

**INQUIRY INTO THE MUSIC AND ARTS ECONOMY IN  
NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date received:** 16 February 2018

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Partially  
Confidential

My submission is an indirect opinion on the music scene on Sydney, by focusing on the laws that have prevented late night music and partying at venues around the CBD. It is also a reflection of the behaviour of staff at venues, and the drinking culture present in our society.

RSA guidelines are not closely adhered to in Sydney. I am currently a DJ, and have worked as a barman, whilst also being a patron to many venues that have Alcohol service, RSA marshals, not to mention staff who are supposedly trained in the RSA. The act of getting 'blind drunk' at public venues is common place only because patrons are still served alcohol whilst heavily intoxicated. Right up until last drinks, those that would have been refused entry at the door, are being served alcohol. These can lead to many undesirable situations, such as violence, harassment, public intoxication, destruction of property, public disturbances, and tragically at times, assault occasioning death.

The culture in which I started clubbing, and has since changed very little, places heavy emphasis on becoming as intoxicated as possible, and getting 'messy'. I'd like to point out that in many other countries, the difference in drinking habits and cultures, where the purpose of a night out is enjoyment without getting sloshed. Going clubbing to listen to new music and talented DJs, live venues with cover bands and original artists, celebrating the auditory art form over a few drinks, to loosen up, allow oneself to get lost in the music and become a part of the performance.

Whilst playing music overseas, I experienced one drunk in the space of a month. The security at the venue asked the gentleman to leave, and tailed him out. Everyone else was there primarily for the music.

With a more focused approach by venue staff and marshals, I believe that we can reduce the levels of intoxication, as well as the adverse affects on our community, venues, musicians and patrons. The ultimate goal being a change in the attitude, due to the realisation that excessive consumption of alcohol is NOT needed to have a good night out.