

(No subject)

GK Georgia K [REDACTED]

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Dear Sir / Madam,

My name is Georgia Kelly, I am a 25 year old actress and nanny originally from Melbourne, Victoria. I relocated to Sydney in 2014 to pursue job opportunities and to experience life in one of the most beautiful and exciting cities in the world. Since moving here I have grown to love Sydney. I have met beautiful people, experienced wonderful weather, and have been exposed to so many new opportunities. I adore the hilly streets lined with ferns, the newfound connection I have to the ocean, the drive of Sydney's youth to work hard and follow their dreams, and the wonderful Australianness here. Unlike what many may tell you, the majority of young people I meet here work incredibly hard, sure they want to, but they also have to afford rent prices here! My peers in Melbourne by comparison do not work as long hours or as many jobs for the most part. Life in Melbourne is slower, more focused on personal growth and creating art than making money. For this reason there is a strong sense of community in my hometown. We all know, or know of, each other, and care about what's going on in our city. Whereas in Sydney, being a more international city, the people often don't know how to get involved in the larger community. These people are good people. They are not violent, reckless people. Most of the time they have stressful jobs or studies and they spend a lot of time focusing their energies on them. They are not lazing around every day complaining about the world from their couches. They work hard. In this regard, I feel they deserve to be treated as adults. Telling them to go home after midnight or 1am is, in my mind, ridiculous. They should be able to make their own choices regarding how late they stay out, and when they drink. Lockouts have not worked to curb violence. It has only shifted it elsewhere. It has hampered the hospitality industry, the live music scene, the taxi industry, and the general sense of freedom and opportunity that this city once had. Violence is awful, coward punches are frightening and damaging, but destroying the entire night life of a world class city is not the way to fix it. Education on alcohol abuse, anger management for young men, and a shift in the macho 'Aussie' culture is what's needed. The people this lock out is most affecting is young creatives who no longer have job opportunities, a strong social network, or connection to the vibrant inner city of Sydney. They are going elsewhere for fun, they are having warehouse parties and house parties that are unregulated and disturb neighbours. They need a safe place with bouncers and bar staff who can keep tabs on how much people are drinking. The lock outs need to change, because the repercussions of keeping them in place are economically damaging to bars and clubs, damaging to an interesting culture, and dangerous to young people who resort to extremes to party outside the relative safety of licensed establishments. The sad thing is that there will always be dangers to going out at night, but a city cannot

survive without its inhabitants being treated like adults. We deserve to choose what we do with our nights, and we choose safe, fun, culture infused socialising and dancing. Give us our city back, you have the power to. Don't let these unjust laws linger any longer, they haven't worked. Entrust us again because we want to help make this city as great as it can be. I love this new home of mine, but it has the chance to be even better. Let it compete with the greatest cities in the world. Let's work together to find a new solution, one that works for everyone.

Kind regards,
Georgia Kelly