Submission No 283

SYDNEY'S NIGHT TIME ECONOMY

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The most important thing that needs to happen as a result of this review is the removal of the term "lockout". Words matter here.

Either scrap the policy all together, or create a friendlier more open policy with a suitable name that doesn't make it look like the police state that we've become.

I host international guests at my place, and before they even come to the country, they have been well rehearsed on Sydney's lockout laws and the poor nightlife that we now have here. It's all about Melbourne to them. Shutting things down is not a solution. Its lazy policy that creates simple statistical results. It rings parallels to prohibition, and the people of Sydney are waking up in a movement where we're demanding freedom over oppression.

Sydney truly has become an embarrassment to the rest of the world. You don't need to know that we're listed as the 10th worst major city for nightlife in the world from Time Out to know this, you just need to walk down the CBD or the cross after 10pm.

We need an open free nightlife, with focus on safety, and a FRIENDLY police presence. I've enjoyed the nightlife in over 55 countries in Asia, Europe, Africa and the Americas, and there are only a few countries which I felt had more authoritative police and night policies than we do here. That surely says something.

The young people of today despise the police due to the degrading issues with strip searches and the "lockout laws". We need to create policies that bring every one together.

I look forward to telling international guests that we NO LONGER HAVE A LOCKOUT! That is the only way to revive the decimation that has occurred to this once vibrant city.

You know what to do.

Hopefully you listen this time around, enough people have committed suicide as a direct result of the lock out laws. That blood is on the hands of the government.

Thanks! Paul