

**Submission
No 56**

**INQUIRY INTO GREATER SYDNEY PARKLANDS TRUST
BILL 2021**

Name: Ms Anne Robinson

Date Received: 27 December 2021

I'm extremely unhappy with this bill, which will make it difficult for parks to operate without having large commercial ventures within their grounds. I live near Centennial Park and I don't know what we would have done without it during the pandemic. Millions of people sought their outdoor recreation there and it was practically loved to death.

This government attempt to privatise our public parks is an evil thing to do considering the pandemic is ongoing and we all desperately need open space. Why are our parks and their maintenance not publically funded? These spaces belong to the people of this state and it's time their importance was recognised. I can just imagine the corruption that will ensue if this bill is passed and private companies vie to use these parks for their activities. Why do we have to have huge concerts in our parks? This space is for everyone and I can tell you as a nearby resident, no one can quietly recreate when there is a loud concert and hordes of drunk/drugged people roaming the park. That is the reality of these private proposals. They bring a narrow range of people into the park for activities that are incompatible with use of the park for peaceful picnics, sport etc... I hope you manage to prevent this from being passed into law. It would be a retrograde step.