



# Media Release



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## **ISSUE: 'Bi-partisan support for ICE intervention!'**

[*"Permissibility, availability and accessibility - all increase consumption."* Dalgarno Institute.]

"The Dalgarno Institute welcomes the fact that on the issue of the rising problem of ICE use that we have bi-partisan support for a continued fight against this major social problem. The views of Mr Abbott and Mr Shorten reflect social expectations and take a realistic approach to a problem that is not "victimless". The crimes that continue to be perpetrated by those who sell, distribute and use these drugs impact on many people, but mainly their families. It also entails enormous costs to the public purse.

Just as those who sell these drugs should be held accountable so do those who choose to use them and fuel the market.

These responses counter the highly irresponsible and senseless idea that these drugs should be legalised and be freely available. Anyone who thinks that use and the harm associated with their use will go down by legalising these dangerous drugs is little short of deluded.

As a society we have an obligation to educate and treat those who might be tempted to use ICE and other illicit drugs. It is also time we, as a society, enact our obligation to send out a clear message that illicit drug use is not a matter of human rights, in fact, it diminishes our children's and family Right to be fully human! It is no more a human right or excusable as any other crime that harms others or even the perpetrator. Sometimes people need to be protected from themselves, just as we require people to wear seat belts and helmets when driving/riding. The 'right to be human' always implies social responsibility, so that social justice can be afforded to all, but even more so the emerging generation, our children!

The A.N.C.D is to be applauded for bringing to our notice the bi-partisan position of our leaders. It is time for those who call for legalisation of drug use to listen to the community and to bring this overtly ideological agenda into line, not only with community expectations and values, but also in line with the evidence."

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