

**Submission
No 291**

SYDNEY'S NIGHT TIME ECONOMY

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
Confidential

Hello.

I don't believe I have ever lodged a submission to parliament before so please forgive me if the format of delivery is incorrect. I simply wish to express my concerns regarding the so called "Lock out laws" that came into place in 2015. As I am expressing them as an individual and not an organisation they are personal in nature.

I have fashioned my two major concerns as bullet points below.

1. The damage to the night-time economy

As a working professional with a university degree, I am afforded the joys of an education and the comfort of disposable income. I moved to Sydney in 2010 immediately after high-school from the south-west suburbs to attend a prestigious university without having to travel four hours per day. To do this, I needed to work. Hard. And late. For the duration of my degree, I attended classes and interned during the day and worked 4pm to as late as 8am in the morning so I could afford books, tuition and a non-isolating lifestyle. This was made possible by the night time economy and the (then) generous penalty rates. Without these hours of work, I would surely have suffered extreme socio-economic distress. This story is one of more than half of the city's hard working, intelligent, driven students who struggle to get by yet offer so much to our city's rich culture when given the opportunity to thrive. Which brings me to my next point

2. The damage to Sydney City's culture

In the past years, we have seen Woolworthes pop up where night clubs were, and apartment high-rises stacked on top of what were once thriving live music venues. The tourism industry is suffering, the reputation of Sydney is suffering. Instead of killing violent night time behavior, we've killed an entire culture. I strongly believe that to regain our place as a global city, we need less restrictions and more passages for art, music and community. Or we will continue to be laughed at with every Meriton building that shoots up in the sky. As tourist eye's turn to Melbourne and Hobart.

A final note: Both "coward punch" attacks occurred previous to 10pm at night. Nice job covering that one up in the media.

Sincerely,

A concerned Sydney- sider

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