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Lockout Laws Submission

KD Kate Dunlop 



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To: Liquor Law Review; 

1/04/2016

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Action Items



To whom it may concern,

I am extremely concerned with the effects the Lockout Laws have been having on my city.

I am a culture lover. I lived in London for 15 years and only returned to Sydney because it had finally started to develop its own cultural identity. From small communal type galleries opening to being able to see a live band or DJ at any hour of the day. Sydney had finally become a community that I wanted to be a part of.

Since the lockout laws have been introduced I have stopped going out. The places where I knew to avoid due to the types of people who might frequent them – mostly non-city dwellers – are now a wasteland. So I find that my own town, Newtown has taken on the slack, our own culture is being invaded by outsiders who are just out to get drunk and party – which they have every right to do – but now we have to share a space with a huge cultural divide. True music lovers, tax paying people who work hard and like to let their hair down with their friends over some late night drinks VS the people who are out to make trouble for the sake of it. Displacing the problem does not solve the problem. The fact that night life is now so limited just means that the issues that existed before hand (and unfortunately, due to ignorant, uneducated and disrespectful people) will continue to exist but are just moved to alternative localities.

Violent people don't care what time it is. In fact the two notable Coward Punches happened much earlier in the evening than the Lockout Laws focus on. Also, is there any evidence that the perpetrators were drunk? From what I know, it's most likely that they were not intoxicated with alcohol, but perhaps with something like Ice or Steroids.

Many of my friends are DJ's and Pub Landlords and are struggling to make ends meet as a result of these laws. Why should honest workers and businesses suffer?

In my 10 years in Sydney, much of it spent out in the wee hours of the morning, I have never once seen an act of violence. Is violence really the problem here? Or is it a convenient excuse?

In addition, I often find myself at work until late in the evening – as do many of my friends. I would really love to be able to pick up a bottle of wine to have with dinner on the way home from a long exhausting day at the office and to have my freedoms back to relax in any reasonable way that I see fit on the weekend.

As it stands right now, I am looking to move to Melbourne. I am 35 years old and I would like to be treated with the freedoms that adult hood allows in a modern, diverse and culturally rich society.

Please dig deep into the sources, angles and agenda behind Baird’s slap-dash statistics. Because I can see from the front line that the Lockout Laws do not achieve anything other than pseudo-control over a population and investment opportunities for the rich and powerful.

I will not be sold with Sydney’s soul.

Kind regards,

Kate

KATE DUNLOP
AIRTIME MANAGER

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