

Reply all |   Delete Junk |  ...

Relationship between liquor sales and violence

GT gavin edmond tulloch Reply all | To: Liquor Law Review; 

2:21 AM

Inbox

My name is Gavin Tulloch. I own premises in Sydney and am an Australian tax payer. I am also resident of Italy and live about 40 km south of Rome. I am 68 years old. I have travelled extensively since the mid 70's, spending over half my life out of Australia.

I will not comment on the statistics of alcohol use, time of night, and relationship to violence.

What I want to state is that Sydney was a great city, with a lifestyle like many great cities in Europe - plus a fantastic harbour. I have enjoyed overnight parties, functions, events around the world without any of the pressures of '6 o'clock closing' that I remember from Melbourne so many years ago. I have also had numbing experiences in cities that restricted alcohol sales through either cultural or legislative reasons. In those cities, of course.

In no city have I ever suffered in a public place from violence related to excess alcohol. In Australia in 1969 (Leeton) I was severely beaten by a prize fighter in a pub in mid-afternoon. In the early 90's I was accosted and beaten by a SAS member at a private function. Yes there is a cultural problem in Australia that seems to encourage a certain type of person to fight for no reason other than insecurity in his own self.

Prohibitionist approaches don't change culture, they increase crime (eventually). As a taxi driver for 10 years, I remember the illegal casinos off William St in the 70s, the ones with police protection. Legalising casinos was a boost to the economy (and tourism) as was the TAB compared to SP Bookies.

It would seem that the answer to the problem is cultural and that education in the form of rejecting bullying from the early school age would be sensible. Promoting bullying as antisocial, whether directed towards the opposite or same sex, is an essential step for the Australian society to achieve equality - equality against all prejudice. Of course, 'Bobbies on the Beat' is a winner

Re-opening Sydney with a proud social agenda and a strong promotional campaign would discourage antisocial behaviour. I am proud of some things Australian - one world leader is Clean up Australia Day. The positives can work - prohibition must fail.

Yours sincerely

Gavin Tulloch (PhD)