



Liquor Law Review

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To: Liquor Law Review; ▾

Mon 5:43 PM

Inbox

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in protest to the lock out laws that are in place in the Sydney CBD and Kings Cross area.

It is understandable that the government places the safety of the community as a priority.

However, the way in which it is being addressed, by denying the freedom of expression and choice to a population, where the majority are non offending, is just a band aid solution that will ultimately destroy creativity and starve Sydney of culture.

The key offence data shown the the liquor review, may show decline in cases of antisocial behaviour- but their is no evidence that there is a decrease violent acts as the percentage of the population are attending these venues. It is a reported that the number of people choosing to go out since lock out laws has diminished therefore drops in incidents would naturally occur as oppose to truly reflecting an overall decrease in incidences due to lock out restrictions.

These laws have also restricted our freedom of choice, our choice of where we spend our recreation time, how we choose to express out interests and where we choose to spend our money. With this law it feels that the state trying to mould the population into what it sees as "acceptable". These laws guide us away from investing in local talent, supporting local culture and nightlife but towards spending our time in casinos and allowing big business/ development to buy up local real estate/ institutions, leaving nothing of Sydney for the middle to lower class to enjoy in the future.

European countries with much laxer drinking laws and ages do not have the same issues of binge drinking and abuse as that of Australia and the UK. History has demonstrated prohibition, only drives things underground and creates more demand. Continued restrictions on the take away alcohol and night venues, in the long term will only drive up illegal parties and sales, which is more dangerous and unregulated.

The government should be put under pressure to not simply address anti social behaviour by slapping on a band aid and eliminating Sydney's night life and culture. It should be responsible for supporting safe behaviour with more frequent and more forms of late night public transport and developing a better dialogue with the patrons, licence owners and residents to help develop better solutions.

Kindest regards,

Jacqueline Chang