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Submission to the review of alcohol

BS barbara steer 

To: Liquor Law Review; 



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Sat 2/04

Inbox

The violence and harm caused by those who overindulge in the use of alcohol is well documented.

I am now retired and in my 70's. The eldest child of a family who, over many generations, lost property, dignity and health because of alcohol, I am well aware of many of the problems alcohol use causes.

Yet I still married an problem drinker and, for the sake of my family, was finally forced to put in place my own alcohol restrictions. My husband and I have now been married 48 years.

The result of alcohol restriction.

Now I am raising another child, my 14 year old grandson, again the result of too much alcohol.

Prohibition never worked. My father spent his lifetime treating problem drinkers without too much success. If you believe some individuals can self monitor, you are living in a fools paradise.

Lifting the current restrictions can only put more lives at risk and will tell problem drinkers it's okay for them to behave in ways that compromise their own health and the safety of those around them.

Just last week we had an incident here in Penrith, where a senior police officer was hit over the head with a piece of wood when trying to deal with a drunken, rowdy mob of young people.

And I still have a 14 year old to safely see into adulthood.

My brother, now passed, also owned bottle shops. We couldn't be called a family of fast learners.

One of my son's worked for him. As a 20 year old he was held up and a gun discharged over his head. 20 years later he still has flashbacks.

There is no way I can support any changes to our current alcohol laws and would ask that the health, safety and wellbeing of our citizens be put before the desires of businesses and problem drinkers.

Yours sincerely
Barbara Steer

Regards,

barbara steer

Community supporter