

Dear Sir/Madam, I am very concerned that the TGA is considering making amyl nitrate illegal, has the committee learned nothing from history, prohibition simply does not work and will very likely do more harm than good?

The research shows very little risk to users, I have read the papers linked in your decision as well as doing my own research, noting a recent 2017 report supports there is low level of risk - " This study demonstrates that a small, yet significant from a public health perspective, proportion of poppers users have visual symptoms. Clinical correlation is required to determine whether these reported symptoms are due to poppers associated maculopathy, or an alternative cause." - <https://bmjophth.bmj.com/content/1/1/1>

Banning or making a substance illegal will not stop its use or supply. My concern is you will overnight make the activity that many gay men (who use amyl ) engage in illegal and further making amyl illegal will simply mean users will get their supply through illegal sources. I have absolutely no doubt that users will be able to easily obtain amyl through illegal sources and further there will be no quality control and users may well suffer more harm than if they purchased amyl that had quality control and was regulated.

Regards

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