

**Submission  
No 138**

## **SYDNEY'S NIGHT TIME ECONOMY**

**Organisation:** Odyssey Music Events

**Date Received:** 14 June 2019

To whom it may concern

Firstly I would like to say this is a great idea! Giving a voice to Sydney's people to express their concerns is an excellent show of good faith from NSW government.

I write this submission in hopes to paint a picture of what small business owners such as myself may come to experience in Sydney's nightlife. My work at the present point can come in two forms: either hosting an event under the brand(s) that I work on, or getting booked to DJ at various events/venues. It cannot be ignored that the ability for small business owners/venues owners, and as a result creative artists such as bands, DJ's etc have been considerably held back in the ability to thrive. I can assume that whilst these concerns are not our governments priority... I urge the nsw government to consider the liberty that has been taken away from this minority.

Without question there were issues that needed to be dealt with in the kings cross regions such as violence, drugs and illegal business operations... however considering those issues have seemingly been resolved, it would be a great time to give back the power that was once lost to small business owners and other individuals who's work benefits from thriving nightlife. We need only to look to the Victorian state who has shown such great compassion for its nightlife, acting as a positive environment for bars, restaurants, clubs etc.

In my experience, the growth of my small business has been considerably effected. There are fewer venues to have access to, there are fewer people going out to clubs and bars post 1.30am, and it is really disappointing to know that the star casino remains one of the most violent venues in the entire city and there was no action taken on the venue. Anyone with a logical mind can deduce that it's because of the millions of dollars that the government benefits from letting it operate as is. This is such toxic policy implementation, it's instilling poor attitudes towards our government.

Another important point to consider for the nsw government, that is quite ironic, is that with these lock outs in place this has force illegal warehouse parties flourishing in the inner west areas. These parties are operating without regulation, without compliance, and are inherently subject to possible violence + drug related problems! This is what the nsw government has festered, these are the issues the city now faces as a result of the current state of our nightlife. Patrons are unwilling to support the club scene with the continued pressures coming from our leaders, venues struggle to maintain their operations, festivals are being shut down with these obscene moves made by the nsw government + it's police force. I cannot for the life of me understand why you are making the police force, who's job is to protect and serve, into some sort militia that generates fear. I feel sorry for the young policemen and women who are just taking orders that have rational minds to know better. It's not just the lock out laws that need to be addressed here, it is also the lack of respect that the nsw government shows to its minority groups and to legitimate, well operated venue owners, festival organisers etc. There are so many issues related to nightlife enjoyment, festival enjoyment etc that are ignored with such ignorance that I can't even fathom the midnight of some out leaders.

To end, I think it is so important that the nsw government restores its faith by showing Sydney's nightlife community that it cares. Revoke the laws, subsidies small business's, help music festivals, act in the best interest for young adults dying at music festivals and look into pill testing. We have surely moved past these naive commitments about nightlife behaviours. It's time to prove that the nsw government can act, and act with rational and humane moves to show that it cares about its people and it cares about Sydney's culture. Don't let sydney die, otherwise I'm moving to Melbourne 😞