

A hypothetical...

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

Some idiot hoon is driving dangerously, late at night. He crashes into an innocent family and kills them.

A couple of weeks later, a similar (but unrelated) incident also occurs.

And so the government steps in - "Driving late at night is asking for trouble! No one may drive between the hours of 10pm and 4am!"

Months later, the government praises their ingenuity - "Dear Public, we have had ZERO late night deaths on our roads since the introduction of these laws. Aren't we clever?!"

No, not really. It was a grossly inappropriate, unfair and poorly considered tactic for dealing with a few problematic individuals.

Alcohol was never the problem.

Hiding behind a term like "alcohol-fuelled violence" misleads the general public and allows for an ill-informed audience to get behind an ill-informed solution. Aggression is most often a deep-seated character trait that exists with or without the assistance of drugs (alcohol or otherwise). These problematic individuals do not go home, sober up and suddenly turn into model citizens. They are a select few carrying serious attitude flaws, and it makes no sense to dictate laws (that largely affect those behaving appropriately) around such a small minority.

It is the attitudes that need to change, not the laws.