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# Liquor Law Review

JO James Ormesher 

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To: Liquor Law Review; ▾

Mon 4/04

Saved submissions

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this email in regards to the review of the NSW liquor laws as a concerned member of the public. I strongly oppose the Liquor Laws that have been introduced by the current Government.

I am an Australian Permanent Resident currently applying for citizenship having moved to Australia 7 years ago from the United Kingdom. I am a part owner of an IT start up business that employs 60 staff in Sydney and Melbourne. I have adopted Sydney as my home and have always intended to raise a family in this beautiful city. Until a year ago I had never doubted this to be the case, at which time the frustration of overburdening Government and Police intrusion into civil liberties and everyday life, spearheaded by the Liquor Laws, has caused such frustration that I am now doubting whether I shall settle on Sydney. I am now actively investigating new business opportunities in the USA and UK.

The laws that have been introduced are not a relevant and appropriate measure for the issues that existed, and still exist, in Australian culture, namely violence and more specifically drink related violence. The violent actions of a few have caused the Government to embark upon an unethical campaign fuelled by a warped morality that has negatively affected the common public whilst gaining advantage for large gambling and property corporations.

Small businesses in the CBD and entertainment district have suffered. Tourism is being severely affected - my parents recently visited for the first time in 2.5 years and they were shocked at how the city had changed to the worse. I took them to visit Melbourne for a weekend and as we wandered the CBD at 11pm after dinner they commented on how it was so much more vibrant than Sydney. My parents are approaching 70 years old. I genuinely would not advise friends and family to visit Sydney at this stage.

The violent crimes that occurred in Kings Cross need to be addressed, they are a symptom of wider Australian cultural challenges. The current government has shirked this task by implementing the Liquor Laws which are not appropriate and do more harm to the wider community than good. The laws do not address the issue at hand.

Specifically the 10pm deadline for takeaway liquor sales is not in keeping with modern society and working practices. We encourage flexible working for our staff, people have families, hobbies, external education, other jobs that they need to attend to, they shouldn't be excluded from our workforce so we allow flexible work hours as long as they are able to perform their function. It is very common for 10-15 staff to be in the office late into the evening and they should not be precluded from buying a bottle of wine on their way home. We treat our staff like adults, I expect our government to treat its constituents like adults. Furthermore, the liquor laws have forced small restaurants in the CBD, and even large restaurants like McDonald's, to close down which means our staff cannot get dinner in the office whilst they work.

The misuse of statistics by the Government to support their agenda as been very disappointing. The exclusion of Star City from the Entertainment District was laughable. The exclusion of the proposed Crown Casino from the Entertainment District beggars belief. Is there not alcohol fuelled violence at casinos? This measure has in essence encouraged further gambling, especially when under the influence of alcohol as the casino is the only place to go after lock out. I wonder what the statistics are do gambling related addictions and illnesses since the lockout laws were introduced?

I sincerely hope that this review takes into account the civil liberties of general public, the damage to the

economy, the international damage to Sydney's reputation and thereby tourism and recommends a new approach to the liquor laws.

Best regards,  
James Ormesher

Sent from my iPhone

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