

Police Powers (Motor Vehicle
Impoundment) & Other
Legislation Bill 2012
Submission 003

From: [Matt Van De Ven](#)
To: [Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee](#)
Subject: Anti-Hoon Legislation
Date: Thursday, 17 January 2013 5:57:15 PM

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you today as a local of the Brisbane area to express my disapproval of the Government's position on the issue of Hooning and the legislation that surrounds it.

Before i get much further i would like to point out that i am a strong supporter of road safety in the state of Queensland and this country. However i do not believe the current Anti-Hooning Laws nor the proposed future updates to the legislation are addressing this issue effectively if at all. I would like to also make it clear that i have never been defected for an unroadworthy vehicle due to its modifications or items requiring mod plating under what is now the NCOP nor fined or pulled over for any acts of dangerous/inappropriate driving. This alone in my opinion classifies me as a legitimate enthusiast with respect for all other road users, enthusiasts, myself and my cars along with law enforcement and the rules of the road they are charged with upholding.

While highly publicised and in the medias case perhaps i'd even go as far as to say sensationalised, the legislation has failed to address the real issues of anti-social and inappropriate behaviour. Instead it has pigeon holed and vilified all classic and modified vehicles along with their owners and very much created a 'guilty till proven innocent' scenario. The statement **"If you are not doing anything wrong...you have nothing to worry about"** has been brought up on numerous occasions in the past by both people i know personally, news and current affairs along with other media outlets and also others responses from local MP's in regards to this issue, unfortunately this is merely a blanket statement and avoids delving further into the problem and properly investigating the issue at hand, instead sweeping it under the rug as a non concern.

In Australia there is legislation in place that stops discrimination against minority groups of people, however the Government has done exactly that with legislation that is poorly defined, derogatory and discriminating. The term 'Hoon' is in itself derogatory and for a long time merely used to convey images of a larricanism and tomfoolery. Come the turn of the century however, with the help of media sensationalism, it quickly turned into what it is now seen and understood as today - a blanket term that whether it was or wasn't the intent encompasses all genuine car and modified vehicle enthusiasts. This alone indicates discrimination within the Anti-Hoon legislation and has no place within Australian democracy.

Building and driving these vehicles is a hobby and in turn a significant part of mine and many others lifestyles, our rights as Australian citizens affords us this, yet this Legislation and the way it is being touted that it will be used brings about a feeling that those rights are being torn away by a Government that is quick to ignore the real facts of behaviour on our roads.

I ask that the Government, as the elected representatives of all Australians, repeal anti-hooning legislation, move to stop discrimination by all outlets against classic and modified vehicles and their owners and address the real issue of anti social behaviour on our roads in a genuine, realistic and responsible way.

I looked forward to your response

Yours sincerely,
Matthew Van De Ven