

# Fwd: Lockout laws review

AP Ariana Popovic [REDACTED]



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----- Original message -----

From: Ariana Popovic [REDACTED]

Date: 04/04/2016 3:01 pm (GMT+10:00)

To: liquorlawreview@justice.nsw.au

Subject: Lockout laws review

As a live music lover and patron of Sydney City nightlife I am appalled and offended by the lack of respect for Sydney residents and the tourists we should be providing world class entertainment to. This 'punish all for the actions of one' mentality has turned this great city into a laughing stock on a global scale. The failure of the state government to properly assess the risks involved in implementing these laws two years ago was a perfect example of a quick bandaid fix to a seriously complicated issue. As a representative of the people the Premier should have given us, the patrons, the respect of a well thought proposed solution, let us vote on it and trialled it.

The affects of these lockout laws have been disastrous to say the least, to our night-time economy and cultural expression. One only needs to look to Melbourne to figure out how much our city is lacking in progression. PLEASE consider instating a night-time mayor, like Amsterdam has done, 24 hour public transport on weekends, like Melbourne has, and no lock outs, at least not for venues with strong compliance records, like other successful international cities such as Berlin and London. These cities do not have a 10pm closure of liquor stores so why should we? Adults should be treated as such and be able to decide for themselves when and where they want to buy a drink. A city such as Sydney thrives on a successful night-time economy and this has been hugely disregarded in the implementation of these laws.

There is a lot more to say about all of this but I will just mention lastly that it is absolutely disgusting that the Premier used the deaths of young people to create hysteria and a perceived threat of imminent danger for each and every person out in the city past 1.30am. The fact that

these deaths occurred before 10pm in most cases points to the illogical thought process of the Premier. The corruption of those in power needs to be addressed. The fact that the casinos are exempt from such laws is suspicious enough but to know that The Star Casino donates millions of dollars yearly to St Vincents Hospital and to the Thomas Kelly Youth Foundation, which both vigorously back the lockout laws.

Back to the most important point; the bottom line is, most venues now close before 3am because that's when last drinks can be served. It costs them more only to stay open later whilst not earning anything due to people not being able to buy drinks. This has completely transformed an entire industry and not in a good way.

I wanted to keep Kings Cross as a place to go out and have some fun after the mundane week was over. Instead it has been crushed of its spirit and is just going to turn into high rises and real estate but no one asked what we, the public, wanted. No one asked the actual demographic of people this was going to affect, what we think. The NSW government only cared about what its' middle aged and out of touch citizens wanted.

Please do something to fix this now while you still can.

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.