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Submission to Independent Liquor Law Review

DP Dallas Proctor 

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To: Liquor Law Review; ▾

Sun 3/04

Inbox

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: Submission to Independent Liquor Law Review

I'm writing to draw your attention to two issues of considerable concern to me. Both relate to Issue 3.9.2(d) in the Background Paper – *positive and negative community impacts, including impacts on residents and potential displacement of impacts to other areas*:

1. Impact to LGBTIQ community

The restrictions have a disproportionate impact on the LGBTIQ community, due to Sydney's only LGBTIQ venues being located within the lock out zone. These venues offer an important place for the community to socialise and express themselves, free from potential prejudices and attitudes experienced in mainstream venues.

I agree with the policy objective of dispersing patrons from Kings Cross and the City to multiple, smaller, nightlife districts (e.g. Newtown and Double Bay) – however there are no alternative venues in these areas specifically targeted towards LGBTIQ people.

Staff and patrons at LGBTIQ venues are extremely relaxed, good-natured and friendly, and violence is unheard of. On this basis, these venues should be exempted from the lock out laws. (Mainstream venues able to emulate the non-violent culture of LGBTIQ venues should equally be considered for an exemption).

2. Impact to local residents from increase in 'house parties'

Living in a high density part of Sydney, my neighbours and I have experienced a significant increase in late night noise caused by revellers returning from nightlife districts after 1:30am to continue their night. In addition, house parties that would have ended at midnight now extend through to 4 or 5am because guests have decided it is no longer "worth" going out at all.

This is extremely disruptive to local residents seeking to have a quiet night – we would much rather people have fun and socialise in designated venues, as opposed to staying at home and keeping the whole neighbourhood awake every weekend.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Yours sincerely,

Dallas Proctor