

**Submission  
No 16**

**INQUIRY INTO LIQUOR AMENDMENT (MUSIC  
FESTIVALS) REGULATION 2019 AND GAMING AND  
LIQUOR ADMINISTRATION AMENDMENT (MUSIC  
FESTIVALS) REGULATION 2019**

**Name:** Ms Jane Burley

**Date Received:** 4 July 2019

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# Legislative Council's Regulation Committee

## NSW Music Festival Inquiry

Name: Mrs Jane Burley – Grafton NSW

I would like to make a submission for the NSW Music Festival Inquiry,

This is my first time submitting so please be patient with me.

In this letter I would like to address the problem with drugs within the festival community.

Firstly I would like to say that I am a regular live music festival goer and love live music.

Bluesfest, Woodford Folk Festival and Day on the Green are all on my regular festivals I go to as well as weekly live performances both local and in the major cities.

During my time at the live music festivals I have never had any problem with ice or drug effected people and have never seen a fight or issue occur during any of my enjoyable stays while camping etc.

My son is a musician and now a qualified sound technician and as a Mother I am very interested and worried about what is happening in the industry.

As a young teenager my son was in a really good band, which attended local pubs and halls in the area with my husband and I in attendance. so many of the local pubs had turned to booking DJ's on Friday evening (very lucrative for the pubs I must say) and so when we had approached them to pay this young rock band on a Friday night some were not so sure as to whether it would be a viable decision. What they did find out was that the clients still came along, but they didn't need as much security, as fewer problems were had with less drugs being involved and less fights etc. We now have a number of local pubs in both Yamba and Grafton who help support live bands and soloists etc as it generates income without the trouble.

And here is my point. Live music with real musicians playing real instruments with real performers do not bring about the same drug scene that DJ's and Digital Doof Rave "Music" does.

I appreciate that a lot of young people love this style of Music but those that choose to go to these style of festival / concert should be the ones that are having the drug testing etc placed upon them, and they should be dealing with the consequences, not the other style of festival / concert, which is the live music with live real musicians playing instruments that they have learned and crafted for many years.

I think that the blanket laws across all festivals is wrong and damages the industry greatly.

If you look at the deaths and problems surrounding the drug taking culture you will see that this is true. How many deaths or issues have Bluesfest come across over the many years and the same with Woodford and Day on the Green.

I feel we need to support the music industry buy being realistic about what genre causes what issues and then react taking all of the above into consideration.

At the moment its not fair to punish all festivals for the behaviour and choices of a minority.

Thank you for your time.

Regards Jane Burley