prohibition Era well and truly over

PROHIBITION POLICY.

- Reduce Supply
- Reduce Demand
- Minimise Harm
- Zero Tolerance

Cause & Effect, or Co-Inciding?

- Increased Crime
- Increased Corruption
- Increased Prevalence, Morbidity, Mortality.

Also in the last 50 Years . . .

- Increased Adult & Childhood Obesity
- Increased Terrorist activities
- Increased Global Warming

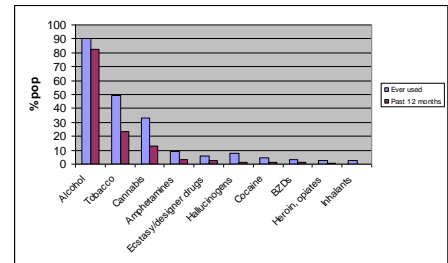
EMOTION CHARGED TERMS.

- > SUCCESS
 - Absolute
 - Qualified
- > FAILURE
- > EFFECTIVE

ABSOLUTE SUCCESS AS POLICY DETERMINANTS?

- Speed Cameras
- Speed Limits
- Drink Driving
- Murder
- Theft/Robbery
- Performance Enhancing Drugs in Sport
- Terrorism

THE FACTS/STATISTICS.



FINANCIAL COSTS.

- **1998-1999 Estimates.**
- \$34.4 billion total costs from ATOD
- \$21.2 billion – Tobacco (loss of life)
- \$7.6 billion – Alcohol (road accidents, productivity)
- \$6.1 billion – Ilicit Drugs (crime)

PROHIBITION HAS FAILED?

FOR WHICH DRUGS?

- Alcohol?
- Cannabis?
- Heroin?
- Cocaine?
- GHB?
- Speed/ICE/Amphetamine type substances?
- Synthetic Cannabinoids?

What Alternatives to Prohibition?

- Legalise
- Legislate
- Regulate
- Tax

GAMBLING.

- “While it is hard to quantify some aspects of these harms, such as suicide, the evidence suggests costs equivalent to many thousands of dollars per person affected. When these costs are accumulated across people with significant problems, they amount to some \$4.7 billion annually using conservative estimates.”
- Total recorded expenditure (losses) in Australia reached just over \$19 billion in 2008-09, or an average of \$1500 per adult who gambled.

SEX INDUSTRY.

- *There is a clear and close connection between sex trafficking and the legal and unregulated sex industry.*
- *The fact remains that women are currently being trafficked into appalling conditions of sexual servitude and whether they are aware of the conditions of their ‘employment’ or not prior to engaging in a debt bondage contract or even ‘consenting’ to such conditions is in one sense irrelevant.*

WE HAVE LOST THE WAR ON DRUGS?



We Have Lost the War on Drugs?

- Have we seen a White Flag?
- Have we heard a Surrender?
- Has there been any discussion of a Terms of Treaty?

THE SCOURGE.



- *'We are ensuring that the war on drugs is fought as fiercely as we humanly can. It's not a war we will ever finally win. The war on drugs is a war you can lose - you may not ever win it, but you've always got to fight it'*
- Hon. Tony Abbott, Prime Minister, 3AW, 29 April 2014

A FENCE OR AN AMBULANCE.



A Fence AND an Ambulance!

- beware of poor choices



VALE: THE PROHIBITION ERA

**DON'T BURY PROHIBITION.
- THERE'S PLENTY OF LIFE IN
THE OLD GIRL YET!**