



SPORTING SHOOTERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC.

MEDIA RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

SSAA sees problems with Monash report.

The Sporting Shooters Association of Australia Inc. said today that it was closely examining a recent report released by Monash University which claims that tougher gun laws have led to a reduction in firearm related deaths.

SSAA Inc. spokesperson, Mr Paul Peake, said that the Association was reviewing both the methodologies used in the report, as well as some of the assumptions upon which it was premised – “While we’ve only just begun to look at how the report was compiled, we can already see that there are a number of propositions in it which simply aren’t correct. For instance, the report claims that gun laws across Australia came into line with Victoria following the 1996 gun buy-back scheme. It’s common knowledge however, that 95 percent of what was introduced in 1996 had been in place in Western Australia for the better part of 60 years and that Victoria lagged well behind WA in terms of gun-control. Similarly, the report appears to ignore a range of important variables such as increased resources for suicide prevention, declining unemployment rates and improvements in policing; all of which we know have an impact on firearm-related deaths over and beyond simply changing the gun laws.”

Mr Peake went on to say that the Association would be commenting further once its assessment of the report was complete – “The report makes some fairly sweeping claims and given that the Federal government has now spent the better part of three quarters of a billion dollars on gun confiscation schemes, we intend to look at each one of them with a magnifying glass.”

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