

**Submission
No 582**

SYDNEY'S NIGHT TIME ECONOMY

Name: Mr Jim Morris

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Hi,

I've lived in the inner city of Sydney most of my time here. I moved here interstate from QLD in 2005 and I've witnessed a slow painful death of my beloved Surry Hills, Darlinghurst and Potts Point precincts.

The lockout laws did a lot to kill businesses and nightlife in the area. Whilst the reasons for the laws make sense in some regard, so many locals saw this as political point scoring and whether it's actually true or not.. a campaign of subterfuge to close up businesses so that developers could move in.

The thing about living in the inner city, is that we must all understand that what comes with living in this area - is an understanding that in denser living situations, you must deal with your neighbours - whether that's residents of businesses.

Any person can see that the area has lost the buzz it used to have and certainly I know that as a resident and a supporter of local business, it needs an injection in the economy. Rather than a lock-out, bring in mandatory sentencing for one-punch violence or any other violence of the sort. There's certainly been a displacement of nightlife from my area into other areas like Newtown - plus another cynical point of view is the casino's role in all of this. Let's not get into finger pointing or blaming or conspiracy theories however — let's work together to re-inject some vibrancy into this city.

Please remove the lockout laws - or at least give it a trial amnesty of 6 months and let's see what happens. The abolition of the lockout laws won't be the single saviour however, you'll find that people's behaviours have changed as a result so it'll take a lot more to get people back in supporting the local economy.

I'd definitely also support reinvigoration via incentives and cheaper business rentals to get new business into the area.

Please, let's finally move on from these lock out laws - ensure there are other measures in place that show a hardline stance against violence and let's get this city's blood pumping again.

Sincerely,

Jim Morris