

 Reply all |   Delete Junk |  ...



Lockout laws: AGAINST

JW

Joshua Worrill 

To: Liquor Law Review; 



 Reply all | 

Fri 1/04

Inbox

Hi,

I'd just like to register my support for ENDING, or modifying the Sydney lockout laws. I support safe streets but absolutely not at the cost of a vibrant late night economy and activities of all kinds after hours. I think the focus should be on:

- alternative late night activities that do not focus on pure drinking such as art galleries, late restaurant opening, late retail
- strong police presence apprehending those that break the law
- the ability for police and liquor authorities to support those venues that are proved to be well organised and safe, while punishing or placing restrictions on venues that are violent (the casino for example?) many venues are struggling now due to these laws even though they have never had a violent incident. How is this fair?
- strong punishment for people who behave anti socially. Why is the entire state punished for the actions of a tiny minority? Find these people, arrest them and punish them in the courts
- 24 hour public transport from the city including the train network
- removal of the 10pm bottle shop limitation. This is unfair to late workers who can no longer buy a beer to have after their shift. If a person is intoxicated, there are laws in place to stop them from purchasing more alcohol, this is sufficient.

Compromise is necessary to find the right balance. Everyone wants a safe city, but we are NOT willing to destroy the city nightlife to achieve it - this is a weak and poorly thought out solution to the problem, and there are other solutions that can be considered to have the same benefits without throwing the baby out with the bath water.

Please consider the lessons learnt by Melbourne and other big cities. Appoint a night time mayor, encourage night time activities, encourage venues who are safe to open later and people who behave should have no restrictions placed upon them. Believe it or not the vast majority of people go out at night to socialise with friends, hear music and are not planning to drink to excess and cause trouble. These people are being punished through no fault of their own.

The number of businesses that have been driven to closure by the lockouts, the people that owned, worked there and the businesses in the areas around that supported them like take away food outlets, well it is just incredibly sad and criminal. And it feels like the government could not care less. People think this issue is about fighting to get blind drunk but that is not the case. There is a human element to this and it must be considered - we are killing our city!

Please stop this nanny state nonsense. There are solutions that will allow for a city that is BOTH safe AND vibrant and fun. The current solution is absolutely killing this city. We are a laughing stock and many people I know are leaving or planning to. This may seem like hyperbole but it is absolutely true. Stop the lockouts and start working on a safe and vibrant Sydney.

Thank you,
Joshua Worrill

