

Submission No: 21
AUTHORISED:

INC 28/3

13th March 2007

Attention: Hon Bronwyn Bishop MP and James Catchpole,

My son is a drug user, has been for quite a few years.

The impact of having someone in the family using illicit drugs is horrendous. It is not just the person using the drugs that it affects, it also affects the whole family unit.

I went to the doctor hoping he could help me with my son taking illicit drugs. I took with me a news article I had taken out of the paper about an (In patient detox services for addicts) to show the doctor. I must say he was not very helpfull. In fact he asked, could he photocopy the news article, as it may be helpfull to him, as he didn't know very much about the taking of illicit drugs.

I was beside myself not knowing where to turn.

I first heard about DRUG BEAT of SA one Sunday night on Five AA, Father Johns radio show. It was the best place I could have ever gone to.

Since going to DRUG BEAT of SA I have completed the P.E.T.E.R. program. (Parent Education to Encourage Responsibility). The program was very eye opening, imformative and straight to the point. (NO QUICK FIXES AS I THOUGHT).

Drug users take drugs for a reason. They do not care about themselves (Their Selfworth). They take illicit drugs to suppress their feelings, so they do not have to feel anything. They do not care about people. They can be violent, angry, abusive, irritated, steal, lie and cheat to get what they want. (I KNOW).

It only stands to reason that illicit drugs are a mind altering substance.

If no one has experienced having someone they love using drugs, how could they possibly know what it is like. (As I said it is horrendous.)

Harm minimisation, minimise the harm. (IS NOT OKAY).

My daughter is a teacher and she has to cope with children that come to school with terrible problems from home. (You can well imagine).

There are some beautiful people in this world, ESPECIALLY CHILDREN. I have five beautiful grandchildren and I hate to think, how it is going to be for them. Drugs are getting worse and worse, with no results for it getting better in the future. I do not want to see them going down the road of no return.

I have great respect for Anne Bressington. I found her to be very honest and straight to the point (which I liked). Anne is very thoughtfull and a very caring human being. There should be more like her.

Yours sincerely

14/03/2007