

## Submission to Tasmanian House of Assembly Select Committee on Firearms Legislation and Policy

26-10-18

I urge the Select Committee not to relax gun ownership laws, licensing requirements and not to weaken laws on classification of firearms and weapons in Tasmania.

It is crucial in a civilised and kind society to resist the proliferation of guns.

Gun toting activists (and those that profit from proliferation of weapons) claim that it is people, not guns, that cause the harm, fear, injuries and deaths related to guns. This is a false argument. If those humans had no access to guns in the first place, there wouldn't be the problems.

In the line of my work I have seen many people who have been injured or killed by firearms. There is no need for more guns, easier licensing, or automatic and semi-automatic rapid fire weapons in our civilised society.

Relaxing gun laws has NO place in Tasmania where successive governments have touted the "Clean and Green" image and that of an "Intelligent Island".

The days of the rootin', tootin', shootin' backwoodsman Tasmanian providing for his family are long since gone. The provision of weapons of any type will not assuage an insecure, inadequate personality type.

There is no justification for the proliferation of guns in Tasmania and Australia. Thinking and caring Tasmanians

are horrified by the proposed changes to Tasmania's gun legislation.

As 96 year old Mrs Ursula Wright was quoted in The Mercury newspaper this year said:

“Twenty-two years ago my husband and I with two friends were shot at by the gunman at Port Arthur using weapons which shortly afterwards were outlawed by the Howard Liberal Government.

“I appeal to you not to weaken but to strengthen these laws. Commonsense and humanity requires it of you and your governments.”

Thank you for your consideration. I would be happy to speak personally to the committee at any time.

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