



2011 Residents' Association Inc.

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Dear Editor

Freedom without Responsibility = Chaos

In response to recent articles by David Leyonhjelm, Liberal Democrats Senator NSW.

Leyonhjelm has obviously read a few books on existentialism and wants freedom for everyone; the choice to do whatever they want whenever they want. Nice idea, but freedom for some came at a loss of freedom and rights of others.

The 2011 postcode, of which Kings Cross is a small part, lived through what can only be called a disastrous social experiment from 2007- 2014. Bar and pub owners were given licence to sell alcohol and as a result their patrons could party hard and rid themselves of stress with copious quantities of alcohol. The massive crowds of more than 20,000 people per hour that descended upon Kings Cross each weekend showed scant regard for residents, each other, and themselves. During these years, freedom was exercised but without responsibility. It was also at significant cost to residents, rate payers, tax payers, police, hospital staff, and emergency workers. This licence came to a halt with changes to the legislation introduced by Barry O'Farrell primarily in response to the senseless deaths of two young men and also in response to growing complaints from residents about fears for their personal safety, noise, refuse, and vandalism. Annually the misuse of alcohol costs the State of NSW more than \$3.8 billion.

Freedom only works when people act authentically and with responsibility and respect for others. Residents also have rights.

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