

**Submission
No 47**

**ADEQUACY OF THE REGULATION OF SHORT-TERM
HOLIDAY LETTING IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

Name: Mrs Thais Jacobs

Date Received: 29/10/2015

My name is Thais and I have been a guest as well as host for many years now. Therefore home sharing is a topic I feel strongly about and I really appreciate you looking into it, as I believe regularising it is really important and can be beneficial for the whole community.

My husband and I live in Chippendale, we have called it home for many years and are very proud of how it has developed. We are very involved in the community, we have created a website called Sustainable Chippendale and love supporting all the local business and initiatives.

When the time came for us to buy investment properties, there was no doubt of where we wanted them to be. That was when we decided to give Airbnb a real shot. Hosting people have become a big passion of mine. During the 7 years I have been hosting I have had over 100 guests staying and have only met beautiful interesting people, who share my love for travel, culture, arts, sustainability and good food. They have also taken great care of our apartments and community, and on our recommendations have helped us support and grow the local businesses, who now have a lot more people going through their doors.

I love meeting my guests, sharing with them my favourite things to do in Sydney, showing them our good Australian hospitality, I love learning about their life's, culture, views. I love bumping into them in the neighbourhood. My guests love the experience of arriving and having a local friendly face to welcome them, to show them where the nearest cafe or supermarket is, to tell them where the locals go out for a drink or how to take the train. My guests often tell me they wouldn't have been able to come at all or stay for so long if it wasn't for home sharing. They also say how much they love the human connection, the warmth and the convenience of staying at a home.

Airbnb on its turn has always been there for me and my guests, from helping me communicate with guests from other countries, to helping me solve misunderstandings promptly and efficiently. They provide security with their insurance in the case of any accidents and facilitate host meetings and groups chats, which creates a wonderful community on itself.

I now depend on Airbnb to help supply my income and I would love to keep doing it. Please help me keep hosting and adding to the changing face of traveling. A more personal, people and community orientated one."