

**From:** Jan Jackson  
**To:** [Select Committee on Personal Choice and Community Safety](#)  
**Subject:** Nanny State Committee  
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Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the increasing intrusion of the "nanny state" into our lives and the resultant loss of personal freedom.

The bike helmet law is an obvious example of bureaucratic over reaction which turns normal people into law breakers or stops them cycling. When the law was introduced, myself and people who I knew who rode a bike around quiet local streets all stopped. The bike shop down the road went out of business.

I have no argument with people who ride fast, or commute in peak hour traffic wearing a helmet by choice, but it is ridiculous on quiet streets and bike paths. A trip to Copenhagen or Amstersdam where few wear helmets and many ride would show how ridiculous the local law is.

Basically Government restriction on individual behaviour is only necessary to stop people harming others or the Society in which they live, Government control of other personal behaviour or free speech (with the exception of incitement to violence), is the start of totalitarian state control. Those who seek such control might like to consider that people with opposing views might like control too if they achieve power.

Our freedom is precious and must be defended against power hungry ideologues and Bureaucrats.

Kind regards,

Peter Jackson