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#KeepSydneyOpen

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Kirsten N Reply all | To: Liquor Law Review; 

Sun 3/04

Inbox

To whom this may concern,

As I have grown up, I've always been trying to find what interests me the most and what I want to do professionally in the future. As a child I wanted to be a police woman, an engineer, a lawyer, but as much as I tried, I could never find that powerful passion all the adults used to talk about. Throughout high school, I found it. And it lies within the music industry. I have been working towards this goal ever since. Now that the lock out laws have been put in place, it has greatly impacted my career path and on a larger scale, the music industry in Sydney and throughout Australia.

Sydney has always been seen as the most vibrant and well known capitals of Australia, which encourages musicians from across the world to travel to Australia to share their music with us. It hasn't been the same since the lockout laws have been put in place. It does not only effect Australia's tourism, but the upcoming musicians and artists in Australia.

Triple J Unearthed is a prime example that the music industry in Australia is only growing with thousands and thousands of new bands uploading their songs, hoping to get noticed. These bands usually play at unusual times of the night, which isn't happening anymore because of the current laws. Thus, less bands are being heard. I - as a lover of new music, live experiences and the communal love that is shared when people gather to support a band or musician - can no longer experience the full potential of this due to the lock out laws.

Moreover, bars and small clubs pay great amounts of RSA taxes and money, so you should trust that the bartenders can make a rational decision of whether or not to serve alcohol to anyone who is obviously drunk and needs to go home. Bars and clubs also pay for security, it is their job to protect the people. Maybe there should be a law that more security should be placed outside to monitor those who may need help getting home. Locking people out is not solving the issue, and will not in the future. The other punters who still want a drink and socialise shouldn't be penalised because of this minority.

A larger amount of focus needs to be put on educating people not to drink until that can't even stand for themselves. The government usually pin points it on young people, which is true as we can be inexperienced, but we have been educated in school. I'm speaking for myself, but my teachers placed a great emphasis on the effects of drugs and alcohol, which I take with me whenever I go out. I know my limits and I can control myself. I look out for my friends and other people who may not know their limits, or have not been educated in this field.

Please reconsider what you are doing to this once vibrant city. Lockout laws are the easy

answer to the actual problem of VIOLENCE, and EDUCATING people about the effects of their decisions. Harsher penalties, and more awareness, to stop cowards from insinuating violent acts, ruining it for the majority of people who go out to relive some tension from a hard week of work, or just to catch up with friends. We hit the dance floor, not eat other.

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Thank you,
Kirsten Nheu