

Review of lockout and licencing rules

Tim Ritchie [REDACTED]

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

Dear Sir/Madam,

I'm an elder of the Sydney entertainment scene. I was on air on Double and Triple Jay from 1976 to 1990, and a club DJ from the mid 80s to the mid 90s.

Sydney was a great town. There was a vibrancy and a sense of freedom and camaraderie that made it a fun and quite safe place to work... and to go out.

There were drugs and alcohol, bouncers and punters - but very little in the way of the problems that seem to be attributed to the start of the system of closing down the city early each night. So rather than use a blunt tool like shutting doors and limiting movement, please look into the cause of the problem rather than shutting down Sydney at night 7 days a week. I no longer go out late at night, but I want the next generation of Sydneysiders (and most importantly, visitors) to have a Sydney like I had. One that made me proud of our global city, and one that was safe.... but open to movement and choice of what and when to have a drink and a dance.

please work with the late night industries to find a smarter way to address the issues that brought about this situation.

I'm sure you will be able to mass doctors and researchers to support a "close early and limit drinking" approach... but that's not what a global city needs. It needs to be open and support freedom of choice - but within a framework of safety for residents and visitors.

Identify the real root of the problem by talking to all the stakeholders and then use smart people from all groups to find a safe solution that keeps Sydney open.

I now get up at 4am rather than go to bed at 4am - but I still want a city that makes me proud to call home. And if you want to see how much I love Sydney - the details below will take you to my ongoing photo essay of love to my city that I add to each day as I cycle around my best friend - Sydney.

Thanks,
Tim

Tim Ritchie
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