

# The Hon. Ian Callinan AC QC - Liquor Law Review NSW

KM Kristen Marconi [REDACTED]

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Dear Sir,

There is so much to say that I think Matt Barrie has been the one to best intricately say it in his 8500 word Linked in post "Would the last person in Sydney please turn the lights out." and follow up <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/death-sydneys-nightlife-economic-collapse-its-night-time-matt-barrie>

Keep Sydney Open Rally also displayed the peaceful disappointment of 16000+ people

Alan Jones even interviewing Matt Barrie on his show showed that this just isn't right.

My entire adult life last 33 years the night life and music industries have been the majority of my worklife, income and community from bartending while at university to bar managing to working across many roles in events.

Personally especially since being in music have not seen violence ever in dance music venues what the lockout is supposed to be preventing and had friends who's clubs have had to close due to loss of business with these lockouts who have never been violent and also never had a history of violence in their spaces. So why punish those who are not part of the problem with these laws.

As a woman especially, I now feel less safe going out as I always felt safe in busy licensed venues with professional staff especially arts and culture venues as I believe that it is the cure not cause of violence to be able to go out dance and connect. Seen the smiling faces on the dance floor before? these people aren't binge drinking out of boredom they're dancing. These people are not angry or violent, they are dancing. Let the people dance! Now if I'm to go out I cannot support a few friends nights or dj sets by changing venues I have to pick 1 be in there by 1.30am and after 3 most are closed right on taxi changover time where I won't be let back into a licensed venue if I feel unsafe as they don't want to be fined and I'm out on the street hoping for a way to get home safe. Or now there's more house parties and warehouse parties where no-one is regulating the strength of drinks or monitoring what people are doing the risk of being harassed, drink spiked or generally not being able to keep track of what you've had and stay safe is minimised. Licensed venues with trained staff, security and entertainment are

far safer environments. The youth of today will go out it's what they do to connect with others without licensed safe venues you give them the choice of casinos [don't start me on the damage that gambling does it's disgusting and you won't ever get me in a casino] or houses and illegal warehouse spaces... or hey go to melbourne for the weekend which is now the safest smartest option which I will be doing for my 31st birthday this year going to a city where I can go out safely and freely.

Melbourne put money into night life venues to help them sound proof themselves. 24 hour bottle shops and licensed venues. Have a night mayor that deals with the nightlife. Have more police and camera presence on the streets where most of the problems occur NOT INSIDE VENUES and made public transport available 24 hours. These are steps that I would like to see NSW have. This is the way forward. In that we need to give our youth something to do outside of drinking encouraging creativity, entrepreneurship, learning etc from school age will see a more focussed contributing next generation making the world a better place rather than drinking to escape as they feel they have no control over their future and nothing better to do.

I would also like to see instead of exemptions for gambling venues to the lock out. Exemptions for venues who are providing music or art entertainment as these venues are encouraging the opposite and the cure for violence... dancing and stimulating people in a positive way and getting them to connect in a positive way. This will mean an increase in our tourism and attractiveness to overseas tourists too which used to pick sydney as their first option... they now choose Melbourne or don't bother with Australia at all. We don't have a violence problem here we have a culture problem... where there is not music, art culture and entertainment options around australian drinking becomes the entertainment rather than a recreational beverage addition to entertainment. And then when bored if they're violent people or have had a violent upbringing they'll fight. People who have access to culture, music, dancing and enjoying others company will not binge drink or fight. Let's get some more culture and music into this city and watch it thrive and the violence drop.

The more people feel controlled and that they have their freedoms taken away the more depressed, angry and rebellious they will be this is what the lockouts are causing. This is disgusting and not the sydney I was proud to live in.

Flight facilities summed it up really well with their post attached. One of our proud musical exports... would probably not have made music or met had we had lockouts in place when they were forming. What this means for the next generation of youth scares me. How are they supposed to respect authority when authority are telling them to either stay home or go to a casino. Anyone with common sense knows this is a complete joke.



