

To The Hon. Ian Callinan AC

The complexity associated with the lockdown Sydney Lockout Laws apparent, and I welcome the review. Public safety is crucial, as are small business, Sydney's reputation as a destination city and the rights of Sydney residents to choose what to do with their evenings.

The fact that Star City Casino is exempt from Sydney's Lockout Laws is the one element of the laws that is simply unethical, unfair and not in the best interests of the safety of the community.

“An analysis of police figures by the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (Bocsar) shows alcohol-related, non-domestic assaults in Pyrmont have jumped by more than 88.3% year-on-year, for the 12 months from April 2014 to March 2015.“

<http://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/datablog/2015/jun/22/spike-in-assaults-recorded-at-sydney-casino-following-citys-lockout-laws>

It is impossible to justify this lack of consistency. The fact that the Pyrmont Bridge Hotel must cease selling alcohol at 1:30am and the Casino directly across the road can continue to trading beggars belief. If community safety is put ahead of Sydney's nightlife, then the exemption afforded to Star City Casino simply must be reversed. If this cannot be justified on an economic level, then this calls in to question the validity of the laws in general.

Iain Tallis