

Council For The National Interest

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Copy

The Hon Mark Butler MP
Minister for Health and aged Care
House of Representatives
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister Butler

There has been much media comment over recent years and there is now about the results of research done in States and Territories and concerns expressed by parliamentarians, education directors, police and ordinary Australian mums and dads about vaping.

In metropolitan Perth it is not uncommon for 'smoke shops' that sell vapes to be located near schools and the evidence of vaping by students is abundant.

If you have not seen the 7NEWS Spotlight programme shown on 28 May 2023, I strongly urge you to access it on the net. Enclosed is an article from The Sunday Times, 28 May 2023 *"Vapes full of cancer-causing toxic chemicals – It's the illegal poison trade that's ruining our kids' health."*

This comprehensive, Australia wide study found banned chemicals in some of the vapes and vapes with nicotine were able to be purchased without a prescription in every capital city and school students were using vapes in rapidly increasing numbers and many are becoming addicted.

The damage caused to vape users can be immediate causing death or can be evident in subsequent years. The current regulations which allow some authorised registered pharmacists to prescribe vapes with nicotine to help patients give up smoking are just not working. The level of non-smokers in the community is declining ie less are giving up smoking more people, many vapers, are smoking.

It is NOT in the national interest for vaping products to continue to be available. Please call all State and Territory Health Ministers together with you and devise and implement a strategy for Australia to discontinue the sale of vapes Australia wide.

We look forward to your favourable response.

Sincerely,
Denis J Whitely

Denis J Whitely – CNI Executive Committee

It's the illegal poison trade that's ruining our kids' health

Vapes full of cancer-causing toxic chemicals



ELISE VAN AKEN

Banned toxic chemicals that can cause cancer have been found in vapes readily available for purchase across the country, including by children, two new investigations have discovered.

A major six-month investigation by 7NEWS Spotlight reveals children are addicted to the lolly-flavoured poison to the point that they are vaping in class — and the habit has been taken up by kids as young as five.

The Spotlight investigation sourced vapes from retailers in every capital city and had them tested by researchers at the University of Wollongong.

The research found banned chemicals in some of the vapes, and that vapes with nicotine were able to

be purchased without a prescription in every capital city.

In the program, award-winning investigative journalist Ross Coulthart exposes the impact vaping is having on our youth and what manufacturers don't want you to know about the poison our kids are breathing in.

"There is no warning about the fact that they contain nicotine, no mention of the word, nicotine. It's not on the ingredients lists,"

Dr Jody Morgan of the University of Wollongong told

Spotlight.

"If you drank the liquid that was in (one) disposable vape, there is enough nico-

tine in there to be fatal to an adult." Three students interviewed by Spotlight, pictured, all agreed they were "100 per cent" addicted, with one

admitting to collapsing from inhaling the contents, and another coughing up "black mucus".

Heavy metals — including arsenic, lead, mercury, aluminium and known human carcinogens such as formaldehyde — were found in vapes during lab tests by Queensland's Health and Environment Committee. The resulting bombshell report, ordered by the Queensland Government, tested the chemical composition of 17 e-liquid samples currently available for purchase in the State.

"There are people who might think vaping is safer than smoking or, indeed, harmless. These test results should make those people think again," Queensland Premier

Annastacia

Palaszczuk

said. It is currently illegal across Australia to purchase vaping devices containing nicotine without a prescription from anywhere but a licensed pharmacy.

The WA Education Department is planning a trial of vape detectors in public-school toilets. Education Minister Tony Buti said that the trial was one of a number of measures aimed at preventing a new generation of nicotine addicts, while independent and Catholic schools in WA have installed vape detectors in the past two years.

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