

## Submission re Lock out Laws



Inbox

Sir / Madam

Let me start by saying I am against the continuation of the lock out laws. Please allow me to explain why.

I live in the to be accurate. My backyard is Kings Cross.

I also used to work with Ralph Kelly whose son died tragically from one punch. I'm familiar with the devastation drunken behaviour can cause.

I believe that transport workers, police and emergency services should be able to undertake their jobs without fear of verbal abuse or, worse still, physical harm. I believe fellow patrons should be able to enjoy a drink without fear of harm.

And whilst the current lock out laws are reducing such incidents they're doing so at the expense of other factors.

The buzz, vibe and excitement inherent in the Cross for decades has all but gone. Too many once-successful establishments have had to close their doors.

Managing adults by wielding a stick rather than positive enforcement is never going to work in the long term. Adjusting juvenile behaviour so that young adults feel less inclined to get so pissed on the first place must surely be an opportunity? Manage the start - not the end - of the drinking cycle.

There are few venues in the CBD offering late night entertainment, less still in suburbia.

Turning Sydney's one "nightclub" enclave into a mild mannered Clark Kent harms our international brand, treats adults as naughty children and drives businesses into bankruptcy.

Not everyone on a night out - even an over indulgent one in terms of alcohol consumption - is a threat, a danger, a nuisance, an idiot. Many are just having a great night and hope to continue.

Stop the kids drinking so much, let the adults adult.

So there's a thought - age restrictions, just like insurance ages, could be a better solution for all.

Yours in hope,

**Shelley Wright** 

Oz M: