

Keep Sydney Open

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

To whom it may concern,

I would like to express my view on the lock out laws which are up for review. As a resident of the Oxford St/ South Dowling area, I have seen too many businesses close up because they are not getting enough people through the doors. This includes my local newsagent just off Taylor Square. I find it absurd to think that a cosmopolitan city such as Sydney should be subject to the same kind of laws as Newcastle where the laws were originally introduced. They are completely different places.

I think it is unfair to the Sydney people who pay taxes to be treated like law breaking teenagers just because they want a drink at 1.31.

I have had a friend recently visit from San Francisco, and was embarrassed on numerous occasions when we were out at night in Sydney. The first time, a bouncer decided she wasn't getting into a pub(it was 9.30pm) saying she had "too much to drink". Does 3 drinks count as too much these days? On another night, a bouncer singled her out and told her to leave a pub, while she was sitting down chatting to us...ridiculous. After that she was refused entry to another bar following this. This is a person that has travelled to Europe and lives in America and has not been treated like this anywhere else, it's not her, it's Sydney. This is the impression that we are giving tourists.

I completely oppose the lockout laws and believe that they are damaging on many levels - the economy, tourism and culture to name a few. There have got to be better solutions. How about investing in more CCTV. How hard can this be given that there are speed cameras on nearly every corner of the city?!

Yours sincerely,
Louise O'Sullivan Forde