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Submission to the review of alcohol

JW

James Ward 

To: Liquor Law Review; 



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Sun 3/04

Inbox

I am a Registered Nurse currently working as a Drug & Alcohol Community Services Counsellor in NSW. Previously I served as a paramedic in the Queensland Ambulance Service for 20 years. In both these roles I have seen first hand the effects of alcohol on the lives of people. Alcohol is a socially acceptable poison that often destroys not only the lives of those who use it, but often severely affects those close to them - their wives, children and parents. From where I stand it would be an action of criminal intent to withdraw the current alcohol free areas. In my opinion current laws don't go far enough. So many of my clients with an alcohol related problem say that every where they go alcohol is pushed at them. They can't go to buy food without it being in their faces. This scourge of humanity is available from far too many outlets. Let's do everything we can to make anything higher than low risk levels of drinking as socially unacceptable as cigarette smoking is becoming. The financial cost to society from this scourge will far outweigh the loss of revenue to alcohol producers and retailers by not curtailing alcohol consumption.

Regards,

James Ward

Nurse