

keep sydney Open

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To: Liquor Law Review <liquorlawreview@justice.nsw.gov.au>;

Dear reviewers,

I'm not sure where to start this discussion. As a passionate member of the Sydney community it is distressing the effects of the lock out laws are having on everybody, not just the youth. Let's word it like this - Who cares if I can't get alcohol after 10, who cares if I can't get in after 1:30, who cares if I can't stay out till 6am. But EVERYONE CARES AND DESERVES THE RIGHT TO MAKE THERE OWN DECISIONS! Current legislation such as these liquor laws, bike laws, no eating in a smoking area laws, and a bunch more are oppressing a once free society! The fact that the government is so disconnected from the effects these laws have on the happy disposition of people is a huge problem. Trust me, you can't go anywhere without everyone being negative towards the government. When really the leaders they elect should be serving them for the greater good. The problem is systemic, the government is bowing not to public pressure for new laws but media pressure to call for new laws. Media creates furore and hyperbole to panic people and get more clicks on there article and the government creates knee jerk reactions to placate the media (who aren't the true representation of the public, they are a corporation looking at their bottom line), . Stop listening to the media scaremongers and listen to the people. The people who give real opinions, people who contribute to a vibrant culture of Sydney. Not just people who listen to and are misinformed by media hype. I have never once felt unsafe in Sydney! Now I feel sad in Sydney. These laws are the construction of an oppressive, anti liberal government and anti vibrant city sphere. Uninformed, unconnected, noncontributors to the city's culture and subcultures are making decisions that don't effect them in any capacity . . . Probably why it's so easy to make the knee jerk decisions. I apologise for the haphazard structure of my arguments it's just a desperate plea from a member of your city, your society, your community for change. Stand up and make this city great again! You have a noose tied around the youth and the society as a whole. This choking can't last forever, people will eventually respond heavy. Be proactive and make policy that increases social reactions between society. Or even better yet, don't make any policy! That's not your job to meddle with the social fabric, let it form organically as humans are supposed to do!

The problem here is not people, it's a government drunk with power, obsessed with fiscal, economic, capitalist principles! These are important aspects of society, but not the basis of a happy, rewarding community and public sphere. You are losing people, tourists, and what will be left after the happy people are gone?a stagnant, stale city with no culture except for maybe one of money. Let go, let people take charge of there lives, give them responsibility back and then let's see this city thrive once again!

Paddy, 27, Sydney

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