

**Submission  
No 323**

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

**Name:** Miss Elinor Williams

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I work in the music industry and am heavily involved in nightlife, live music and nightclub events. We have all witnessed a massive decline in the industry with many venues closing and many friends and people within the industry moving to Melbourne where there are more opportunities.

It is increasingly hard to stay positive about this city and our future of events when young people have the attitude that "Sydney is rubbish so what's the point in going out anyway". I have noticed a large shift in opinion from travellers who heard so much negativity around the lockout laws, so now hold a much lower opinion of what Sydney has to offer.

Because of the legislation impacting so many businesses, there are now fewer opportunities for artists and musicians to get experience in their field, which is never a good thing for creative industries.

Inside venues, the lockout laws have created more stress for security guards and venue staff with customers arguing over the laws or travellers who do not understand what the lockout laws mean.

This does not just impact young people wanting to party, the fact that you can not go to a bottle shop after coming out from a show or movie or dinner is ridiculous as an adult, and what is even worse is the impact this has had on night time food venues. Working late nights at music events means that I often am looking for food on my way home from work but there is just no where available.

This also creates an issue for people ending a night out, where as people used to go and get food before going home, there are very few places to do this now.

Overall, with foot traffic declining, violence rates having shown to be increasing, and the night time economy to have drastically declined, I don't understand why these laws are continuing to be in place. Particularly for them to be dropped on certain nights like New Years or Mardi Gras, just proves that the logic behind them is flawed. Proper planning should have been done to address the violence culture Australia has, as well as proper planning for night time transport to ease the pressure that has been created when everyone leaves the club at once at 3am.