



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANNING, TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES

Jo Clay MLA (Chair), Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy), Mark Parton MLA

Submission No 13 - Ms Dominica van der Ploeg

Inquiry into the Road Transport (Safety and Traffic

Management) Amendment Bill 2021 (No 2)

Received - 24/07/21

Authorised - 29/07/21

From: [REDACTED]
To: [LA Committee - PTCS](#)
Subject: I don't want to be killed before my time
Date: Saturday, 24 July 2021 11:36:58 AM

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Good evening

I am writing to ask for stronger penalties for vulnerable road users. I am both a cyclist and driver. I have had several near misses from cars. Twice, a car swerved close to me with the undoubted intention to knock me off my bike, and I have had many near-accidents where the car simply didn't realise that I had right of way or any rights. E.g. I was crossing at a zebra crossing and a driver nearly mowed me down, and then jumped out and screamed that I wasn't allowed to use pedestrian crossings at all.

There is no doubt that some cyclists are morons (excuse my French). However, the fact remains that the automatic motorist response is 'so get them off the road', as opposed to 'let's drive as if a cyclist will pop out any minute', the way they would other (moronic) motorists and motorcyclists. I strongly believe that stronger penalties and enforcement of those penalties will really get it into motorist heads that they need to look out for, and respect cyclists on the road. I'm sure you saw the video of the cyclist being knocked off and injured at Coulter Drive earlier this year where the driver only received a \$395 fine; this is simply not enough to change mindsets.

I look forward to hearing about the outcome of your considerations.

Dominica van der Ploeg

There are few rules for submissions, only that they must be relevant, written and received before the closing date. Include your name, phone number, and postal and email addresses, before sending your submission in either digital or physical form to one of these addresses:

- By email (preferred): LacommitteePTCS@parliament.act.gov.au
- By post: Standing Committee on

safer streets are important for all vulnerable road users. Please take a moment to make a submission to the Inquiry into Road Transport (Safety and Traffic Management) Amendment Bill 2021.

Making a submission can be as simple as a one-line email. The inquiry would particularly like to know:

- Would you feel safer if our laws demonstrated that we take vulnerable road user safety seriously?
- Have you been involved in a collision where the driver was given a small

fine, or wasn't penalised at all?