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Lockout Law Feedback

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To: Liquor Law Review;

Sun 3/04

Inbox

Dear Sir or Madam,

My wife and I have lived at [REDACTED] since Dec 2011. I'm sending this email to provide our thoughts on the lockout laws, as a resident of the Kings Cross area.

When I first moved to Kings Cross, I was concerned about both the noise levels and safety late at night. With bikie gangs on my street, people visibly selling drugs, and the "one punch" series of violent incidents, my concerns were not unfounded. I witnessed several late-night incidents involving the police.

I believe the lockout laws have definitely reduced the violence and related undesirable aspects of the Kings Cross nightlife. I have witnessed fewer incidents with police, and I feel safer on the streets late at night.

Whilst some businesses have closed, I believe based on their situations they were likely to close anyway with the ongoing gentrification of the area, and they are merely taking the opportunity to blame the lockout laws. Even if there was some decline in business, I believe that the noticeable increase in safety in and around Kings Cross is worth any cost.

I believe that the success of the laws in Kings Cross should be used to roll out these laws equally everywhere, as I do agree with one complaint that it is unfair for businesses if these laws are selectively applied to only some areas.

Sincerely,

Duncan Matheson

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]