

Sydney & Melbourne

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

How can we as a city genuinely continue to compete with Melbourne? A city that offers better transport, better bars, better food and 24 hour night life? Replace the word 'better' in that last sentence with 'cheaper' or 'safer' and it still holds true, Sydney is in trouble.

Adults I know in Melbourne are allowed to stay out, eat, buy some take-away wine after a long night in work - I'm not allowed those things, and it's embarrassing. A responsible 31 year old man, with a government mandated bed time.

And why? Because a few people can't behave - because newspapers fired up a storm - because politicians out of touch with their own city are willingly letting it stagnate. People are losing jobs, shops lie empty, the streets are quiet and feel unsafer than ever. And it's been done by the very people who are supposed to improve our city.

A once almost world place of significance - is no longer even a national city of importance. Melbourne has won, by a long way. The days of comfortably knowing the better city was Sydney are gone.