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Law Justice and Safety Committee
Parliament House Brisbane Q 4001

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

Name: DAVID BLAIR

Signature: D G Blair

Address: _____

Date: 1 / 10 / 09

ATTACH THIS FORM TO YOUR STORY

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05 OCT 2009

Law, Justice and Safety
Committee

Vision
Community
Church

1st October 2009

Law Justice and Safety Committee
Parliament House
Brisbane Qld 4001

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Why Toowoomba SHOULD NOT have extended hotel trading hours

My concern about extended hotel trading hours is based on a reasonable amount of life lived and experiences encountered. The first 20 plus years of my working life was occupied in the Building Trade. This trade carries some emphasis of hard-working, hard-drinking men who often have great hearts but don't know when to leave their mates at the Pub and go home to wives and families. Unfortunately, I have experienced more than one who lost their life or livelihood through over-indulgence with alcohol and that in "normal" hotel trading hours.

Also, in my late 20's whilst involved on Jury Service, I encountered a case where three young boy scouts lost their lives in the early evening at the hands of a drunken driver.

In my past 30 plus years I have been involved in Pastoral Ministry and therefore, have encountered first hand the negative affects on Marriage and Family through the incidence of alcohol-related circumstances.

We have seen an increase in terrible damage inflicted by human beings on other human beings – one such as "glassing" brought about by alcohol-fueled anger which in turn depletes self-control.

For these reasons alone, I struggle to see the need to increase the hours in an environment that is proving to be very volatile and harming to life and well-being.

Yours Sincerely,



David Blair
Senior Pastor
Vision Community Church
Toowoomba Qld 4350