

My experience/ lockout laws

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

Hello,

My name is Katie Kuiper, I am 21 years old and I live on Darlinghurst road Kings cross.

I moved to Sydney from the Gold Coast when I was 17 to peruse a career in dance and arts. And it was the greatest thing I have ever done I couldn't believe I was able to live in such an awesome city with so much going on always, so many interesting people and so much culture. Now, sadly I don't love Sydney anymore and would move away in a heart beat. My friends and I reflect on past times as if we were 70 years old and in a retirement village.

Over the past few years I have seen handfuls of businesses collapse due to reduction of people that are even around Kings cross and to be honest when I get home from work at 3.30/4am I am scared to walk on the streets because it is a ghost town, the only people left on the streets are homeless who are lining up to get their weekly hit, prostitutes and pushy security guards from their sex venues.

I work in the hospitality industry and because of the late finishes I have essentially given up my friends and my social life. I go to uni, I work and I go to sleep. I am 21 and I am losing friends and memories because of Sydney's lockdown.

I am a uni student who struggles to afford rent (which is now also increasing as the area of Kings cross is now being developed into new apartments). Lockout laws are damaging to Sydney, tourists who visit our city, they think Sydney is a joke and in actual fact it's really sad to think of the younger generations who won't get to experience nightlife the way I did before lockouts.

Foreign visitors at work last night couldn't fathom why they had to have a mixer with their scotch on the rocks after 12pm they were sitting down having a meal and me explaining our laws was just embarrassing they were shocked:

I have met ALL of my best friends late night on the dance floor in a club, we didn't get into fights or abuse alcohol or laws we were at these venues simply for the music and for the people.

Many of my close friends are dj's and this has impacted their careers immensely there are less jobs because venues close earlier. Sydney has no soul anymore. I have recently come back from travelling around Europe and I was absolutely inspired by Berlin and the way their city is so easy to live in, so under control yet they had so much heart, soul and culture.

A city that never sleeps isn't necessarily a bad thing. Sydney is dying and this movement is also killing the youth. I also miss the coke o cola sign and I doubt it's return more and more everyday.

Rip Sydney.

Sincerely a sad and disappointed Sydney resident.