

Submission

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

Having lived and travelled in cities across the world, I returned home in 2012 which was before the lockout laws and I found Sydney lacking on all accounts of entrainment, culture, music and in general things to do. It only got worse with the introduction the lock out laws.

I'm mid 30's, paid over [REDACTED] per annum, I live in the Inner West and I am affected by lockout laws. From what I understand, I am a target group that our politicians want living in Sydney but also to visit enjoy city, the restaurants and the bars. I don't "load up" before I go out nor have I ever gotten into a fight or become aggressive when I go out and drink. So why am I being persecuted?

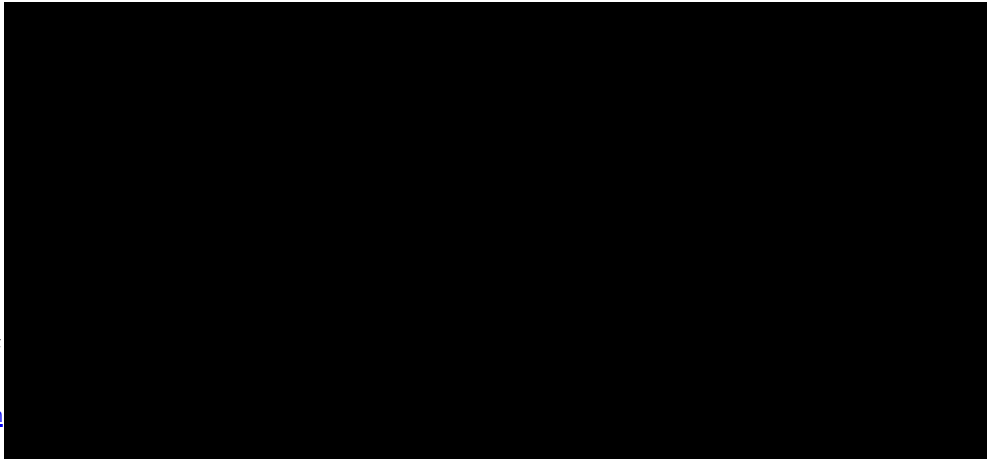
There are now less options for entertainment and restaurants. I couldn't even find a place to go prior or after the Opera on the weekend which sounds contrived but why would I chose to live here if I am not enjoying myself and I can no longer pursue cultural pursuits? I am told to "go home" well frankly if I enjoy being out and meeting new people in what is otherwise a diverse city, why do I want to lock myself away at home and not be out meeting new people and forming groups that could otherwise lead to a positive contribution to the city?

What it means is that we are currently looking for other cities to live in. Welcome to the great "brain drain" where the people that cause the trouble can still drink in their local areas but where you have cleared a city of international inhabitants and visitors whilst they look for alternatives. What does the city look like then? The Laws are such a poorly thought-out response. Focus funds towards solving the issue of violence in homes and not just by introducing draconian laws that do little but encourage people to look elsewhere for a diverse city to live in.

Linda Rudd



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