

Submission  
No 43

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

**Organisation:** Big Ting Recordings

**Date received:** 16 February 2018

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Dear Parliament,

I represent a group of music producers, DJs and promoters that make a business of running events for Sydney music enthusiasts. We are a not for profit group with proceeds from our events going straight back into running more events. We pay tax on our gains and do not receive any income off of money made through the business. We do this for the love of music, and the right of freedom to dance the night away.

Since the lockout laws came into play, there has been dramatic drops in patrons going out of a night. In a business which was already economically unpredictable and volatile, this has put a nail in the coffin, with many Sydney promoters taking huge risks with events they hold, and more usually than not, losing money on these nights.

The night of New Years 2017/2018 was a pivotal example of how an evening of removed lockouts caused no such extra violence, but instead instilled a new sense of energy and vibrancy to the city's nightlife. It is not the governments job to punish everyone for the sins of few, and we have proven over the last few years that the huge majority of us can behave ourselves and deserve to have these draconian laws lifted so groups of people like us can work on rebuilding the nightlife economy to the level at which it was many years ago.

Sydney's reputation is completely tarnished on an international level. Our nightlife has become a joke to a European sister cities. Now is the time where we can repeal these laws which have only reduced violence as a consequence of lessened foot traffic in the CBD, and begin work building a new strong future for Sydney.

The greater music community pleads that you take our thoughts and livelihoods into consideration, please use logic and do what is right for the city.

Sincerely,  
Peter Dimou