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# Independent review of the impact of liquor law reforms

JG

James Goodridge 

To: Liquor Law Review; 



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Sat 2/04

Inbox

Dear Mr. Callinan,

I am a successful technology entrepreneur, a productive member of society. I create new jobs and contribute to millions of dollars in export revenues each year.

The restrictions on the sale of alcohol have partially erased a culture of music and dancing late in to the night that I identify with. My culture. The laws have made me feel like a second class citizen in my home. I feel unwelcome, unwanted, fair game for pillory and abuse by the government, police, media and wider community. I have done nothing wrong.

In my opinion the laws are a blunt tool, with seemingly no (or perhaps every) regard given to the damage they would cause my culture.

The opposite end of the policy spectrum has the weight of evidence behind it from almost all global cities. I urge your review to find strongly in favour of a complete repeal of the laws combined with education, transport and progressive licensing policies.

Thank you for your kind consideration,

James

p.s. a few weeks ago an international skate competition was visiting Bondi Beach. It was a beautiful day, sitting on the grass were hundreds of tourists, and international skaters, their media and entourage all watching the skating on big screens. I observed the police walking their way through this group of people, grabbing their drinks and pouring them on the grass beside them. By the time they'd finished the grass was wet in large patches, the air stank of alcohol. I would **not have known** they were drinking other than for this activity. I have never been so embarrassed to be Australian. I was not alone, it was palpable across the visitors and community who were witness to it.

For this and many other reasons I also urge you to recommend that any and all responsibilities to do with the management or licensing of liquor be completely removed from the police. It is not the role of a police force in a modern free society.

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James Goodridge | [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]