

Julie Thompson

From: David Owens <campaigns@good.do>
Sent: Tuesday, 8 November 2016 4:14 PM
To: fgm
Subject: Submission to the Joint Select Committee on Future Gaming Markets

Dear Members of the Committee,

I would like Tasmania to move to entirely pokie free. It is possible. Our policy planners and implementers, you, need to seize the opportunity. There are a whole range of arguments you will hear for why this cannot, or indeed should not happen. Almost all of them around the financial impact on the licence holders. The licence was never an in perpetuity right. Tasmania has every right to choose to be pokie free. The reality is poker machines make a majority of profits from just a few of the community. The data is in. It shows that this few is over represented with poorer citizens. I have never forgotten a tragic photo in a Sydney paper of a woman feeding a poker machine. It noted that the machine made more than she did. Why would we chose this for our state? To profit from our poorest is simply wrong. If my sporting club, or local pub cannot function financially without these then the model of the club or pub is wrong. If investment in tourism assets cannot be achieved without the quid pro quo of pokie licences, then I would chose to not have that investment. I don't believe we need to choose a financially prosperous future at the cost of impoverishing our poorest citizens. I reject the need for Tasmania to have poker machines, at all levels I think they degrade the community. Please chose a future path for Tasmania that is poker machine free.

Yours sincerely, David Owens

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Please reply to David Owens at david.owens@simplot.com.au.

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