

SUBMISSION FROM

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SUBMISSION

Do drink drivers in Queensland continue to drive illegally after being apprehended by police or disqualified by the courts?

Yes. Nothing has changed over the years. In fact there are probably more disqualified drivers now driving their vehicles than at any time in the past. In the 1960 & 1970 the Brisbane Traffic Branch & other through out the State operated teams of plain clothed & uniformed officers who used to check out disqualified drivers after court cases & in the weeks after their conviction to see if they drove from home to work etc. Many were caught. In this day and age their is less respect for the penalties & there is little chance of receiving a custodial sentence.

Is this a significant number of drivers?

Yes - BUT what is significant - should a disqualified driver who has lost the privledge to drive is involved in an accident or fatal incident then this is significant. He/She has not shown a moral attachment to the law & has elected to drive. The penalties are too soft for this serious offence.

How often do drink drivers in Queensland continue to do this?

Regularly - they have little fear - with RBT tests not too may drivers are asked to produce a driver's license. Over a million RBT are done a year - how many driver's licenses are checked. Many of those tested are disqualified drivers. This has been proved by members of the State Traffic Task Force when operations have been held and every driver stopped was asked to produce his/her driver's license.

What are the costs and benefits of vehicle impoundment and forfeiture?

Little to none. Who bears the cost of impoundment - if this cost was made to be paid for by the Offender then there would be a benifit. How de we get around the need for other members of a family who may or will need the use of the vehicle. This would work where the Offender is the sole user of the vehicle.

What are the costs and benefits of ignition key confiscation?

Little cost to the Service - Could prove to be very effective - Keys to be kept at local Police Stations with random inspections by Police or Authorized Civilian of the nominated place of housing of the impounded vehicle. This would work where the Offender is the sole user of the vehicle.

Should vehicle impoundment or key confiscation be used in Queensland to prevent drink drivers from repeating or continuing the offence?

Yes key confiscation and wheel clamping could be very effective. All costs to be charged to the Offender. This would work where the Offender is the sole user of the vehicle.

Would other vehicle sanctions help reduce the amount of repeat drink driving? Which sanctions?

Wheel clamping of vehicles owned by Offenders BUT this may inconvenience other membetrs of the family. Compulsory fitting of breath testing devices to all ignitions of convicted offenders vehicles or any hehicle he or she is likely to use.

Would these vehicle sanctions work in conjunction with vehicle impoundment and key confiscation?

Could be all put together as a package of sanctions

Can other recidivist drink driving countermeasures be used to improve the effectiveness of vehicle sanctions? How?

GPS Tracking devices to be fitted to Convicted Offenders for random checking. Dedicated Squad of Police Officers to check on convicted drink drivers

How effective are the existing penalties under the Transport Operations (Road Use Management) Act 1995 in reducing repeat drink driving?

Do not appear tp be working too well do they - but will they work whatever the penalty? There will always be that section of the community who do no respect for the law. They are very hard to police when at large in the general public. In custody they do not offend. Dangerous Driving is a Crime = perhaps drink driving should be clasified as a Crime

Are the powers provided to police to manage drink driving under the Transport Operations (Road Use Management) Act 1995 enough?

No - Need to look at GPS systems, ignition systems connected to breath testing devices, vehicle confication & impoundment & sale.

How effective is the Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000 in reducing the number of individuals driving carelessly, dangerously, in racing or speed trials or in a way that makes unnecessary noise or smoke?

Effective BUT too few resourced dedicated to the task. Too few Officers are dedicated Traffic Officers. Traffic Branches in some Regions are considered as a spare parts resource by some A/C who have little to none experience in Traffic Policing & have come up through the ranks as Detectives. The Traffic Police are not glamour squads of the QPS.

Should the Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000 be amended to include drink driving as a 'prescribed offence' enabling police officers to impound drink drivers' vehicles?

Yes

What effect, if any, do successful appeals against licence suspension or disqualification have on drink driving behaviour and existing penalties for drink driving?

Can not answer. Should be reviewed if needed.

Should the appeals process for drink driving be tightened to reduce the incidence of successful appeals in Queensland?

Should be reviewed if needed.

Is vehicle impoundment and key confiscation legislation successful in reducing the number of recidivist drink drivers in other Australian jurisdictions and overseas?

Do not know! A drunk on foot is much better for my safety than a drunk in or on a motor vehicle

Should Queensland introduce legislation that is consistent with the legislation in other Australian jurisdictions?

Yes the same Legislation should be Australia wide. Uniform legislation through out with a seamless process of enforcement.