

**Inquiry into the Decriminalisation of Certain Public Offences, and Health and Welfare Responses**

**Submission No:** 2  
**Submitted by:** Joanne Daley  
**Publication:** Make the submission and your name public  
**Attachments:** No attachment

**Submitter Comments:**

I understand that every adult human has the right to consume alcohol. My father became a homeless alcoholic in Inner city Melbourne in the 70's. The police knew him and when necessary were likely to call my mother with an update once she made herself known to the police of that area. There were many times that just on the basis of public intoxication the police were able to detain him and make him safe for the night. Taking away the offense of public intoxication and public begging will take powers from police which though some may see that those who are charged with these offences may be labeled as having police records which may leave a stigma. I truly believe that for the good of the public and to allow police discretion in this matter by having the power to detain when the police think it is necessary is advantageous for all concerned including the public at large

**Submitter Recommendations:**

Please leave the law as it is currently and have faith as I do that the police use discretion in these matters.