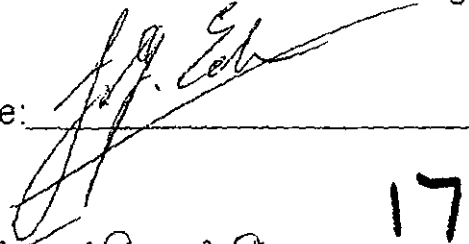


Complete and attach this coupon to your story to:

Law Justice and Safety Committee
Parliament House Brisbane Q 4001

Please find attached **my story** of why Toowoomba **should not** have extended hotel trading hours due to alcohol related violence in our community

Name: John G. FDE

Signature: 

Address:

Date: 25/10/09

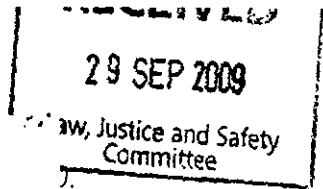
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ATTACH THIS FORM TO YOUR STORY

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John McDonald!

The Chairman,
Law Justice and Safety Committee,
Parliament House,
Brisbane. Q. 4001.



25th September, 2009.

Dear Sir,

I make this submission in support of the denial for extended hotel trading hours not only in Toowoomba but also in the entire nation.

Born 1939 in NSW I grew up in hotels, my folks owned and operated them in the Richmond River area for thirty years. Trading times were 1000 hours opening and at 2200 hours the publican called "time gentlemen please, last drinks", the doors were closed and the bar cleared as drinkers emptied their glasses. On irregular occasions Police would visit to check that the bar had been cleared, breaches received warnings or fines and with repeated offences, a licence suspension.

My folks moved from the Northern Rivers hotels to the Gold Coast into motels and then to the Sunshine Coast for their retirement. I married, settled in Nambour, followed a professional work life, then moved with my wife and four children into the hospitality industry in Toowoomba in 1976.

This information is offered to the reader to illustrate my breadth of exposure to the public and the degree of my involvement as a measure for credibility. Unfortunately the legal drinking age was lowered from 21, when 18/19 year olds drank illegally, to 18 such that 15/16 year olds now drink illegally, a social tragedy, and one that needs to be addressed, for we are killing our children.

Given modern society, the trading hours of yesteryear are dead, but by the same token we do not need an extension of trading hours past 0200 hours for any hotel. A night club can be assessed on the merits of its application for extended hours and late revellers can go to these venues to pursue the destruction of their remaining brain cells.

Australian Leisure and Hospitality Group has now gained control of many hotels and liquor outlets which identifies the push for extended hours as a dollar drive, the corporate directors are pressured by their share holders wanting results, but both groups ignore the human cost of such returns. This is an unconscionable, totally clinical approach for profit at the expense of social health and well being. Carnage on our roads, violence in the streets, increased criminal activity, rising health problems, family fragmentation, extended narcotic abuse, the erosion of our social fabric and extra work for an already overloaded Police Force are all legacies of extended liquor trading hours. Any benefit for our work force in job creation is negated by tax increases necessary to pay for additional health, legal, policing and the destructive results that these extended hours deliver.

I do by the way, love a Bundy rum and thoroughly enjoy a good red wine.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John G. FDK". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line. Below the line, the name "John G. FDK." is printed in a serif font.