

**Submission
No 565**

SYDNEY'S NIGHT TIME ECONOMY

Name: Name suppressed
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Partially
Confidential

I travel overseas each year and see how different the attitude is towards the consumption of alcohol, and its negative affect brought about by over-consumption. The bars and clubs in Sydney favour over-consumption. For example, I live in an area where the Beresford Hotel is a hundred metres in one direction and Kinsellas Hotel is a hundred metres in the other direction on Bourke Street. The DA for the Beresford is very clear as to how they must operate and respect local residents (instigated by the Land and Environment Court). [REDACTED]

Before the lock-out, I would regularly find young girls, shoeless and drunk sitting in gutters on Bourke Street early in the morning daylight after a night out drinking. Unfortunately, Australia's attitude towards getting drunk is seen as a positive thing whereas, in Italy, for example, it is seen as something that is not, and I have never seen a drunk person in Italy ... and I go there for about a month every year.

Also, in London, they are very strict about the location and the appropriate trading hours for licensed premises. Pubs close at midnight and bars at 3.00 AM with some exceptions, as listed here: <https://www.timeout.com/london/bars-pubs/late-night-bars-and-pubs-in-london>

In Sydney, there is a very strong and vocal lobby group that is trying to get trading hours extended for licensed premises on the grounds that NSW is a nanny-state. Well, it's not. It's just that you, the NSW Government, had to step-in and safeguard the health and long-term well-being of our young people. The winners, and I suspect, the backers of this lobby group, are bar owners who see more profits with extended trading hours.

Also, a reality is that it is impossible for the Responsible Service of Alcohol to be adhered to in crowded bars, particularly late at night, when someone different in a group keeps buying drinks for the group. And any drinker knows that the effect of over-consumption generally registers when a person leaves the bar and not while they are still in it.

I think there is a case, as in London's example, for select bars in non-residential areas to trade later than others. In Sydney, we seem to find that what was once a pub in a residential area wants to become a club and trade till very late in the interests of making more profit ... and in inappropriate premises. No matter what they say when they apply to trade later and later, the interests of local residents, and the negative impact on their right to quiet enjoyment of their homes, becomes immaterial and ignored.

The nigh-time economy in Sydney seems to be focussed around drinking alcohol for young people, whereas shops, galleries, museums, etc., are seen as it in other world capitals for the whole family.

Thank you for taking the time to read my submission,

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]