

Submission

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Wed 30/03/2016 3:26 PM

To: Liquor Law Review <liquorlawreview@justice.nsw.gov.au>;

I live around the corner from the lock-out area, in 2027, and have done since before the new laws. I do my groceries and go to the gym in Kings Cross, and occasionally go out on Oxford Street. Like most people, I'm not engaged with the policy side of things day-to-day, but on the ground, the lock-out policies affect me by restricting when and where I can responsibly enjoy my life. In a free society I ought to be able to buy wine or go dancing when a wine seller or a dance floor provider are willing to supply such activities. Yet I regularly find myself in a situation where I can't pick up wine on the way to a late dinner, or go for a boogy after it, including to places on Oxford street that have had no issues with violence. It also creates issues with enforcement, where any little incident appears to be used as a wedge by authorities to close things down. The other day a liquor store salesperson was literally begging me to take a brown paper bag for a bottle of wine because they were scared of being punished for being irresponsible. The regulations themselves, license enforcement and police should be there to keep the peace not shut down the activity altogether. With the lockout laws the government response has been disproportionate in addressing what are statistically small risks. A sensible policy would be proportionate in balancing the risks and benefits of being out and about and being able to enjoy one's life.

Thanks,

[REDACTED] - I would prefer my name not be published but don't mind if text is.
Darling Point