

**Submission
No 51**

MEASURES TO REDUCE ALCOHOL AND DRUG- RELATED VIOLENCE

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Since the lock outs have began I have personally lost a lot of work, as I am a freelance audio engineer who works at clubs within the city, as well as a DJ. The clubs I work in are unable to make the money they used to, as their patronage has been cut by about 50% since the lock outs began, and this has directly resulted myself and others like me losing work as clubs are cutting costs in every aspect possible.

I have also seen many venues who used to produce amazing shows unable to afford they talent they once did, and this has directly influenced Sydney's up and coming artists as there aren't the support slots available due to the reduction in hours. As a city that prides itself on nurturing the arts and our artists, these laws have crippled a huge part of our music industry.

While many of the stats claim that these laws have already caused a reduction in violence, a stat they neglect is that there's simply less people around the areas affected. If we banned people from driving during certain hours, there would be far less car crashes but this would be due to less people on the roads, and this same logic applies here. Clubs are the solution, not the problem, as they give people somewhere they can go with supervision and entertainment rather than roaming the streets bored and angry at having their liberties restricted.

I urge the NSW government to see sense and stop hurting people who are trying to make an honest living and solve the solution, and to stop classifying and victimising everyone who enjoys going out as violent thugs. I urge them to let us become the amazing global city we can be, at any hour, and to nurture this side of the arts as well as the young artists.

Thank you,

Sebastian de Haas