

To.

Director
Quad Bikes Taskforce
Consumer Product Safety Branch
Australian Competition & Consumer Commission
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To whom it may concern.

I am an active 60YO Male Grandfather who still enjoys the freedom provided by riding many forms of off road motorized adventure type bikes (including Quads that my grandkids currently ride).

I wish to make my own personal experiences and views clearly heard by any decision makers on the proposed changes.

I was only a 10YO when I first experienced motorized off road adventure riding, this was on mini bikes and 3 wheel trikes back in the early 1970s at multiple family camping holidays on a well-known recreational lake.

I, as were most of the kids at the time hooked on the thrill and adventure these new all-terrain vehicles provided.

I grant the 3 wheel bikes were a trick to learn how to ride safely but that being said as a social group and generally as an age group we did not find the accidents or damage any worse on a 3 wheel bike than we did on a two wheel bike.

The trick was learning both your own and the vehicles limits and staying within these limits while wearing the correct safety equipment.

Jump forward some 20 odd years and we found 3 wheel bikes being banned due to so called unfounded safety concerns.

Here we are another 15 years on and we now hear the same argument about 4 wheel bikes (Quads) and knowing what I and all of my lifelong riding friends have experienced the problem is not so much about the type of vehicle.

The trick again here learning both your own and the vehicles limits and staying within these limits while wearing the correct safety equipment.

My years of observations and concern is that if we (as a community) continue to allow others (Govt) and formal regulation be responsible for our own individual safety then we will likely see:

1. More and more forms of adventure with any form of risk attached being taken away from us.
2. The loss of human ability to identify and manage personal risk and danger.
3. The enjoyment and fun such adventure past times can offer both individuals and families.
4. The loss of learning and experience while being outside in nature and the environment when riding or driving adventure vehicle.
5. More and more kids sitting behind computer screens supposedly experiencing nature and adventure through make believe computer games.

I would like my personal voice added to those that have already and likely those many thousands quiet objectors in totally rejecting any suggestion that is likely to lead to unacceptable regulation on manufacturers that is likely to see the demise of choices and options we currently have in adventure bike riding.

Again I state:

The trick is learning both your own and the vehicles limits and staying within these limits while wearing the correct safety equipment.

Regards,

Tim Swift