

**Submission  
No 504**

## **SYDNEY'S NIGHT TIME ECONOMY**

**Name:** Mr Tom Metzner

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I am a 31 year old male living in Sydney's Eastern Suburbs, Coogee to be specific. I have lived in this area my whole life and in that time I have noticed a substantial change in my beloved town's atmosphere. It doesn't happen all at once, you don't even notice it happening it's so slow to change, but when you go to another city such as Melbourne, - it hit's you right in the face, just how much we've lost.

In my early 20's I had a number of friends down in Melbourne and I could see the appeal. It was a fun place to live and that's where all the cool gigs were and great night life. People went there for art and food and social culture and just a general "vibe" of being in a place where things were 'happening'. The issue was, that although Sydney didn't QUITE have what Melbourne had, it did have the beauty of the harbour and the comparably much nicer weather than Melbourne which in my, and many people's opinions made it a better location to live in or visit. This balance however was precarious at best.

Once the lockouts were introduced, the scales were tipped the other way, clubs started closing (big deal I said, I'm too old for clubs anyway), but then the people stopped being out and about the streets at night. Next the secondary providers started closing down, the late night take away spots, the convenience stores. Then it was even Restaurants - no more walk in traffic - that started closing down. The stores that DID survive, now started running earlier closing times (Una's now closes at 10!!!).

The final thing to note is that we now live in a ghost town. One so devoid of people that people just don't want to be here. I can't tell you how many time's I've heard tourist ask "where's a good place to go out around here" and get the response from ANY nearby Sydney-sider, "Melbourne mate. Better get on a plane."

Please rethink this simplistic idea of giving a whole city a bed time. It is nonsensical on so many levels and it hurts, if not kills, our beautiful city.

Sincerely,

Tom Metzner

One Post Script, crime IS down approx 50% in the Darlinghurst / Potts point region but those numbers were based on the OLD Kings Cross stats which are WAAAAAY out of line with realistic. Before lockouts there were 35000 people on average on Friday and Saturday nights. NOT there are only 7000 on average (about how many residents would walk around because no one goes there). This means that crime is actually WAY WAY HIGHER per person actually walking the street. So high that it is about a factor of 2.5 times more likely that if you're walking through the cross now that you'll encounter a violent crime. Terrible work NSW govt.