



Lockout laws

LM

Lily Murphy

To: Liquor Law Review; ...



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3:51 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I am a 20 year old girl who likes to go out at night, listen to great music, dance with my friends and have a good time. You are stopping me from doing that.

I frequented Kings Cross fairly regularly, especially when newly 18. Surprisingly, I actually never felt at all unsafe when going to the cross on a busy night. However, I understand why so much violence would go on there. If you were to leave a club or bar at any time past 12, there would be no trains or buses. Taxis are also scarce, so it was always extremely hard to get home. People would wait on the street for a cab and congregate in groups outside clubs on the street. This is why it's completely unsurprising that fights occurred as well as the one-punch attacks.

These attacks are horrible and I am so sorry for people hurt by them. However, they happened on the streets, not in clubs. The lockout laws just pushed people onto the street at the same time. Mike Baird manipulates statistics to say that violence has gone down by 42%, when this would obviously happen when there is no one in the cross anymore.

When I heard about the lockout laws, I had no idea how much effect they would have on the culture and vibrancy of Sydney. Now, I feel really sad to not have anywhere to go after 12:30pm in the city, apart from the casinos. I felt way more dangerous at these venues than anywhere else. This is completely hypocritical. I believe the vibrancy of the city has completely declined, with no one out and about in the city after 10pm.

I have travelled throughout Europe, where the nightlife starts later and is much more crazy than ours here, but they do not have the same issues. I think this is because under these attacks is a culture which incorporates heavy drinking and also an obvious problem with violence. In true form, the government has responded with a short-term bandaid fix without giving any funding to prevention or education about violence, alcohol and drug use. More needs to be done to address the underlying tensions of these attacks, rather than stopping people who have done nothing wrong from enjoying themselves. Furthermore, by completely ruining most nightlife in Kings Cross and the CBD, you will not stop people from going out. Different areas have experienced huge booms in nightlife. Without addressing the underlying issues, such violence will just be moved.

I believe that greater transport is needed throughout the night to assist people in getting home safe. People hang around outside in groups which I believe is when a lot of issues happen. I think there needs to be more done to address the underlying issues of violence and alcohol use. Some provisions may be necessary, but this policy was heavy-handed. Looking at the people that make up government, I do not believe it represents our society fairly. I therefore think that there


needs to be more group involvement in developing a policy that encompasses all citizens.

I really hope that this review is not a sham or facade to pretend you care about what we say.



PLEASE REVIEW LOCKOUTS

LM

Lily Murphy

To: Liquor Law Review; 



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Submission to the Review of the Liquor Amendment Act 2014

4 April 2016

From: Lily Murphy

As a Sydney resident and a peaceful participant of its once vibrant nightlife, I am grateful for the opportunity to make this submission. I am writing to you because I have personally experienced the impacts that the lockout laws have had on our city – I have seen businesses close, witnessed the loss of jobs, lamented the lack of places to socialise with my friends and mourned the dwindling opportunities to listen to live, local music.

We all agree that safe streets are a priority, but there are better ways to achieve this. Evidence and common sense suggests that a better planned response could have a greater effect on reducing alcohol related violence without having the unintended consequences that the lockout laws have had.

What happened?

Sydney's night time economy had an awkward start to life. It grew up and out too quickly and without being properly planned for. Before we knew it, tens of thousands of people were coming into a few precincts every Friday and Saturday night, and yet instead of being managed on the scale this required, Kings Cross was left to its own devices. The police were not willing or able to deal with the belligerent or violently inclined. The venues were packed and the streets were chaotic. When it all got too much or you decided it was time to go home, the busses and trains had stopped and the fight for a cab was a long one.

Then, tragically, two young men lost their lives. The city mourned and rightly decided things had to change. The government's response, however, chose to deflect the blame and rushed through blanket laws without consultation. The lockout laws have been a failure.

What needs to change?

The lock-out laws have caused irreparable damage to the economic, social and cultural fabric of Sydney. Instead of the 1:30am lockout and 3.00am cease of service, the 7 key actions below

should be implemented together to curb the violence and keep Sydney open for all to enjoy.

- 1 Developing best practice policing strategies;
- 2 Investing in 24/7 public transport;
3. Implementing integrated urban planning reform;
- 4 Encouraging diversification of after dark activities;
- 5 Establishing anti violence education & intervention campaigns;
- 6 Incentivising wellrun venues; and
- 7 Appointing a night mayor

Lily Murphy, 4 April 2016