

Vaping - An inquiry into reducing rates of e-cigarette use in Queensland

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Committee Secretary
Health and Environment Committee
Parliament House
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Re: VAPING – AN INQUIRY INTO REDUCING RATES OF E-CIGARETTE USE IN QUEENSLAND

We, at the long standing Dalgarno Institute, wish to convey our sincere appreciation to the Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk for your governments seminal action in dealing with the ever growing and disturbing harms the ‘out of control’ vaping crisis is wreaking on our unwitting community – not least our children, who are being most detrimentally impacted.

Vaping had been too quickly peddled as an ‘effective’ harm reduction vehicle for smokers, but with limited research and zero, to negligible regulation, it has fast become anything but harm reducing.

As with all too quickly embraced *harm reduction* vehicles, it is become now more about maintaining a health destroying habit than it is about exiting it. Vaping has not only fallen prey to that agenda, but has become a considerably greater public health threat.

The few people who have migrated from combustible cigarettes to combustible e-liquids for the purposes of smoking cessation, have been eclipsed completely by not only a ‘swapping’ out mode of ingesting toxins, but has added an entire new user cohort – children – that have taken up the use of e-cigarettes, not to stop, but rather start, ‘smoking’.

The literature and research around the short- and long-term harms of this practice have been growing quickly, once the pro-vaping propaganda was pierced by genuine health concerns and a refusal to let an addiction for profit industry find another vehicle to ‘hook’ more citizens to their product.

“ Over 150 years of minimising harm, by maximising prevention.”

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So called 'legal' and illicit vaping products permeate everywhere, with the local convenience store being a key source of health harm promoting in our communities.

The evidence on the biophysical harms of these products is unquestioned now, so we will not go into those details here, but we wish to draw your attention to both peak body research and evidence as well as some of the 'games' in play around this failed harm reduction vehicle.

- ✓ [Big Tobacco and Vaping Science – Who's Researching What & Why?](#)
- ✓ [Australia has a vaping problem, but no easy health or political solution – Or is there?](#)
- ✓ [Australian National University Report: E-cigarettes are harmful and addicting youth](#)
- ✓ [NHMRC 2022 CEO STATEMENT ON ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES](#)
- ✓ [Dalgarno Institutes – Vaping Crisis Info sheet](#)

It is vital that governments,

- 1) Completely and robustly regulate the use of e-cigarettes, vapes and all paraphernalia that attends this process.
- 2) Such vehicles to be available on prescription only and for purposes of assisting in smoking cessation.
- 3) Use of vaping devices for any other substance to be ban.
- 4) Heavy penalties to be applied consistently to all breaches of new regulations, with specific attention paid to products sold or otherwise deployed to children.

Thank you again for your important and nationally ground-breaking work.



Shane Varcoe – for Dalgarno Institute 