

Review of Lockout Laws

jodi grevler [REDACTED]

Wed 30/03/2016 4:21 PM

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

Dear Hon. Ian Callinan AC & the other members of the independent review,

I write to you as an individual who finds the decision of bringing the lockout laws into place a questionable one. I am deeply concerned by alcohol related violence and the impact this has had on the victims, their families, friends and our society overall and want nothing more than to reside in a safe and vibrant city.

The current lockout laws do not solve the problem. Stopping people buying a bottle of wine after 10pm or going out after 1:30am (unless it's to a casino or to handful of bars to play on the pokie machines) does not make the city safer. Not only do these lockout laws not solve the problem of alcohol related violence, they are destroying the cultural fabric and economy of the city.

The lockout laws means venues that support the next generation of artists can no longer sustain themselves. It's not just limited to music careers. There's a complex tapestry of people who's livelihoods are impacted on the closing of late night venues. The reduction in people out in the city also means other small businesses (restaurants, news agencies, taxis and so many more) are suffering.

I have travelled the world, but would still say Sydney is one of my favourite places, but the place it is becoming is not the Sydney I know and love. I would love to have something meaningful done to address alcohol related violence as I recognise it as a real problem facing young Australians of today. As someone who is studying to be a teacher, I truly believe education would be the most effective way of curving alcohol fuelled violence from occurring. The culture of drinking that is apparent in Australian society shows something isn't quite right and needs to be changed. I truly believe the current lockout laws are not solving the problem they were created for, but are additionally having a detrimental impact on Sydney's culture and economy.

Kindest Regards,

Jodi Grevler