

Inbox

To Whom it May Concern,

I make this submission to protest the existing liquor laws in effect in NSW and motivated by the unfair nature of these laws. Whilst I do agree that the level of alcohol violence in Sydney prior to the lock out laws was unacceptable, it is impossible to say that such laws have been an aid in addressing the issue. Since the lockout laws, an alarming number of music venues and clubs (many of them small businesses that have been operating over a decade) have been forced to close shut due to the decrease in foot traffic in lockout areas, effectively limiting the number of venues that local artists are able to perform and engage with the local community. In addition, the exemption of Star City from the lockout law, a venue severely affected by alcohol related violence, implies a separate agenda of the liquor lawmakers and is an embarrassing display of bias. Overall, the level of alcohol violence has not decreased in Sydney but has simply been pushed out to inner city areas, such as Newtown, where unfamiliar hoards of people are destroying established local cultures that have been vital in providing an alternative nightlife scene.

I would highly recommend a review of these laws and a consideration of Clover Moore's proposal made today (http://www.smh.com.au/comment/its-time-we-grew-up-and-ditched-the-one-size-fits-all-lockout-20160403-gnx1ml.html)

Sincerely,

Concerned Citizen