

Pā mai

Pā mai te reo aroha
Ki ngā pā o Papaioeia
E ngā iwi o Aotearoa
Haere mai, haere mai

Titiro ki ngā hoia
kua wehe nei
Aue te aroha me te mamae
E ngā iwi o Aotearoa
Haere mai, haere mai
Kia kaha, kia manawanui

*The voice of love goes out
To Palmerston North communities
To the people of New Zealand
Greetings, greetings*

*Look at the soldiers
Departed from us
Oh, the love and the pain
To the people of New Zealand
Greetings, greetings
May you be strong and determined*

Review of the Misuse of Drugs Act

**AT THE HEART
OF THE MATTER,
NZ DRUG
FOUNDATION.**

Te Tūāpapa Tarukino o Aotearoa

Why and how you can get involved

Workshop, Central Region Addictions Network Forum, April 2008



What is MoDA?

- The Misuse of Drugs Act (1975) underpins New Zealand policy on illicit drugs
- It sets out how illicit drugs are classified (eg cannabis and BZP are Class C, heroin is Class A)
- It sets the penalties for possessing, producing and selling illicit drugs
- It also gives government agencies powers of enforcement

Why the review?

- The law was passed in 1975
- It's been amended over a dozen times since then
- Because of this, it's hard to understand
- It's not in touch with changes in drug use in New Zealand
- It doesn't recognise new ideas about dealing with drug use (eg diversion, drug courts, treatment)
- Its principles and philosophy don't fit with New Zealand's National Policy



What's the framework for the review?

- The Law Commission is doing the review
- Its terms of reference include:
 - how should the laws fit with the principles of the National Drug Policy?
 - what is the best model or models to control drugs?
 - which substances should be covered?
 - should the current drug classification system stay, or are there better ways to classify drugs?
 - what is the best offence and penalty structure?
 - which agency or agencies should be responsible for administering the law?

What's happening?

- The Law Commission is talking to government agencies and NGOs (such as the Drug Foundation)
- It's also looking at laws and policy in other countries
- The Law Commission will be putting out a discussion paper, probably in December this year
- There will be lots of consultation on the discussion paper,
- The Commission will produce “proposals for a new legislative regime consistent with New Zealand’s international obligations concerning illegal and other drugs”.



What's the Drug Foundation doing?

- Keeping our membership and other interested people updates on progress through our website and e-newsletters
- Reviewing options, and getting evidence reviews out
- Holding workshops or other opportunities for stakeholder/public discussion
- Developing submissions on Law Commission documents, and participating in consultations.

How you can get involved

- Keep up with developments
- Start talking to people in your organisation about what you might like to see changed
- Work with consumers so that they know about the review and how they can take part
- Contact me at keriata.stuart@drugfoundation.org.nz
- Keep looking at our website www.drugfoundation.org.nz



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