

Dave Cox

As a venue owner and licensee my concerns over this legislation is again, like the tiering system introduced by Nathan Rees the three strikes fails to identify the repeat offenders fail to address the issue of "Personal Responsibility" who continuously cause the greater percentage of violent issues at licensed premises. These laws constantly attack the licensed premises or the licensee's BUT NOT the offenders or the perpetrators of alcohol or drug related issues.

The younger generation of drinkers today are fully aware of the laws and conditions that licensees are subjected to by these laws in NSW and are very aware of the issues that these laws do have on licensed premises and when troublesome patrons are removed for whatever reason these patrons when intoxicated have reported false assaults and acts of violence to police simply to cause venues and licensees unwanted issues and problems with licensing police just "to get even" as I have experienced in my venue.

The main concern that I have and I have expressed my concerns over these two laws, Three Strikes & the Tiering system is that neither of these identify most of the offenders and neither system permits the opportunity to notify all the other licensed premises in NSW of these troublesome predators.

In 2006 I introduced a banning notice system that through our liquor accord was also adopted by several other venues in the area where I issued three, six, twelve month or permanent banning notices, copies of these notices were also emailed to the LAC licensing police where this information could be used to identify these people at other venues in the area if and when they were involved in altercations, this practise is known as "Patron Migration" where they move from venue to venue and continue to cause trouble for other venues in the area and neighbouring suburbs.

Sadly there is very little information distributed throughout NSW's licensed premises enabling licensees or security managers or supervisors to quickly identify these troublemakers and either deny entry or permit entry but with stringent conditions placed on them upon entry to the venue, again when this person(s) causes any form of assault or troublesome issue it is always the venue that is hit with the blame and ends up with the black mark pointed at the venue when at times it is NOT the fault of the venue, security staff or the licensee.

This simply gets back to an issue that has been raised time & time again, there is NO threat to these offenders for "Personal Responsibility" these repeat offenders simply disappear into the crowd or if apprehended put before the court receive a section 10 then move to another location and do it all again, "Patron Migration", there is no system in place that identifies these people so a venue can have the choice to either deny entry or allow entry BUT under strict conditions.

As we are ALL aware in this sad day and age DRUGS play a massive role in the behaviour of young people, it is virtually impossible to detect a person who has either just taken a "pill" of some sort or who enters the venue totally sober and straight but upon entering the venue heads to a toilet where a pill can be taken without being seen by security or bar staff swallowed with a vodka or some form of strong alcoholic beverage, I the pill takes affect the patron goes wild security has to take severe measures to remove "he or she" police and an

ambulance are called to the venue to remove the person, then the venue is blamed for the incident and a letter is issued by police, the venue is then either placed on a tier or a strike, WHERE is this the fault of the venue or of the licensee BUT the blame ultimately comes back to the venue even though the venue or it's staff are in no way at fault or responsible for some idiot taking a pill.

As we have all witnessed over the last couple of years drugs are becoming a much bigger issue than alcohol also statics are showing that private house or garage parties as they are known are also causing more problems for police and communities YET licensed premises and licensees still get blamed and targeted by the media and the government for being the main cause of alcohol related incidents where in a lot of cases this is NOT the case, but to gain public attention licensed premises become the target to have more and more unwarranted, unnecessary and damaging conditions placed on licenses and venues where this does not stop most of these offenders they simply move to another location, "Patron Migration" they simply start a fight at another venue, no "Personal Responsibility" the circle starts again.

"THREE STRIKES and YOU ARE OUT" all this does is permit repeat offenders to move on and do it all again The Industry needs PERSONAL REPOSIBILITY a system that protects licensed premises and identifies REPEAT OFFENDERS and fools.

PLEASE NOTE this is own my personal opinion it has no bearing on the venue it is submitted without prejudice and I do not expect any form of retaliatory action from the authority for my views.

Respectfully Yours.

Very concerned venue owner / licensee hoping for less troublesome better conditions more profitable 2016.