



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
LEGAL AND SOCIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

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Inquiry: Inquiry into Victoria's criminal justice system

Hearing Date: 6 September 2021

Question[s] taken on notice

Directed to: Ms Tiffany Overall, Youthlaw and Smart Justice for Young People and  
Ms Anoushka Jeronimus, Smart Justice for Young People

**1. The Chair Page no. 11-12**

**Question asked.**

*[I think that probably leads nicely into some of the other reporting that you are calling on – the recording and reporting of police stops. I am assuming that that also is about, you know, making people check that kind of unfairness that we have seen around the different cohorts that are brushing against our criminal justice system.] ... And just quickly on that, are there other jurisdictions doing this—collecting this sort of data—and has it effected change in those jurisdictions that do it?*

**Response:**

Data is an essential starting point for transparency and to develop an understanding and start working on the problem of overrepresentation. Currently we know stops and searches are happening without reasonable grounds, as well as there being targeted police operations in high minority populations. But little if any data is publically available to highlight this.

No jurisdiction is doing that well bringing down the overrepresentation. However New York dramatically reduced its stop and frisk rate when they started to make data public about what was going on.

A useful report by Tamar Hopkins includes a focus on: *how should reasons for stops and searches be recorded?* (ch 4) and *what data needs to be recorded by police* (chapter 5) can be found at

[https://www.policeaccountability.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/monitoringRP\\_report\\_softcopy\\_FINAL\\_22082017.pdf](https://www.policeaccountability.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/monitoringRP_report_softcopy_FINAL_22082017.pdf)