

MEASURES TO REDUCE ALCOHOL AND DRUG-RELATED VIOLENCE

Name: Name Suppressed

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Partially Confidential

Hello,

My name is [REDACTED] I am 25 years old, born and raised in Sydney lived here all my life. I currently work and have worked in hospitality marketing and events for close to seven years. The below suggestions and opinions I have gathered from experience in the field, I wish to keep my name fully private from all public displays of this document.

I wish to begin by telling you what I loved about Sydney growing up, going out and beginning my career in the field of events.

Sydney City to myself growing up in Western Sydney was another world bursting with eclectic surroundings and culture I soon became to understand with knowledge and my travels Sydney was on a international standard of food, wine, hospitality, fashion and entertainment and also in a class of its own.

Australia like Europe is full with many nationalities has always been very multicultural. Growing up my best friends were Italian, when we went out dinner was set in the morning on the way home like in Europe not before. The culture of European style late dinners and drinks (either late in the evening going out to early hours after or late as in early morning before we went home) was something I loved and I know they loved because it made them feel more themselves or closer to their culture, gave us freedom to make those choices and stay out and enjoy the evening as we please. That is what I loved about Sydney the accessibility of culture regardless of your background, taste, flavour or style there is something for you at whatever time or place.

Australian nightlife right now has no culture, and has nothing to offer a young Australian looking to experience culture of nightlife. I find more young Australians traveling overseas to experience and celebrate, enjoy themselves and to indulge in many different things then they do in there own backyard, what does that say about our hospitality and culture now in Sydney.

Now this is my problem with the new laws I feel like it is punishing the business owners/operators who are the ones to be forced to either close from lack of business, lay off staff, reduce the quality in there product just to obtain business which is not fair. It is a fact that

the laws reduce businesses profits massively, reduce general influx of business due to bad publicity and dramatically affects the whole industry and its surroundings including cab drivers, corner shops, and restaurants all notable shutting down one by one. Less people equal less money circulating.

I personally think tougher laws on people that break the law, violence, drugs, alcohol related violence etc, should have harsher punishments rather than punishing businesses that are simply trying to look after the people that are behaving.

The new laws also only punish certain areas creating some areas of the city to capitalise on the rest of Sydney's bad luck creating an uneven playing field. People are advertising "NO LOCK OUTS", "Can do Cocktails", "Shots all night", even illegal warehouse, style parties and other certain things to bring in the wrong clientele.

The areas that have been placed on restrictions have some of the best venues when it comes to quality, history of reputation and standards of service and security that wouldn't even try to attract clientele with that style of marketing. It forces people and the future youth to search for the wrong things when they go out instead of searching for quality in atmosphere, product and service in controlled RSA policed environments.

On the point of reducing violence I think yes with less people in controlled areas and environments there will naturally be half the amount of incidences. I am sure there will be more incidences now in areas outside the restrictions zones, I am sure they will be an increase in suburban areas also. Violent people are only violent if they know they can get away with it, with heavier police presence, cameras and tougher per person banning laws will keep the violent natured people away from people trying to enjoy themselves. These laws addressed the problem at the wrong source hurting the industry across the board. Sydney Tourism will be effected people opting to go overseas or other states, cab drivers, convenience stores, late night eateries and obviously hospitality industry all suffering dramatically.

My conclusion and view is punish the people who misbehave breaking the law adopt a zero tolerance after dark in certain hospitality districts, punish the venues that misbehave intentionally and regularly with zero tolerance for disobedience and reward the patrons and businesses that are well behaved with allowing them to enjoy nightlife and create culture safely and happily for future of Sydney in tourism and for Sydney siders. A per venue evaluation to determine what is in the best interest of the patrons attending taking in consideration past and good behaviour for the present.

My second view or action suggestion would be make the laws for the whole NSW so it's a even playing field but that contradicts my point on why are the government punishing everyone which will just create more small business owners to loose profits and money causing only the big restaurants and hospitality groups to survive.

Save our culture, save our nightlife and educate our future in the right way of addressing things.

Thank you.

[REDACTED]
14th August 2014
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