

# Lockout Law Review - My Thoughts

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Wed 30/03/2016 3:31 PM

To: Liquor Law Review <liquorlawreview@justice.nsw.gov.au>;

To whom it may concern,

My name is Scott Finlayson, I am 33, and I live in Surry Hills, Sydney.

The lockout laws are an incredibly lazy approach to say you have 'fixed' a problem. Nothing has been fixed, you have simply taken civil liberties from tax payers which is NOT your duty as members of the State, who are to serve the people of the state, I being one of those. These laws were rushed in, and the problems surrounding violence could far more easily be tackled with other forward thinking ideas, such as....

**1. Relax the 10pm curfew for takeaway alcohol:** i don't understand why this was even introduced in NSW - it makes zero sense. If it's 10pm and i have no alcohol at home, I cannot have anyone back to my house for a drink, we have to go out, meaning more people on the streets who may just want a drink and be merry, OR, you have the situation whereby a party that was at a personal residence runs dry, and if it's past 10pm, you will then have a large group of people heading into an area already congested with intoxicated people – how is this logical??

**2. 24 hour public transport:** when the last train is at 'X' o'clock, you have a surge of alcohol-affected travellers on the streets trying to catch the last train out of the city at said time, OR, they have missed it and you have an enormous amount of people trying to get cabs. This is a MAJOR FACTOR in what has caused the violence in the past. It becomes every man for themselves on the streets.

**3. Give more areas the ability to have 3am liquor licences:** SPREAD OUT THE LOCATIONS OF VENUES! Give people a larger choice of where they can go out, and give them a LOCAL choice. There is always the argument for the local surrounding residence having 'noise issues', but that's SO short sighted! Melbourne has a magnificent nightlife because they have so many areas with late night venues to access. If you have people in a local area all congregating together, you don't get conflicts in the streets. If you have ONE AREA IN ALL OF SYDNEY that has venues open post-1am, then YES, you are always going to get issues. Living in an area that has a bustling night life will increase the value of property in the area, so those few who complain early will be thankful later. You will also be generating a lot of jobs, and have a proper use for our public transport system, rather than just getting everyone in and out of one area all the time. They can flow easily and consistently throughout each suburb without a heavy congestion.

**4. Raise the drinking age to 21:** this should have been looked at LONG before you locked the rest of us out! I think the reasons for this change are obvious.

It's time for you to be FORWARD THINKING! Stop addressing everything with more regulations, and begin to look at ways to solve the problems through innovation and fairness. Look at how other cities have done it, and stop pandering to big industry lobby groups like developers and casinos!

I am a responsible 33 year old male, and I don't need a politician telling me why i can't have a drink past 10pm, or telling me the time I have to go to bed.

Make me believe in those that make decisions on my behalf in this State, and begin to think outside the box. Throwing a law at a problem should be the last resort, not the first. Be a government I am proud of, because

right now, I have next to no faith in your ability to run NSW.

I hope you take this into consideration, I really do.

Regards,  
Scott Finlayson

## Scott Finlayson

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