

Mrs Ann Usher and Rev Geoffrey R Usher

14 March 2016

Justice Callinan
Liquor Law Review
GPO Box 7060
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Justice Callinan

We have owned our property for thirty years, and occupied it for twenty-five years. When we first moved in, there were very few families in the area with children or with dogs as pets. It was a common occurrence to find discarded syringes, used condoms and broken bottles on the streets and footpaths, and on our small front verandah. Gangs of noisy, drunken youths roamed until well after midnight, causing damage to property and to parked cars and fighting in the streets.

We were pleased to support the initiatives which led to the recent Lockout Laws, and like many local residents we are delighted with the results.

There has been a marked reduction in noisy, drunken, loutish behaviour, so that there is a much safer atmosphere on the streets at night.

Just as the establishment of the safe drug injection centre on Darlinghurst Road brought major improvements despite early opposition, so the Lockout Laws have already brought major improvements despite the protests of the club owners and other vested interests in the liquor trade.

People who claim that Kings Cross is "no longer vibrant" seem to equate vibrancy with drunkenness, brawling, physical assault and injury.

The development of the children's play area in Fitzroy Gardens is an indicator of the much more family-friendly atmosphere where people can go about their business and social activities without fear, and residents returning home at night can do so without facing the threat of assault by drunken louts.

We strongly urge that the Lockout Laws be retained.

Yours sincerely



(Mrs) Ann Usher



(Rev) Geoffrey R Usher