

**Submission
No 478**

SYDNEY'S NIGHT TIME ECONOMY

Name: Ms Madeline Young

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Dear NSW Government,

I implore the NSW government to loosen the choker collar that it has on this state's nightlife and culture. Sydney has been turned into a desolate ghost town. There may as well be tumbleweeds rolling down the streets of the Sydney CBD on a Friday and Saturday night. Not only have these laws crippled a major source of income, but they are destroying the potential for creative arts and music to blossom and grow.

Music and the arts are embedded in every society and are an expression of our culture. It is an international language that unites people from all walks of life. The arts are not essential for our survival, but it is what gives value and joy to our existence. It is intangible from our cultural heritage and without culture we have nothing.

These laws are not solving the problems of violence and drug and alcohol abuse. We need social services and support those with issues, not a jail cell and city-wide curfew. I feel as if part of my youth has been robbed by this government. Friends move interstate, musicians I want to see don't come to Sydney, festivals get shut down and fear is instilled by unnecessary strip searches and abuse of power.

Generations before me had the right to choose if they wanted a late night kebab or to find a hide-away jazz bar. My generation can walk around the city looking at an array of 'For Lease' signs and get accosted by the NSW fun police.

I was always taught as a child that I am responsible for my own actions. Why are you punishing a whole state for the actions of the 0.01%?

With kind regards and hope for the future,

Madeline Young