

[REDACTED]  
Saturday 2nd April 2016

To Hon. Ian Callinan AC QC

My name is Nischal Aryal and I am writing to you today to discuss whether the policy objectives of the 1.30am lock out and 3am cease alcohol sales requirements remain valid. I would also like to discuss, the impact of the state-wide 10pm take-away liquor restriction across NSW, and how these laws have affected my lifestyle personally.

Since 2007, I have been self employed working as a DJ primarily for the wedding industry. I worked every Friday and Saturday night until midnight, then I would pack up my equipment which generally took an hour, then go meet my friends and one of the many amazing house and techno music nightclubs scattered across the city.

Nightclub entertainment is the primary form of entertainment that I enjoy. I have had a long love affair with music since I was a child, singing in the St. Mary's Cathedral Choir in Hobart as a child, playing saxophone in my high school's concert band and stage band, and ultimately settling on turntables as my instrument of choice in 2005 and entering the DJ world.

In my 2 year HSC music program, I performed turntablism as an instrument, against the advice of my course co-ordinator, as turntablism and Dj'ing was not considered a musical instrument in the course guidelines. Against all odds I scored 92% for that course.

It is this attitude toward Dj'ing that I have been combating for the last 9 years. Even my closest friends and family advise me to seek another career path, with the view that Dj'ing is just some passing interest that I have. From 2007 - 2014 I built up my business and my life involved dj'ing at weddings and other events Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights, followed by heading out to one of the many excellent and safe nightclubs where I could listen to and learn from the best Dj's around the world in our fair city.

Fast forward to the 24th of February 2014 and my entire world was turned upside down. The business that I had built up over the last 7 years was pulled out from under my feet, as the profitable bar and nightclub dj work I was getting ended and slashed my income in half. No longer able to go out after work to licenced venues where I could spend my time enjoying music in safety, I was forced to look elsewhere to enjoy music.

Now usually after playing at a gig and packing up, I would park my car in one of the CBD's many secure car parks and if I had too much to drink I could catch a taxi home and pick up my car the next day. Once the lockout laws came into affect, the only places I could go were to unlicensed and unregulated parties, in parks, warehouse, abandoned offices, etc. Significantly increasing my exposure to harms. As these were in seedier parts of town, I did not feel safe leaving my car there and [REDACTED], significantly increasing exposure to harm to me and those around me.

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In conclusion, The lockout laws have gutted my business, placed myself and members of the community around me in harms way, and have exposed me to more harms rather than less. In my personal case, the lockout laws have had the opposite of the intended objective.

I hope you find this submission useful in your review.

Kind Regards  
Nischal Aryal