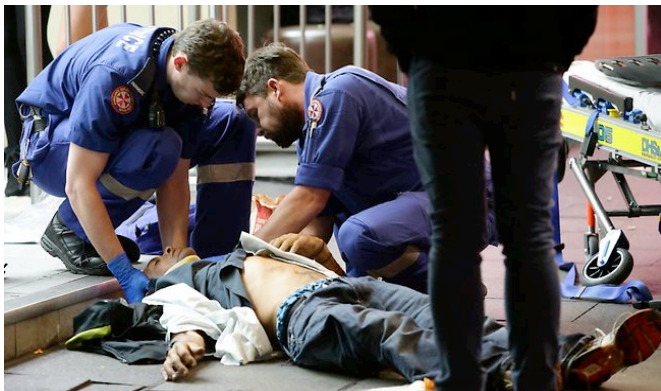


NSW State Elections
Saturday March 28, 2015

**WHAT YOU
NEED TO
KNOW
ABOUT....**

Lockouts and last drinks in Kings Cross & the CBD

In February 2014, after years of violence on our streets, the NSW Government introduced 1.30am lockouts and 3am last drinks, to be reviewed after 2 years. The result is a huge drop in alcohol-related assaults and anti-social behaviour in just 12 months. Police, doctors and health experts hail it a success; and residents in Kings Cross and Potts Point report a newfound safety in their streets, and a growing daytime economy in their neighbourhood.



In contrast, the alcohol lobby wants to end the lockouts, a move that would see the return of round-the-clock 24-hour drinking in local pubs, bars and venues, bring the cycle of violence back onto our streets again, and put more strain on essential public resources like hospitals and police. Alcohol-related impacts cost NSW taxpayers a huge **\$3.87 billion** in 2012 alone (*Sydney Morning Herald*, Aug 6, 2013).

What do candidates for the Seat of Sydney say about the lockouts?

Edwina Lloyd, Labor: *"I am an unequivocal supporter of the lockout laws. I was a supporter of the Last Drinks Campaign organised by emergency service workers to address alcohol-fuelled violence. I believe Kings Cross can lose the booze without losing its soul."* Labor supports the full 2-year lockout term.

Patrice Pandeleos, Liberals: *"The laws are biased against local establishments and need to be extended across the state..."; "The NSW Government has no intention...to reverse or water down the lockout laws."*

Chris Brentin, Greens: *"The Greens oppose blanket lockouts and last drinks in Kings Cross. The Greens were the only party who voted against the government's alcohol-related violence measures. The current trial does not need to run the proposed full course. A review can be conducted at any time."*

Alex Greenwich, Independent: voted against the Feb 2014 Liquor Amendment Bill; called lockouts "harsh", supports them for "poorly-managed venues", but also wanted an early review; said "evidence lockouts reduce violence ... is not strong"; suggested the current debate about alcohol includes "hysteria".

LOCKOUTS SAVE LIVES
Vote to keep our neighbourhood safe

What the EXPERTS have said:

Australian Medical Association

"The Baird Government's strategies for lockouts and early closing times in the Sydney CBD and Kings Cross areas are working. It is time to listen to the experts, to the victims and to the Australian people. No longer can we tolerate people, including young men and women, even children, being injured or dying because of harmful alcohol consumption. To not act would be neglect." AMA President, Associate Professor Brian Owler

St Vincent's Hospital

"St Vincent's Hospital Deputy Director of Emergency Medicine Paul Preisz said that for the first time in his 30-year ... medical career he was seeing laws that were dramatically reducing alcohol-related harm. 'This is the first time I've seen a significant drop in alcohol-related issues.'" Daily Telegraph, Sep 4, 2014

"We've seen a 50% reduction in the number of people coming through the emergency department that have severe intoxication or as victims of violence in association with alcohol," Dr Anthony Grabs said. "We've been very pleased with the results so far. Our nursing staff are feeling it, our doctors are feeling it, and our emergency department is a different place on a Saturday and Sunday morning." SBS News, Jan 13, 2015

NSW Police Association

"Lockout laws save lives. Current modest lockout restrictions should stay in place. Kings Cross venues need to change the way they do business, they can still make money. Lockouts should be in place across Sydney and the entire State. The sky was falling in when we introduced RBT [random breath testing] but look at the success we've had with that. Lockouts keep us safe." Scott Weber, President, NSWPA, 2GB, Jan 14, 2015

Last Drinks (A coalition of doctors, nurses, paramedics and police officers)

They challenge the 24/7 drinking culture that has permeated modern Australian society and don't accept it has to go hand in hand with being a "global city"; support 1.30am lockouts, 3am closing time for all venues, and restrictions on the sale of high-alcohol content drinks (e.g. shots) after 10pm. www.lastdrinks.org.au

Thomas Kelly Youth Foundation

"We've seen prior to 2013 what happens in this state - Sydney was a dangerous place. Since the lockout laws we've seen good results in 2014. People should come before power and money. Simple as that." Ralph Kelly, SBS News, Jan 13, 2015

What the residents have said:

"I've lived in the Cross long enough to have enjoyed what it once was, been shocked at what it sank to over recent years, and to now be relieved and supportive of the current lockouts and the positive impacts they've had in returning safety and sanity to our streets." - Wentworth Courier, Feb 11, 2015

"Daytime businesses are beginning to diversify and thrive [since lockout laws were put in place]. Residents are able to walk the streets with a greater degree of safety now that hordes of intoxicated and aggressive people no longer fill the streets of Kings Cross day and night." - Wentworth Courier, Feb 4, 2015

"The lockout legislation isn't removing the rights of drinkers; it's restoring to tens of thousands of people their right to live and work safely - residents, taxi and bus drivers, shopkeepers, police and hospital workers." - Sydney Morning Herald, Sep 1, 2014

LOCKOUTS SAVE LIVES

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