

**Dave Parker**

17-12-15

Re: Three strikes you're out rule

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for accepting this submission.

I have been involved in the entertainment, club, hotel industry for over 30 years. With that, I have a wealth of knowledge based on pedestrian observation as well as interaction with rules and regulations pertaining to licensed venues.

I primarily only want to make one point very clear. That point is that the "three strike rule" can actually increase antisocial behaviour. But this is an increase that OLGA and Police records wont show.

Let's pretend for a moment that you (the reader) are the licensee of a venue and there is a fight on your premises. You know very well, that if you call the police, it could very well mean a strike against your licence. So, instead, you get your guards to break up the fight and send the two (or more) persons on their way. So, what have we just taught the people who were fighting? We have taught them that the publicans don't want to call the police. We have taught them that if they fight, there will be no repercussions.

My reference here is 144B-c of the Liquor Act 2007. Of course the word "permitted" is used in the legislation and it could be argued that no licensee would "permit" violence.

However, back to my point. We are educating an entire generation that fighting on licenced premises has no repercussions, other than a barring perhaps. But that person knows they can go to a different venue and get away with the same thing.

Unless we start focussing on the culprits of these problems, rather than blaming the venues, they are simply going to continue. As a community, we should ask ourselves the following question. "At what point should we actually reward publicans for handing over violent patrons rather than leave them with threats of closures?" As a community we are constantly reminded to call Crime Stoppers for all sorts of crime. But if you're a licensed venue, calling the police could put you out of business in the long run. Meanwhile, the guy who started a fight last week, gets to fight again this Friday night.

Thank you for taking the time to read my submission.

Many thanks

Dave Parker

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