It's hard to know where to start with the lockout laws. Trying to succinctly explain to someone jumping wildly from one ridiculous law to another. We've been fortunate enough to explore the influences have reached us from every corner of the globe, our cultural and musical

Before the two of us had even crossed paths, we were enjoying being on both sides of the favourite venues in perfect daylight. Such nights shaped our musical tastes, understanding, and club gigs didn't begin until 3am, and yet those parties were still

Without wanting this to evolve into a "back in my day" piece, we'll give a basic rundown of how the diversity in nightlife allowed us to succeed. Simply put, if you're a DJ in Sydney hoping to see venues been demolished:

- \* Venue visited on Friday's after graduating: you - SHUTDC
- \* Venue Jimmy held first solo DJ residency: Soho - SHUTD
- \* Venue Hugo held first solo DJ residency: Tank Nightclub - SHI
- \* Venue we first met: Trademark - SHUTDOWN
- \* Venue we DJ'd at together, weekly: Hugo's - SHUTDOWN
- \* Venue we met Giselle, which led to Crave You: Piano room - S
- \* Venue we met Jess, AKA George Maple, which led to Foreign Language:
- \* Venues we spent our night's off: Flinders / Backroom: Both SH

All of these places were vital puzzle pieces in building to where we are today, and sadly, this is affected. Had these laws been in effect 10 years earlier, our music may never have existed. V the international scene. But what positive words do we have to say about Sydney when we're gal, before watching the sunrise from a different club across

You don't even have to look to the other side of the world. Take Melbourne, for instance. It's | The nightlife is thriving and Mayor Robert Doyle wants venues to trade later. He wants public t being given grants to improve their soundproofing to coexist with residents! You want to know Melbourne.

Nobody in power seems to want to talk about the root of the problem. We, along with million become violent as a result of alcohol. Unprovoked violence is an inherent character trait, which a person has a drink, and their first desire is to punch a stranger in the back of the head, they a drinking problem. They're a thug too stupid to understand the consequences of actions, and not. This physical philosophy is one that has no place in our culture, and it has nothing to do connection that the NSW Government has made is exactly what has poisoned

So why are politicians the ones adjudicating the issue when their mentality is not only out affected? Why was this vote never put to the masses of Sydney? Some of our best friends, v nights out, have lost substantial amounts of money, along with their businesses. How do we l Las Vegas, Whatsonot, Alison Wonderland or Yolanda Be Cool aren't choking on the creative Instead, we're being put in nappies and tucked into bed by a bunch of expired minds. The iron referred to as the 'Liberal Party' is almost too much to handle. They've done away with

How much longer are we going to all sit here and pretend the Casino, and subsequent stamp have nothing to do with this? It's the most blatant grab for cash we've ever seen, and yet we fold, and the creative industry drowns. We can't understand how these laws are justified, any official to understand that people find solace on a dance floor at 3am. And we don't expect t entertainment industry, and the youth? It's in the hands of a former investment banker who is state". That may be your idea of a representative, but it's not

Jimmy & Hugo

Please sir. Sydney's inhabitants deserve better than this. Punishing the peaceful masses for the violent few's choices (that actually happened before 10pm and didn't enter licensed venues at

all) or to line some casino owners pockets is completely unjust and detrimental to the wellbeing of people living in sydney. This must stop and better ways of encouraging regulated drinking rather than binge drinking and other forms of entertainment that are not violent like music and dancing are the way forward.

I hope this falls on ears willing to both hear and change things for the better.

Sincerely.

Kristen Marconi

Founder of Let The People Dance

[A socially responsible apparel label and music platform helping fund I-Manifest and Bridges For Music two not-for-profits helping disadvantaged youth find sustainable career pathways in the creative industries.]

**Kristen Marconi**

Founder & Dancefloor Enthusiast

**LET THE PEOPLE DANCE**

