

**Submission
No 21**

MEASURES TO REDUCE ALCOHOL AND DRUG-RELATED VIOLENCE

Name: Name Suppressed
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Partially Confidential

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in response to the parliamentary enquiry regarding the effectiveness of the lock out laws introduced recently.

This topic has been one I have heard a great deal of discussion about. I've spoken with venue owners, musicians, taxi drivers, local residents. While there are differing views regarding the many issues relating to these laws, there does seem a strong consistency among these people regarding their opinions of these laws, and that is, they don't work.

The laws fail to benefit anyone, whilst doing absolutely nothing to curb violence. In fact, with people hurrying to drink more before the early closure and being sent out onto the streets, it's making people behave in a worse fashion. Many taxi drivers have said people are just as unruly now as they were before, the only difference now is that there are more people on the street at lockout times, however the government put no new public transport measures in place. I'm sure a government representative would dispute this, but no extra trains. No more buses, not enough taxis to cope with the volume of people. It was a poorly thought out policy, delivered quickly because of the media frenzy following the tragic death of Daniel Christie.

As a musician, I have also seen these laws directly affect the livelihoods of people around me. Venues are suffering from the lockouts, musicians are losing the already shitty amount of revenue they can get (there are so many ways musicians have been failed by our NSW and local government, but that's another discussion altogether).

Also, I finish work late sometimes. And when I do, I want to be able to buy myself some wine on my way home so I can have a glass and relax at the end of the day. But no, some bright spark on about \$120k per year decided that would be too dangerous. Well done.

These laws have failed the community on so many levels, I urge you to repeal them immediately, and look into things that actually discourage this so called "violence epidemic". We should not all be punished for the mistakes of a few morons.

Thank you,

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