

# Liquor Law Review submission

Jason Kerr [REDACTED]

Wed 30/03/2016 4:07 PM

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

Dear sir/madam

I am writing to give my experience of the 'lockout laws' as a long-time resident of Kings Cross/Potts Point.

I have lived in the area for almost 25 years. In that time the character of the neighbourhood has changed enormously. Sadly in the years from 2005 to the introduction of the lockouts I witnessed a significant increase in alcohol related anti-social behaviour.

From my front door I would increasingly often see vulnerably intoxicated women and aggressively drunk men. I watched as numerous individuals were bashed in front of my apartment building. I witnessed regular acts of vandalism and destruction of public and private property. It was not uncommon to wake and find revellers had urinated or defecated in my apartment building doorway. Most tragically though, two young men were killed as a result of random violence in my street.

**The situation got so bad that my strata scheme was forced to hire a security guard to ensure the safety of residents. In short, alcohol related anti-social behaviour had reached levels that no community should be expected to tolerate.**

Since the introduction of the lockout laws all that has changed: I have not witnessed a single bashing. The vandalism has ceased and we no longer require a security guard. I now feel safe when I walk up the street to get milk in the evening and I enjoy the renewed sense of community as residents reclaim the neighbourhood.

The 1:30am lockout and 3am closings have produced an enormous social benefit for Kings Cross/Potts Point residents. Our streets are safer and we have enjoyed a resurgence of small businesses catering for the local community.

I hope residents can continue to enjoy this renewed, vibrant neighbourhood without a return to the culture of drinking that very nearly ruined Kings Cross.

Your sincerely  
Jason Kerr

Jason Kerr  
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sent from my Apple mobileMe account.