

Liquor Laws in NSW

TD Tim DeBakker [REDACTED]

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Hello NSW government team

I'm sure you've been inundated with all sorts of opinionated and abusive emails by now so I will try to keep my commentary as objective as possible.

I agree that Australia has both and Alcohol problem and a violence problem, that has definitely been proven many times over.

We also tend to have that reputation overseas with Australian's being considered the worst visitors to Oktoberfest along with many international music festivals and basically anything that involves alcohol and a social setting.

I was lucky enough to be born in this great country we call Australia, I am also a dual citizen of both Australia and Germany.

Growing up with relatives from both countries has given me a balanced perspective on alcohol and it has never been considered a taboo or off limits substance for me and as a result I've never felt truly compelled to abuse it (Apart from an unfortunate incident at my 21st birthday but let's not go into that just now!).

Now it would be easy for me to say hey why don't we make Sydney more like Berlin? It's drinking culture is super open, you can carry glass bottles anywhere you like and stay out until all hours, literally you can party for days on end if you like because there is always something open.

Yet with all this at their fingertips Berliners, and Germans in general have significantly lower alcohol related violence issues when compared to Australia.

That being said: To establish German drinking laws in Australia would most likely end in a bloody mess.

So what can be done to help transition to a more relaxed culture without "letting the wild

animals out of the cage"?

I would like to suggest some kind of test period for Sydney, if people prove they can behave, reward them with more freedom and then more again until eventually we have a very open drinking culture and people learn to calm down.

Finally I will leave you with something that I believe may be driving the craziness when it comes to Aussies and drinking: Being told what to do.

Me personally, I hate being told what to do and the more people try to stop me doing something, the more I fight back and want to do it.

So perhaps you've been treating Sydneysiders like children and this is why they're misbehaving, so perhaps if together, we can navigate the terrible teens: We may one day have an adult drinking culture.

All the best on your decision whatever it may be

Sincerely

Christian Baker
Proud Australian