

# Untitled

[REDACTED]

Thu 31/03/2016 7:44 AM

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

The government keeps talking about being open for business, especially being open for china <https://www.nsw.gov.au/media-releases-premier/nsw-open-business-china-sydney-announced-settlement-hub-renminbi> which is great, but what about being open for people that live in NSW, hell what about being open for china when Chinese business people arrive and want to enjoy themselves in the evening, the nightlife in china is quite vibrant and expensive (sound familiar?, because it made even the way Sydney was 5 years ago pale by comparison)

What better way to come off as backwards and behind the times to foreign visitors than with draconian lockout laws.

This goes doubly for local businesses, not just those that exist now, but potential future ones, My wife and I recently saw a licensed venue up for sale, a smallish one in the city. We're lucky enough to be in a position where we could have seriously considered purchasing it, but considering the current climate in that industry it wasn't worth even considering, the lockout laws are anti-competitive when comparing small businesses/bars to the larger entities like Merivale and the casino.

Sydney has recently (due to liquor laws changing) had a resurgence in smaller bars and restaurants, the lockout laws will over time strangle these businesses causing a bunch of undue hardship on the owners and potential issues in the areas where the businesses will shut down. Nothing attracts criminals like an abandoned building.

Make tougher laws for drunken louts and the premises that get them to that state in particular, don't blanket punish all businesses.

I might not go out as often as I did 10 years ago, but it doesn't matter, my experiences heading into the city for a big night out were fun and remembered fondly, I feel people should definitely still have that option if they're so inclined.

Just because Mike Baird isn't interested in partying doesn't mean he should punish us all like the antagonist of an unofficial Footloose sequel.