

## SUBMISSION

### **Wearing Of Colours In Public.**

1. I am making a submission on behalf of Life And Death Motorcycle Club

who has as its motto "Live To Ride" and was established in 1973. The club was formed as a cohesive Brother Hood who love riding motorcycles. Unfortunately based on faulty police intelligence Life And Death was placed on the "identified organisations" list without ability to appeal the decision. The club strives for respect from those outside of the motorcycle community as this segment of the population is by far larger and therefore represents a larger market for fundraising activities that the club might undertake. It stands to reason that cultivating a good relationship with these people is important and to be perceived as "biker scum" is not advantageous to the club. We therefore conduct ourselves as upstanding citizens in every way. "good neighbours" so to speak. The goal being to be admired and respected and not being feared by the public. We have always conducted ourselves in a highly professional manner despite what the police and the government invent about us!

2. I refer to part 1c clause 210 which states "wearing of colours may otherwise have undue adverse effect on health and safety or safety of the public or amenity of the community including by increasing the likelihood of public disorder or acts of violence" Reality for Queensland is that there have been 5 violent incidents between 2006 to 2013. These were never condoned or supported by the majority of OMCGS. So to say OMCGS are regularly involved in acts of brazen violence is absolutely not true.

3. Colours are earned by club members having proven themselves to be hard workers, loyal, respectful and being able to fit in to club life. Our club members are governed by strict rules that would be the envy of the army, police and football players. The

role of colours ,jewellery and 1% patch as mentioned in the explanatory note is laughable.

4.For the most part Life And Death QLD limit the social activities amongst themselves and rarely interact with the public unless it is for raising money for charity organisations. If commissioner Stewart decided to research Life And Death QLD, he would find hardly any body had a criminal history. We only want to be left alone.

5.I can not see the linkage between wearing of an item of clothing and the commission of acts of crime activity nor the intimidation of the public.In fact when we go for rides through country towns people interact with us in a positive way and certainly not intimidated. This Bill makes an assumption that every member of an OMCG is a criminal or planning criminal activities.It could also be said that a group of drunken footballers would initimidate the public or a large group of police with their weapons on their hips and knowing that the police have little training in the use of those weapons (Courior Mail). It should be noted that only OMGC,s are targeted in this bill with no reference to street gangs that are intimidating the public everyday but the police and the government choose not to take action against them.

6.Motorcycle club members are profiled and targeted with thousands of dollars spent on collecting intelligence with little or no evidence to indicate clubs are working as criminal organisations. In fact according to the police commissioner, the CCC, Terry Goldsworthy, Allan Wilson, and Irish Bently Lawyers say that OMCGs and associates are only responsible for .05% to 1% of crime in Queensland.These same people have stated that 85% OMCGs members have no criminal history. Despite what "so called police intelligence" feeds the public and newspapers we do not sit in a club house and plan criminal activities.We drink party talk about cars and bikes we have social nights which involve our family and people of the public we are actually a reflection of the general public. To scape goat OMCGs is ridiculous and North Korea would be proud of this Bill.

**Submission**

**Impact**

1. These amendments are a case of throwing away all the apples because a few are bad. Imagine if this profile was directed at police and football clubs because of the actions of a few. It is already bad enough that we are on the "Identified Organisation" list based on secret and untested allegations by police with no opportunity for Life And Death to appeal. Restricted premises, fortification orders, public safety orders and the ability to confiscate pool tables, stripper poles and entertainment equipment surely where a commissioned police officer can make these decisions without accountability will make QLD a laughing stock.

2. We believe that not being able to wear our colours on a ride is depriving us of our civil liberties and human rights. In QLD it appears civil liberties and human rights are accorded to everyone except motorcycle members. These amendments can only be described as draconian and discriminative by nature. I would expect that these laws will be tested in the High Court and the fallout would be a change of government at the next election.

3. Personally the impact on me is that even though I have no criminal history and have 26yrs army service including active service with a further 15yrs working in the QLD state public service I am being continually being harrassed by police. Finally I believe that the government should not tell us (any Queenslanders) how we should live our lives nor should they tell us what to WEAR! I served to protect others freedoms and now sadly I'm losing mine.

Ronald Germain

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