

Keep Sydney Open!

Jinx Bowman [REDACTED]

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

To whom it may concern,

My name is Laura Bowman, and I am a musician who works under the name "Jinx".

In the past I have performed gigs all over Sydney, from 4:00pm afternoon cover bands in bars to 9:30pm acoustic sets in restaurants. But, like many musicians, my most prominent performances were at 1:30am - 4:00am, singing in bars and nightclubs.

Myself and many of my musician friends have watched our livelihood be stripped away. The lack of opportunities to perform late night have gotten so bad that I've had to give up my hard earned position as a performance-support musician to work full time in a corporate setting. As a result, my finances have decreased significantly and my need for an 8:30am - 5:00pm, 5 day a week job has ruined many potential gigs.

To add, I have watched the Sydney nightlife and culture undergo ridiculous travesties, including but not limited to:

- Being unable to leave a venue after 1:30am
- Restaurants and fast-food joints being forced to close at 12:00am in the CBD -- you would think that you would want somebody that has consumed alcohol to eat for health and safety reasons..
- Many staple bars, nightclubs and cultural hubs in Sydney closing
- A lack of police force and security in the city
- The violence moving to the outer suburbs. I witnessed a brawl between three bouncers and three patrons in Newtown - something that I would have *never* seen two years ago - on Saturday night
- Being unable to purchase alcohol after 10:00pm to take home for a nice, relaxing drink. This one is the kicker to me. My mother, a responsible 52 year old woman, can't even buy a bottle of wine at our local bottle shop to drink on a Saturday evening.

As a result of the lockout laws I have watched my friends resort to drug use.

And yet, the Casino remains open despite \$10.50 drinks and a gambling culture that I had hoped the government were working to reduce. This has resulted in huge outbreaks of violence in one centralised area.

Please consider the following:

- Remove the lockout laws
- Increase bar security requirements and police force presence
- Increase the number of RSA marshalls required at any one venue
- Allow food and transport to run all night -- can't help to create more jobs and a steadier flow of income, right?
- Return Sydney to its former status of late night vivaciousness, which is what tourists have come to our city to enjoy for years.

Kind regards,

Laura Bowman

Please consider the effect the lockout laws are having.