

**Submission
No 668**

SYDNEY'S NIGHT TIME ECONOMY

Name: Mr Michael Brady

Date Received: 2 July 2019

Dear Committee,

My name is Michael Brady and I am a musician and educator working throughout greater Sydney. I have been an active musician in Sydney since high school and have been lucky enough to have a broad and nurturing experience of the Sydney scene.

In my first year of university in 2013, a deeply important part of my initial networking and development in the Sydney scene was attending mid week jams sessions and gigs in the Sydney CBD and surrounding suburbs.

By having venues that were located centrally, I was able to meet, network, and work with musicians who lived in areas of Sydney greatly different to mine, and do so independently as a young person using public transport.

Since the introduction of the lock out laws in 2014, many of the venues that were instrumental in providing spaces to perform as a young musician have disappeared. For those that have remained open, many have downsized, or ceased live music, attributing this often to reduced bar sales/foot traffic. Venues such as Mr Falcons (Glebe), Newtown Social Club, Ginger's, Dome Bar, the White horse hotel unfortunately are no longer offer the same developmental opportunities to younger

While many venues still exist in the greater Sydney area - like foot traffic - they have been driven out of the CBD and immediately surrounding suburbs. This means again, that the ability to engage with musicians from across Sydney in a meaningful way is deeply impacted - as less musicians are able to access a central point.

As an educator, I infinitely appreciate the desire for safety, particularly for our young people - however it is important to understand what is lost, and what cultures have lost their safety.

Needless to say, the insult of having a conveniently casino shaped hole in the middle of the lock-out zone - especially given the known issues surrounding problem gambling - produces an inexcusable sense of hypocrisy. Deeply inexcusable.

As a music educator, I am concerned for all students who want a future with music - as artist or audience.

As a musician I am scared.

Sincerely,

Michael Brady