

The Secretary  
Select Committee on Firearms Legislation and Policy  
House of Assembly  
Parliament House  
HOBART TAS 7000

Select Committee on Firearms Legislation and Policy

Dear Mr Shelton and members of the House of Assembly Select Committee on Firearms Legislation and Policy.

I understand that my earlier submission of 3 August 2018 to the Legislative Council Select Committee Firearms Law Reforms will be considered by the House of Assembly Committee on Firearms Legislation and Policy as part of its enquiry.

I request in addition that the Select Committee carefully consider the information in "Big Guns" ABC Four Corners of Monday 22 October 2018 which confirms the pernicious influence of a very active gun lobby on the supposedly democratic government of this country. It can be watched on iview.

**[Shooting Industry Foundation of Australia: Gun lobby 'muscles up' in bid to change post-Port Arthur gun laws](#)** 22 Oct 2018

*"A gun industry lobby group backed by five of the largest Australian firearms wholesalers has declared its intention to intervene in state and federal elections"*

Please consider that those people Tasmanians elected to govern were elected to govern for the best interests of ordinary Tasmanians, not for the gun lobby and for the enrichment of those who gain from the greater sales of arms and munitions.

This local Tasmanian issue that this Select Committee is considering has implications Australia wide. If Tasmania loosens our firearms legislation this will then be used as an excuse to do so in the rest of the Australian states and territories: "If Tasmanians don't object why would we?"

The issue of appropriate regulation of guns is a truly important area in public health and primary prevention. Just as we as a society have to make regulations about the appropriate use of motor vehicles so we should make regulations about the appropriate usage of firearms. There are recent events involving guns in our community that have not made the media (and I do not wish them to). The mass shootings of the past in Tasmania and Australia and endlessly overseas seem a long way away at present but really it is by the grace of God that we are not dealing now with similar events here.

Dr Vivien Wright

26 October 2018

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