

**Submission
No 716**

SYDNEY'S NIGHT TIME ECONOMY

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Date Received: 2 July 2019

A vibrant night time economy is vital to protect Sydney's reputation as a world class tourist destination and for the amenity of the residents. Berlin has 24 hour nightclubs. There is no good reason why Sydney cannot have same. There is no particular reason why 3 am in the morning should be treated differently to 3 pm in the afternoon. This is an issue of appropriate policing, not legislation. One could be forgiven for thinking that current lockout laws were designed purely to make policing easier, not to protect late night patrons. Local economies should not be predicated on availability of policing. Protections that exist at 3pm should also apply at 3 am. The Lockout laws have been implemented as a knee jerk response to alcohol fuelled violence. However alcohol fuelled violence is a matter of appropriate policing. Why should law abiding members of the community be penalised, because State Govt would rather enact draconian legislation, rather than provide funding for the Police force?

Lockout laws are hugely detrimental to the local economy. Certain economies exist off the potential for 24 hour, or at least late night, custom. Remove that, and there will be business downturn and the removal of opportunities for late night patrons and continuing spiral of business downturn. Effects will be felt in the service industry and, sadly, in the live music industry, which will be forced to take itself interstate, or die. At a time when Melbourne is thriving with a plethora of wine bars and a vibrant music scene, Sydney seems determined to place obstacles in the path of every venue. And the writing is clearly writ; our artists will leave, seeking happier climes and we Sydneysiders will be left with a jukebox of 70s classics, that shuts up shop at midnight.

No live music, no service industries...no late night kebab shops, or takeaway...

An empty street is not what one wants for Sydney's most vibrant entertainment precincts.

It is not what I want as a person who enjoys listening to live music.

A vibrant night time entertainment area is the life blood of a major city.

Zoning and curfews are a matter for Council, not legislation.