

**Submission
No 22**

PROVISION OF ALCOHOL TO MINORS

Name: The Hon Jack Dempsey MP
Position: Minister for Police and Community Safety, Queensland
Date Received: 6/08/2012



Hon Jack Dempsey MP
Member for Bundaberg

**Minister for Police
and Community Safety**

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31 JUL 2012

Mr Bruce Notley-Smith MP
Committee Chair
Social Policy Committee
Parliament of New South Wales
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr Notley-Smith

Thank you for your letter of 20 June 2012 regarding the New South Wales inquiry into the provision of alcohol to minors by parents and guardians.

I referred this matter to the Queensland Police Service (QPS) which advises in September 2008, following reforms to the *Liquor Act 1992* (the Act) and as part of the harm minimisation focus of liquor reforms in Queensland, irresponsible supply laws were introduced. The purpose of this law is to address the problems associated with minors consuming liquor at private premises.

Section 156A of the Act provides two offences:

- for an adult who is not a responsible adult for the minor, to supply liquor to a minor in a private place; and
- for a responsible adult for a minor to supply liquor to the minor in a private place, without responsibly supervising the consumption of the liquor.

A conviction of an offence for irresponsible supply can result in a maximum fine of \$8 000.

Providing police with the additional legislation to address the irresponsible supply of liquor to minors by parents and other adults in private premises, has been valuable in contributing to the reduction of harms associated with alcohol within the community. Successful prosecutions have resulted in penalties including fines, community service and probation.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

~~Jack Dempsey MP~~
Minister for Police and Community Safety