


Submission regarding the Sydney lockout laws - Claudia Bowman

CB Claudia Bowman [REDACTED]

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To: Liquor Law Review; 

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 the liquor laws.

My position is that I am opposed to the lock out laws.

And as a [REDACTED] of over 10years, I am also opposed to being spoken for by a vocal minority who have called themselves '2011 Residents Association'. This title gives the impression that this group speaks on behalf of and represents the ideas and believes of the people who live in the precinct- a precinct more densely populated then most others in Australia. This is not true or correct.

In regards to the lockout laws, I agree that changes were needed to a) the toxic culture of violence (and the acceptance and or expectation of violence) specifically in KX as an entertainment precinct at certain days and times of the week AND b) alcohol abuse in Australia generally, however, instead of lock out laws, an alternate, more balanced and effective way of achieving a change of drinking culture and nightlife culture could have been adopted by our NSW state government- and in doing so encouraged a healthy, thriving, diverse nightlife and entertainment precinct for our neighbourhood and the global city of Sydney as a whole. (as opposed to decimate a historic entertainment precinct and city night life)

But these measures i'm suggesting would have prioritised people and not business. They would have COST our state government money not raised money via developers and big business interest.

Is our neighbourhood quieter, cleaner, does it feel safer since the lock out laws were put into effect?- Yes. But I am firmly of the belief these same results of less violence and less

tragedy could have been achieved in an alternate way from enforcing lock out laws. An alternate approach that took our city forward not held us back.

If our state government had of consulted the community before enforcing the lock out laws, they would have heard many of us ask for;

- better transportation options for people getting into and out of the entertainment precinct
- better event management of the neighbourhood with more policing much like we see with other major events such as sporting events and festivals around our city.
- powerful education campaigns about the need for a change to Australia's nightlife culture of alcohol abuse and the ensuing violence that had most certainly become somewhat of an accepted norm, synonymous with our neighbourhood between certain times on certain days of the week.

But again, these measures I'm suggesting would have prioritised people and not business. They would have cost our state government money not raised money via developers and big business interest.

It's my absolute belief that the O'Farrell and Baird Government's have shamelessly cashed in on the deaths of people killed in our neighbourhood to suit their own agendas of prioritising the interests of developers and big business - decimating our entertainment precinct and the diverse nightlife of a global city, in order to boost casino profits and kickbacks from the massive development projects we can see are taking shape in what once was a poor managed entertainment precinct.

The duty of my state government is not to tell me when to go home and what part of the city I can go to for entertainment.

The duty of my state government is to provide me with a safe, vibrant, diverse city and city nightlife that features adequate amenities and facilities that support my desire to go and enjoy my city at any time of the day or night that I choose. That's why I work and pay tax and vote.

I feel our state government has been short sighted with these lock out laws in the same way we can see they HAVE and ARE being short sighted with many other important State issues including, but not limited to; the cutting down of trees on ANZAC Pde, Ousting of tenants from Millers Point, continual disrespect for department of housing tenants, horrendous planning of Westconnex, Moore Park \$25million bridge to nowhere, incompetencies of providing appropriate Inner-City HighSchool and Day Care options, the doubling of business votes, amalgamation bungalows and the list goes on.

This is NOT the state Government the people in my NSW state deserve- I feel the Baird Government is a short sighted government that has a short term agenda that is big business and developer interests oriented and NOT social justice, people or environment oriented. I feel this state government is out of touch with social justice and environmental issues.

Claudia Bowman

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]