

# Lock out laws

AD Alacoque Dash 



 Reply all | 

To: Liquor Law Review; 

11:18 AM

Inbox



Action Items



Liquor Law Review  
GPO Box 7060  
Sydney NSW 2001

To whom it may concern,

## **RE Liquor Law Review**

I write to provide my feedback and concerns regarding the lock out laws and hope it will be taken into consideration as part of this review. My concerns are as follows:

- Firstly, the lock out laws in no way address the inherent societal problem of violence, and particularly it's association with 'maleness' i.e. to be male is to be strong and aggressive.
- The lockout laws have merely moved the problem on- either to other areas, such as Newtown whose character has drastically changed, or back into the home and domestic violence situations.
- These laws punish everyone but the perpetrators! In every 'coward punch' incident the victim was not to blame yet these laws are implying they are but suggesting they shouldn't have been there in the first place.
  - How many women have been sexually assaulted yet a couple of young blokes get killed and everyone takes drastic action. Still yet to hear of ANY action for the violence against women problem.
- The streets are not safer. I often work late; at least once a week I finish work at 10pm and walk home through the city. Post lockout laws there are less people on the street and as a result I feel more exposed and less confident walking home. There are no longer happy revellers in the streets, only shifty-looking loiterers, and this means less good samaritans to help in case of problems.
  - Further to this point- where is the late night public transport?! It should not be so hard to get home safely.
- Don't shift workers deserve a post-work beverage? As previously noted I often finish work late and every now and then I feel like a glass of wine after work but I can no longer pick up a bottle on my way home. Same goes for other shift workers who would like to

go for after-work drinks with their colleagues but apparently hospital doctors, nurses, ambos etc. are denied this important opportunity to destress and debrief which office and corporate workers get to enjoy every afternoon at 5pm.

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Use incidents?  
as adherence to

these laws would mean they weren't being sold to intoxicated people anyway?!

- The knock on effects to other businesses- when you drastically cut back one aspect of trading in an area it has knock on affects for the other businesses. Whole areas have shut down because food, music, and other cultural activities are not sustainable without the business brought into the area by some liquor venues.
- Creative culture, particularly live music, is dying. It is now easier for my husband to book gigs in Melbourne, Newcastle, Woollongong etc. than in his own backyard of Sydney. This has had a huge negative impact on our family budget as he's is not only not gigging less often but travelling outside of Sydney to play means less money in his pocket as the cost of travel, fuel, accommodation etc. greatly eats into any profit.
  - Live music venues are not beer barns. They offer an activity apart from drinking/gambling, yet they are being hit hardest.
  - No band starts at the top. These small crappy venues offer musicians a chance to hone their craft, develop an audience, and test new material. As it has become unsustainable to offer live music in the current lock out law climate all music suffers. It might just be the small fry now but without the ability to grow and develop the bigger venues will no longer have any local talent to play. The unique musical culture of NSW will wither and we will have to import musical talent from other states and nations.
- The casino is exempt. How can these laws be taken seriously when the most violent venue in the state is exempt?!
- Critics of the laws have been labelled as booze hounds but some of us just want to catch up with friends & family, dance, listen to amazing new music, see exciting new art shows and theatre productions then discuss them for hours afterwards over a drink or two. There seems to be an inability to acknowledge that sometimes the glass of wine at 2am is someone's first drink of the night. Not everyone works 9am-5pm!
- Attempts to 'sanitise' the city's nightlife have merely killed it off. Address the root of the problem (male violence), not the symptoms.

I would have no problem with *temporary* lock out laws **if** they were put in place whilst a real, thorough and effective program was developed to address male violence in our society, then slowly lifted across areas as that program had affect.

Please lift these laws for live music venues, provide safe and timely public transport late at night, allow bottle shops to operate after 10pm, and please, please, please do something to address male violence. Stop punishing the victims.

Yours sincerely,  
Alacoque Dash

AUSTRALIA