

# LOCK OUT LAWS.

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

Sydney is the only international city in Australia with the majority of business, finance and tourism in this country flowing through its veins.

Sydney is also the oldest city in Australia with a rich historical heritage evident in many architectural structures and green landscapes that have been maintained since settlement giving our city one of the greens images in the world.

The images of the Sydney harbour bridge, Opera house and Bondi Beach are world famous along with the vibrant atmosphere of entertainment provide by our restaurants and night clubs.

Kings Cross is a world famous entertainment hub that has been created our many years of hard work by business owners and entertainers catering for the needs of a large and diverse demographic of visitors to the area.

Kings Cross was an institution of Sydney night life where you could get a meal, be entertained or just socialise till your hearts content but not anymore.

Whilst I don't condone the unfortunate tragic incidents of alcohol fuelled violence that have occurred and instigated the current lock out laws I do feel for all the small business owners and the general public who sadly have had to pay with their lively hood for the crimes of a few stupid idiots.

As a small business owner I have some understanding of the difficulties associated in running a small business and how devastating it is for yourself and your employees when such unforeseen circumstances arise that threaten your entire lively hood and investment.

Based in rural NSW we had to endure nine years of drought which was a historical climatic event that crippled small business and land owners that also created the highest level of suicide rates never before seen in rural NSW with numerous farmers tragically taking their own lives.

The lock out laws are similar to our drought whereby years of hard work and capital are swept away overnight along with all the personal and physiological sacrifice which is an intangible fall out of this decision making process that has had a devastating effect on family owned businesses.

Why would the only international City in Australia have a law that is detrimental to visitors and tourists?

I feel that there is a need for all stake holders such as business owners, security, employees, police, paramedics, residents, doctors, councils and concerned citizens to be involved in the decision making process in relation to lock out laws in Kings Cross as I am confident that those involved could facilitate a constructive outcome that would benefit the entire community.

Thanks and Regards,

**Matt Goodwin**

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