

Liquor Law Review Submission

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I would like to make a submission to the Liquor Law Review regarding the Lock Out Laws.

The lock out laws have absolutely decimated Sydney's once bright and vibrant nightlife, something which saddens me greatly.

As a young female, I no longer feel safe walking the now deserted Sydney streets at night because absolutely no one is around. If something were to happen to me or my friends, there would be no witnesses and no one to help.

I am not someone who parties all night with no responsibilities. As a university educated 24 year old who works full time and contributes to society, why I am made to feel guilty for wanting to enjoy myself late at night, or for wanting to purchase alcohol after a certain time. I have never hit anyone and nor has any of my friends. Why are we (and the rest of the state) being punished for the actions of a violent and aggressive few?

I have had international friends come and stay with me who are absolutely amazed and disappointed that NSW residents are treated like children with a curfew.

I have seen countless bars and clubs close, and with it, many friends lose jobs that they relied on to pay their way through university.

I have seen the once safe and progressive night life of Newtown become overwhelmed with punters looking for new venues to attend, some of who are homophobic, aggressive or disrespectful.

I have seen grown men get into fights over the one lone taxi available at 3am because there is not enough late night public transport available once bars have no choice but to close when they can no longer serve alcohol.

I propose the laws be totally repealed.

I instead propose:

- Introduce mandatory education programs in all levels of schooling that teach young males how to express themselves with words not violent actions and break down this hyper-masculine aggressive idea of what it means to be male in this society. It's men hitting others that has caused this problem. Why are women being punished?

- More CCTV across Sydney city

- Stronger lighting in busy areas

- A structured communication line between venues and police

- Late night trade for food venues or even retailers. Why can't we be a 24 hour city?

- State run education programs on short, mid and long term effects of alcohol, steroids and drugs

- Safe public toilets

- Re-instate the \$200 daily limit to problem gambling Smart Cards

-24 hour trains

Kind regards,

Jade Donnelly-Links