

Lockout law review

SR

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To: Liquor Law Review; [REDACTED]



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I would like to voice my opinion and state that the current lockout laws, 3am restriction and 10pm take out sale restrictions are not effective.

I have lived in [REDACTED] for 16 years, and purchased my apartment two years ago. I am a resident of the effected area and have a vested interest in the community and in making this a vibrant and safe place to live.

The lockouts have done the opposite of this. So many places have shut down and it seems many more will follow.

The fact that I as 39 year old responsible person cannot get a bottle of wine to take home after dinner (I.e 10pm) is only the beginning of being how this effects me as a member of this community.

Many friends have lost their jobs and their businesses. Initially the lockout did not effect my social life greatly or regularly as I don't really go out late that often. However there has been a trickle down effect in that the places I do go to no longer exist. There are fewer options. The streets are quiet, the whole nighttime economy is dying. Violence is still there, we all know the statics of reduced foot traffic vs reduced violence.

It is also noticeable that at the hours between 1.30 and 3am the street are chaotic. Dispersing everyone at the same time without sufficient transport. People are cramming in as many drinks as they can. Having ridiculous and complicated rules about what drinks can be served when is completely ineffective. Treat people like children, they will act it.

The prohibition approach has never worked.

Alcohol related violence will exist as long as there are violent people which is an absolute minority. A minority that needs to be educated and dealt with.

More policing of the streets (I hardly EVER see police on the street). They come into venues to patrol how bars and clubs are serving, treating owners and staff like criminals. Shining torches in people's faces and have an aggressive demeanour. The violence is on the streets! Not in the venues. I have personally been coward punched on Oxford street in 2009. At 11pm by drunk kids from the suburbs. No police in sight, members of the community helped me. I didn't report it as I was flying overseas the next day. I have never felt to be in danger in any venue that I have been to. Only outside, regardless of what time.

Stronger punishment / zero tolerance for violent behaviour. People are getting away with violence. Where are the extreme fines? Where is the tougher sentencing?

24 hour public transport on weekends.

Reward venues that are keeping the peace.

Don't put more restrictions on them.

Have RSA marshals at bottleshops.

Let them trade as long as they like.

If I want to buy wine to take home at 3am that is my business, my decision.

To say that people should not be out or having fun and unwinding at these hours is a moral judgment that I do not want forced on me.

Please reverse these laws, they are ineffective and are destroying our city as an international destination.

Kind regards,

Sönke Roth

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

They do not resolve

Sent from my iPhone