

Lockout Laws

Alan Worrall [REDACTED]

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

Justice Callinan – Head of the ‘Callinan Review’,

Dear Sir,

I completely support the Lockout Laws.

I moved to Potts Point 20 years ago in June this year, shortly after a Royal Commission into drugs, corruption and other relevant aspects of certain activities taking place in the Kings Cross area. After the Royal Commission, ‘the Cross’ seemed to settle down into a relatively subdued neighbourhood – but only for a short time.

Since then, particularly on the weekends and, before the Lockout Laws were introduced in 2014, it had developed into an almost ‘no go’ zone for locals at night. Wall to wall people, many intoxicated, loud, aggressive and even abusive behaviour – all supposedly having a good time but, to the detriment of the local inhabitants who avoided going anywhere near Darlinghurst Road, if at all possible. These same people, many having had too much to drink, amble through the surrounding suburbs on their way home, yelling, shouting, screaming and generally disturbing the peace of the local population.

The road blocks in Woolloomooloo greatly helped prevent the hoons from ‘outside’ entering the area and drastically reduced the amount of hotted up cars, and subsequent noise, entering the area.

Although the Police try so hard to keep the peace, the utterly inexcusable violence prevailed and people were hurt and some, unfortunately, lost their lives.

The fact that St. Vincent’s Hospital Emergency Department, since the Lockout Laws were introduced, has seen a drastic reduction in alcohol related injuries, this alone should be enough reason to keep the Lockout Laws in place.

As a resident, I feel that we are gradually getting our suburb back. Yes, the girlie bars may be losing out and venues may have closed however, new businesses are opening

up, to the benefit the local residents and, in time, the area will rejuvenate and reinvent itself into a nice place to live – at the moment it is barely tolerable but, it has improved considerably since the Lockout Laws were introduced.

This area is one of the most densely populated areas in Australia – we need to move the night life area to another location where an influx of people does not impact on the local residents each weekend.

Once again I state that I am completely in support of the Lockout Laws – I love living here but, should this area revert to its former rough and aggressive state, I will seriously consider relocating to a more secure and safe area.

Yours sincerely,
Alan Worrall

