

Seamons, Colleen

From: Rob Elliott, Elliotts Legal Planning [rob@elliottslegalplanning.com]
Sent: Wednesday, 17 September 2008 1:27 PM
To: submissions
Subject: Submission Re: Proposal P1007 Primary Production & Processing Requirements for Raw Milk Products

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Submission

Re: Proposal P1007 Primary Production & Processing Requirements for Raw Milk Products

Dear Sir

I write as a concerned consumer of dairy products.

I offer the following information about myself. I am in my early 50's, married with two children aged seven and nine. I have a tertiary level education. I have been professionally trained and working in the food industry for almost two decades. I judge at a National level in Cheese and Dairy Produce Shows. I have a particular interest in and am widely read regarding issues of health and nutrition.

Both my parents were raised consuming raw milk products. As a child I was raised consuming them as well. For the last two years my family have been consuming raw milk products which have included: milk, buttermilk, keffir, yoghurt, cream, various cheeses, whey and butter. Most of these I produce myself from a raw milk base. I am aware of many people who consume raw milk products.

I have lived for significant periods of time in France where I did my cooking training. At that time, I had a particular interest in cheeses and have consumed many dozens of cheeses made from raw milk products over extended periods of time.

No member of my family, nor I, nor any consumer I know of raw milk dairy products have ever experienced any health related issue from the consumption of raw milk products.

As a concerned, informed and committed consumer I believe we should be allowed to source and consume raw milk products if that is our choice. I have read in detail regarding the potential health hazards relating to raw milk products. I have made an informed decision that those risks are far outweighed by the potential health products of long term consumption of raw milk dairy produce. I am not qualified, nor is it my place in this submission to try and argue the scientific pros and cons of this issue.

If, as a community we condone and promote the sale and consumption of products like tobacco and alcohol, then it makes no sense to me that we are denied the choice to consume raw milk products.

I would be happy to provide further input if that is of assistance. In the meantime, my family and I will continue to consume these products and to support the lobby who seek to legalise the sale of raw milk products.

Yours sincerely

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