

# Submission to the review of alcohol

Robyn Holder [REDACTED]

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

Dear Mr Baird

For nearly 15 years I worked with people who had been victims of crime. This was an intensely satisfying job. I was always astounded at the resilience and courage of the people I worked with. One of the things that I particularly noticed in those years was the shock for young men and women when they had been a victim of violence. It was something that, by in large, they were not brought up to expect. The world was a joy and a whole host of opportunities. Becoming a victim of violence shattered their trust in the world, their faith in the goodness of other human beings, and that they were safe to go about their lives.

Did young people recover from these assaults? Always violence changes a person. Some were able to re-assemble a future and others struggled for a very long time. Please don't for one second have any doubt of the personal, communal, social and economic costs of violence.

In a few instances I worked with parents and siblings who had lost a child to violence. I would never wish that grief on anyone. You appear to be a person who understands this simple fact.

Of course we value vibrant cities and communities. I am sure however that this can be achieved without saturating ourselves in alcohol. Or at least containing and controlling when, where and how we might saturate ourselves at minimum damage to ourselves, our friends and families and those others we impact.

I ask that you stand up to the alcohol lobbyists and to stand with those who want to enjoy themselves in safety.

Thank you, Dr Robyn Holder

Regards,

Robyn Holder

Community supporter