

# Lock out Laws

Ramon Mizzi [REDACTED]

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

Dear Sir/Madam,

I understand that there is an ongoing independent review on the Lock Out laws in Sydney. I am a new migrant to Australia and moved here as I was lucky enough to get residency after a 10 year trial and error period to find that opportunity to make Australia my home.

The first time I came out to Sydney in 2002 I adored it. It was the city I wanted to live the rest of my life in, but to my horror, when I arrived back in 2015 I found that the nightlife has changed and that these Lock Out Laws have actually changed the landscape of the City's nightlife as I knew it. That was a huge disappointment as although I do take a stand with the Premier to curb senseless violence, especially those who cannot control their liquor, it doesn't mean that a measure of one-size-fits-all policy is the right one.

I am a law abiding citizen who pride not even having a traffic offense. I have been enjoying nightlife activities across the globe since I was 18 years. I am 41 now (actually yesterday was my birthday) and I have never been in a fight or was a public nuisance, let alone punch someone to death. I believe that most of the party goers in Sydney are like me; love to dance and enjoy music; love to support a local band or DJ who have to deal with so much already, let alone not having venues/bars/pubs where they can get an audience. I also do not like to be dedicated on how I have to enjoy my downtime, especially after I work hard during the week. I cannot but mention when my friends visited Sydney 3 months ago, they got disgusted at the way we were told to leave as the "club" was closing. It was unheard of in Europe (where I come from) where the nightlife is another way to increase the GDP and get people into jobs, maybe to pay for their University course or just because they want more increase the income for their family. It is unheard that in a free country like Australia the government has to tell it's citizens on how to party and implement a set of laws to fit in the government's agenda. That is not a democracy at all. The way the lock out laws were implemented reminds me of PAST AUSTRALIA when it was a penal colony; a person does the crime and everyone suffers for it. Back then, this one-size-fits-all practice was acceptable as Australia was a NOT YET A DEMOCRACY and it was a BIG PRISON, but today, what is the reasoning behind this unfair policy?

Hope that you guys can show this to our beloved Premier that curbing people's civil liberties is not part of a democracy we love Australia to be.

Thanks and regards

Ramon Mizzi