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# Lock out laws - Jo Horsley

JH Jo Horsley 



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To: Liquor Law Review; 

Mon 4/04

Saved submissions



4th April 2016

To the Hon. Troy Grant MP

I am writing to express my deep concern and disappointment with the way in which Mike Baird is dealing with the issues of violence in our city.

Having recently had my first child at the age of 36 I could quite easily accept that the lock out laws don't affect me, as I hardly have the opportunity to be out past 9pm. However, I can assure you this does affect me - and everyone that lives in this city.

Before I had my baby I had a successful 15 year career in sponsorship and events for cultural festivals such as Sydney Festival and VIVID and I hope to return to this soon. However I have noticed recently that the large international corporate brands that I have worked with in the past (e.g Virgin, Diageo, Volkswagen) are no longer investing huge sums of money into creative events in Sydney due to the overall lack of cultural vibrancy the city has to offer.

Many taxpayers livelihoods have been damaged and businesses have been forced to shut down due to these unsupported laws. It is unfair that so many restaurants and clubs are out of business because of a few people's irresponsible behaviours. Having lived in many European vibrant cities that support late night culture I am appalled by how Sydney is dealing with a few incidences of senseless violence. Instead of helping to overcome the issues by supplying safe late night transport options and CCTV surveillance the government is not getting to the root of problem – only moving it along to other areas.

Lastly, my husband came home from an award ceremony at 12am last week after 'attempting' to celebrate a win with his co-workers. The only place they could find for an honest nightcap was the Casino in Pyrmont, which was thriving with all the business that has been taken away from Darlinghurst/Kings Cross. Why is it that this location is exempt from these laws? Before going to bed, he announced he will sell his business in a year and moving to another city if this continues as Sydney's culture is dead and we don't want to raise our daughter here. I am sure we are not the only people that feel this way.

I would appreciate it if you would consider my concerns when this subject is next raised parliament.

Kind regards

Joanna Horsley

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Jo Horsley  
