

FW: Independent Liquor Law Review Submission

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Inbox

From: Cath Lyons [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, 3 April 2016 8:49 PM
To: lyonscj@bigpond.com.au
Subject: FW: Independent Liquor Law Review Submission

SUBMISSION

I have lived in the [REDACTED] since I was 3 .I am 68.

I have lived in [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] over those years.

I have usually walked home through the Cross to all those homes at night.

I am a reasonably fit former criminal lawyer who thought she knew how to avoid trouble walking through the Cross.

I walked around fighting men thrown out of clubs, was never bothered by or concerned about spruikers, prostitutes ,drug sellers or the teams of US servicemen.

I thought the [Safe Injecting Room](#) an excellent idea and [continue to support it](#).

I spent my working life around some dangerous criminals, visited clients in custody in all of the state's gaols and appeared in the District Court and Supreme Court in numerous trials. I was a Public Defender. It is not easy to make me apprehensive and I think I'm sensible.

In the [five or six years with the expansion of licensed premises](#) (before the "lock out laws") the Cross became more difficult to negotiate. [On weekends](#) the streets were crowded with staggering mostly young girls and boys from early in the evening (about 9.30)increasing over the night.

When I came home from the city after a concert buses could no longer go down Bayswater Road in the block from Darlinghurst Rd [REDACTED]. [Each Saturday the buses' normal routes were blocked by an unruly crowd hanging around and caution dictated I not walk through them.](#)

I no longer felt it safe to walk home from dinner at a friend's flat in Kings Cross Rd on the weekend and caught taxis.

[At present I am happy to walk home through the Cross I am not at all apprehensive or frightened. There are no drunken crowds.](#)

But I am angry

- that there seems to be no such thing as "responsible service of alcohol" [and the clubs reject any attempts to ensure compliance.](#)

-that police [were/are](#) expected to control drunks after licensed venues eventually stop serving them (irresponsibly)

-that if the lock outs don't stay I [could](#) be triaged at St Vincent's Hospital some weekend behind injured

fighting drunks when I might be seriously injured. This is something that occupied my mind when my 94 year old mother was at St Vincent's with a broken arm mid week. What would have happened to her in the years before 2014 on a Saturday night?

Catherine Lyons AM

3rd April, 2016.

Unfortunately the number of premises with licences has been difficult to find on the Liquor & Gaming website over the years and I sadly note today that the "exempted" premises in the Kings Cross precinct cannot be accessed via the footnote 4 in your background paper. Would you please send me a working link.