

Lockout Law Review

Fadi O [REDACTED]

Wed 23/03/2016 12:31 AM

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

Dear Sir/Madam,

My name is Fadi me and my brother took over a takeaway food store at [REDACTED] Haymarket 2000 in 2014 everything was going fine, until the lockout laws came in place income started to drop slowly streets got even quieter day by day especially when most of the licensed venues changed their trading hours to 24/7 pokies and 1.30am bar close, because the majority of the party goers would rather go to suburban areas to have fun and spend their night there instead of being restricted with the lockout in the CBD area, that gave other areas advantage over the CBD and looked like the lockout laws took the business away from us to the other businesses in suburban areas such as Newtown, Pymont, Double bay..etc, in fact we pay the highest rent in Sydney compared to the areas that has more advantage than us since the lockout law came in place.

However, the statistics shows that violence has dropped, yet the streets are empty that means its not the law that caused the violence to drop its the fact that people lost interest in coming over to the CBD as a result, also violence still exist as there was many brawls in the early mornings around 5am late last year in the lockout zone lead to people getting head injuries, even my brother got assaulted by a drunk customer who punched him in the face and broke my brothers hand while he was on duty around 2am in the morning (Police report available). The real problem is there's no police presence on the streets especially in CBD hot spots were fights always happens, because of drunk people and mainly people that consumed drugs (meth) I myself have called the police many times to come and help someone getting punched on the streets yet they still arrive late when the attacker fled the scene or they don't even show up at all.

I believe as a business owner the solution is very simple and easy:

Extra police patrolling the hot spots on foot not in cars (one police in a car isn't helping as its just a waste of energy and time therefore money)

Tougher laws for both licenced premises and patrons should be in place and heavy fines to make people pay for their own mistakes and the damage they cause for others and properties.

Thank you for reading.

Regards

F.Onji