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# Liquor law review submission

DN Dianne Nicotra 

To: Liquor Law Review; 

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Sun 3/04

Inbox

Dear Liquor Law Reviewers,

I write the following points as a submission to the liquor law review about to take place for Sydney.

I write this on behalf of my partner and I, as residents of Kings Cross for the past 8 years, as life-long Sydney-siders who have an affinity to this city, as people passionate about safety and lifestyle impacts, and as professional and musical individuals who are committed to the growth and and development of Sydney's technologies, arts and culture.

Lock out laws have been the worst thought out laws I've ever seen laid out, hastily drafted without any thought to the wide-varying ramifications. The following points lay out the reasons why the laws have not worked:

- \* many businesses suffered, having based their business models on the original trading hours of the area. Many people lost their jobs and livelihood too. I've spoken to many ex bar staff, services staff, security guards, artists, musicians, taxi drivers and store store owners - who they and their families have been impacted with the sources of their income removed
- \* DJs and musicians have lost a large part of their livelihood - they used to be able to go from gig to gig throughout the night, now they have to compete for one early slot.
- \* many people who benefited from the late night trading were young staff for whom this was the only chance of a having a "good job" as Joe Hockey once encouraged for getting to get in the Sydney housing market. Many young people have lost that ability to work during vocational studies, save up, get overtime, etc, impacting the economic standing of many young people
- \* the problem has not been fixed - day in day out there are still violent events occurring - all the lockout laws have done is edited shift the problem to different areas, or hidden behind closed doors. Out if mind out of sight? A cultural shift is required.
- \* as a former shift worker I would have been impacted by not being able to go out after work and unwind from my own job which I pay taxes on.
- \* the fact that the casino is exempt is ludicrous - as the most violent venue in Sydney, that contributes to the scourge of gambling addiction.
- \* people are resorting to underground parties, and finding other means to get around the laws.
- \* I do not feel safer as a Kings Cross resident with the reduced foot traffic - there used to be safety in numbers here. The residents that complained of the noise - why did they move here in the first place then, as the cross has been a red light district destination for over a century starting when the first soldiers would dock!
- \* the whole situation stinks of corruption - the developers which bought out many of the clubs that were

forced to shut from reduced patronage, the doctored numbers of foot traffic and violent incidences, the fact that the emergency admissions at RPA are never reported, that Barrangaroo is conveniently excluded from the lock out regions, the fact that the packer foundation gave donations to the Thomas Kelly foundation and St Vincent's hospital, that laws where altered to allow a second casino.

Dianne Nicotra

