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Lockout laws submission

NS Nat Stewart 



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To: Liquor Law Review; 

6:42 AM

Inbox

Dear Liquor Law Review Team,

I am a 29 year old Sydney sider who is currently living in London.

I believe the current laws that were brought in to tackle alcohol fuelled violence are failing the community and destroying the late night culture.

It saddens me to hear story after story of venues closing down as a direct result of the new laws.

London embraces the hours after dark with 24 hour entertainment, restaurants and bars offering food at all hours, live music venues and 24 hour transport to ensure people are able to get home with ease.

Sydney needs to look to cities like London and Amsterdam where they have a dedicated "night mayor" who is responsible for running the night time economy. An economy that is just as important as the one that exists when the sun is up.

The issue of violence needs to be addressed with education, increased patrolling and presence of police, and strong punishments for those who misbehave.

The sweeping law is removing the ability for law abiding citizens to choose whether they want to stay at home and have a quiet one, or stay out until the sun rises celebrating a vibrant community with their friends.

Also, the blatant favouritism for Star Casino and the soon to open Bangaroo is an absolute farce and is so shameful that they are excluded from the lock out zone. And to now have exemptions for pubs to allow entry for poker machine gamers after 1:30am is ridiculous considering the serious negative impact gambling has on the community.

I hope you seriously consider the loss to the arts and cultural industry as a direct result of the laws and reconsider the need for such strict laws that inhibit freedom of choice for the majority of society.

Regards,
Natalie