



EVERSOL'S weekly law

Contributed by Melissa Swain

Can a child's toy be a 'vehicle'?

Most people think of foot scooters and skateboards as children's toys. However, if the foot scooter or skateboard is motorized, it becomes a 'vehicle'.

Unfortunately, some retailers who sell these 'vehicles' fail to warn customers that they cannot be used on roads or in public areas.

Riding a motorized foot scooter or skateboard on a road or road related area is illegal. Firstly, motorized foot scooters do not meet minimum Australian design standards for safety and so cannot be registered. This means they must not be used on roads or in public areas such as footpaths, car parks, parks and even cycleways.

If you are caught riding a motorized foot scooter or similar device on a road or public place, you could be charged with driving an unregistered vehicle. It is no excuse that the 'vehicle' could not be registered.

Further, as it is likely the motorized foot scooter won't be insured, you may also be charged with driving an uninsured vehicle.

As motorized foot scooters and similar devices are so popular with children, it is also likely that the rider will not be licensed. Therefore, not only could the 'driver' be charged with driving an unregistered and uninsured vehicle, they could also be charged with driving without a license.

There are heavy penalties at Court for these offences, which can involve incurring a fine, or a disqualification period from holding a licence. Further, the rider could be held personally liable in the event of an accident.

If you have any queries in relation to any driving matters, at Everingham Solomons we have the experience and expertise to assist you, because ***Helping You is Our Business.***



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