

Liquor Review Panel Submission: Louis Durant

LD

Louis Durant [REDACTED]

To: Liquor Law Review; [REDACTED]



Reply all | [REDACTED]

Mon 11:46 PM

Inbox



Reply all | [REDACTED]



Delete

Junk | [REDACTED]



I am a 27 year old [REDACTED] resident and have been living there for all of my life. I graduating from Sydney University with honours with a Ba in Agricultural Economist and am now a freelance data analyst. Data is my passion. I have built a career on providing evidence based advice to my employers so that they could make the right decisions.

I am 100% against the lockout laws. 1.30am lock out and 3am cessation of liquor sales need to be abolished completely as should the 10pm restriction on take-away liquor sales. Liquor licences need to be made more affordable and red tape reduced in order to encourage for more small bars to prosper.

These laws that are brought on by a media frenzy and a pro-lockout group that is heavily backed financially by the only two parts of society that stand to gain the most from the lockouts – casino and property developers. The paper by Fulde et al <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26510806> has completely misappropriated figures while also showing a complete lack of transparency for the raw data that the findings were based on. As tragic as the two deaths were, statistically we don't actually have a problem with alcohol fuelled violence when compared to the rest of the world. As a resident, I would rather zero violence, however we won't achieve this by shutting down the night time economy.

We need:

1) 24 hour transport. One of the amazing things about Melbourne, Berlin, London is that you can go home (or out) at any hour. We lack this. Taxi changeovers at 3am mean taxis will often refuse to take me home.

2) Cut the expensive red tape faced by small bars and music venues who as cultural institutions are part of the solution, not the problem.

3) Target problem venues. Some venues are more prone to violence and misconduct than others. Small bars are being unfairly treated in all of this. We must encourage more small bars whose safety records are a lot better than large bars.

4) Friendly policing. Let's stop turning them against society by forcing them to enforce nanny state laws. Let's instead use them to help people get home and hold a presence as a general disincentive for antisocial behaviour.

Young people are more educated and innovative than ever. Malcolm Turnbull calls it our "ideas boom." Young people are also more mobile than ever. While we make our cities more and more un-cultural, we run the risk of losing talent to other cities overseas. I for one am rethinking whether I want to live here anymore given me, and all of my other educated non-violent friends are being made to feel like criminals when we go out on Friday/Saturday nights. I know for a fact that I can get as good, if not better wages in London (as just one example) which is known for being a 24 hour city. Apart from the immediate economic cost the small businesses in the city, the government really needs to consider the long-term impact of losing young smart people to the attractiveness of *real* 24 hour world cities. Sydney is becoming increasingly expensive and increasingly boring. All these new restrictions have been brought on over two minor and isolated unprovoked attacks made by idiots who purchased alcohol from a bottle shop, and attacked their victims before 10pm – making both situations just as likely after the lockout law introduction. In order to be a global city in, we have to do far more work than abolish these laws.

Kind Regards,

Louis Durant

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]