

From: Elisa Macie
Sent: Friday, 12 March 2010 12:24 PM
To: Committees
Subject: Submission for Inquiry into Live Community Events, Elisa Macie

Dear Mrs Porter,

I wish to make a submission in regards to the Standing Committee on Planning, Public Works and Territory and Municipal Services into Live Community Events.

I am a life-long Canberra resident and I am concerned about tough noise restrictions affecting local businesses, namely pubs, clubs and bars in the city centre. I can say that the night life in Canberra has suffered greatly from heavy noise restriction laws by making it difficult for business to book live acts who are in fear of receiving noise complaints from local residents. I recognise that there are now more residential apartments located in the city centre however most of these buildings are newer than the established local pubs and clubs.

Regardless, I would like to see the following implemented to ensure fair play for both residents AND pubs/clubs/venues:

- Mandatory double window glazing for new AND established apartments
- Noise zones clearly stating where the city center is, and where noise is allowed to happen
- Noise-proofing pub, clubs and local venues
- Reasonable sound regulation laws that take into consideration what other major city standards have in place.

If these items listed above were implemented I believe our city would thrive.

At the present time Canberra suffers from the stigma that it is a boring lifeless city, this is much more the case in the last few years due to residents noise complaints crippling live music and events.

An example of this is an event called Block Party (2007-09) which was held in the car park outside Trinity Bar in Dickson. THIS was an all day live music event that raised money for charity but was shut down in its 3rd year due to noise complaints from 1 local resident. The event was only held on 1 day a year but this event was still closed due to a cranky resident who was unable to share their space. The event was unable to be moved to a new location again due to venue difficulties so the charity event ceased to exist.

I am proud to be a Canberran and hope that agreements can be made on both sides of this issue, namely the points listed above. I strongly believe that there needs to be a solution soon so that Canberra can once again be a vibrant exciting place to live. Please help.

Yours sincerely,

Elisa Macie