

Have Your Say - Lockout Laws

DA Darcy Altavilla 

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To: Liquor Law Review; 

Mon 10:40 PM

Inbox

To whom it may concern,

Mike Baird's Lockout Laws are a severe step in the wrong direction when addressing the issue of alcohol related violence. He may claim that violence has been reduced in problem areas, but fails to account for the spike in the amount of violence outside of the lockout zones, most notably The Star in Pymont.

Dictating when and where people can spend their nights out is not going to solve the problem at its root: the culture of alcohol abuse and violence that we continue to sweep under the rug, as it bares an ugly mark on our celebrated Australian culture. A better solution could consist of education programs from a younger age that address the consequences of violence and its broader effects on society; greater police presence in problem areas; and an increased variety of available activities in the later hours (for example museums, small festivals, live arts). So far the Lockout Laws have only stifled what was once a thriving nightlife full of culture and an amazing array of live music. I have personally spoken with tourists who have come to Sydney only to be disappointed and frustrated with the strict laws and dying culture.

Furthermore, the obvious exclusion of Pymont and Barangaroo is an embarrassing display of greed and quite plausibly corruption from the Premier himself, and I quite frankly cannot understand how this has not been investigated.

Hopefully the message that the NSW public is not at all satisfied with these measures reaches the right place. Thank you for taking the time to read what I have had to say.

Yours sincerely,

Darcy Altavilla