

Lock-out laws: my objections

PC

Paul Christian [REDACTED]

To: Liquor Law Review; [REDACTED]



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I object to these laws, in a major way.

I object that you take away our civil liberties.

I object that the Baird Government is 'punishing' all responsible adults for the crimes of a handful of people.

I object that you are sucking the vibrancy out of this once great city.

I object that for people who finish work late on a Friday or Saturday night - of which there are literally thousands - you do not give them the opportunity to enjoy after-work drinks like the Monday-to-Friday 9-5 workers.

I object that the over bearing police force in Sydney are becoming ever-more present and these ludicrous lock-out laws are giving the police more cause to reach further into the lives of honest people who want to enjoy the city as they choose fit.

I object that I cannot go to a bottle shop at 10:05pm on a Saturday night and buy a bottle of wine.

I object that I cannot order an aged whiskey straight-up (no mixer) at a bar on a Friday or Saturday night. I object that you think my behaviour will be 'unsociable' and 'unacceptable' if I drink any spirit 'neat' after midnight, so you deem it appropriate that the opportunity for me to order an expensive well-aged scotch after midnight should be removed.

I object that Sydney is now so-often talked about in a negative way, because this city does not allow adults to be 'adults', because the government and the police force are assuming we are all going to be violent and/or unsociable after 1:30 or 3am, and therefore we should all be kicked out of bars and/or clubs onto the street.

I object that the government made no real effort to address the problems of getting people home at 2am after the trains stop running.

I object that cities like Melbourne have 24 hour public transport over the weekend to safely and efficiently get their residents home, and yet Sydney does not.

I object that these lock-out laws do not encourage young people to come to our city.

I object that the lock-out laws are driving yet another nail into the live music scene in Sydney, which has been on it's knees for years, and is now in a dire situation.

I object that The Casino has been made exempt from these lock-out laws and despite the rise in violence in Pyrmont, there has been no 'warning' given to the Star.

I object that the Liberal Government introduced these laws as a knee-jerk measure to silence the media, which went into overdrive after the two one-punch deaths in Kings Cross.

I object that you've destroyed the livelihood of so many successful business owners, who've had to shut down their businesses after the introduction of these lock-out laws.

I object that the Baird government seems to think itself 'untouchable' with regards to these laws and the decimation these laws have caused to precincts like Kings Cross.

I object that Sydney is being dragged backwards by these laws, when in fact we should be moving forward to a true 24 hour economy.

I object that the Baird Government thinks that I am irresponsible and will act violently and/or unsociably and therefore the Baird government feels the need to tell me how, when and where I can drink and at what time I can drink until.

These lock-out laws are a blight on our once-great city and I OBJECT that our civil liberties are one-bone being taken from us and I feel embarrassed to live in this city and so many of us would move to Melbourne if we could because SYDNEY AND NEW SOUTH WALES IS NOW OVER POLICED AND OVER GOVERNED BY POLITICIANS WHO DO NOT TRULY REPRESENT WHAT SO MANY PEOPLE IN THIS CITY WANT AND NEED FROM A CITY!

For the record, I am 50 years old. I don't work in hospitality, I don't own a bar or a restaurant and I don't vote Labor. I am a RESPONSIBLE citizen of Sydney and I want my rights back. MY RIGHT to be treated like the responsible adult that I am and MY RIGHT to have a drink at 3am if I choose to do so, or head to a bottle shop at 11pm on a Saturday night if I choose to.

Thank you. I hope this is read and given the consideration that it deserves. These new alcohol laws in NSW are an absolute disgrace!

Paul Christian

