

**From:** webmaster@parliament.qld.gov.au  
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**To:** Law, Justice and Safety Committee  
**Subject:** ONLINE SUBMISSION - Alcohol-Related Violence in Queensland

**ONLINE SUBMISSION - Inquiry into alcohol-related violence**

**Name:** Linda Bradshaw  
**Company:** St Eugene College P & F  
**Position:** Secretary  
**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**City:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**State:** QLD \_\_\_\_\_

**Best practice harm minimisation measures:**

No known responses to this section

**The impact of late opening hours:**

The enforcement of a lock out time is a good initiative and it would be beneficial if this idea could be taken further to include not only a lock down time but also a time when alcoholic drinks are no longer served. Patrons would be still be able to purchase non-alcoholic drinks but no alcohol after this time period. Seriously who needs to drink alcohol after 1am or 2am!

**Flow-on issues for emergency service workers, police, and frontline health workers:**

The impact on police and other emergency service workers and health workers is in an increase in their workload as more and more violent episodes occur. These workers would also be tied up responding to alcoholic related violent episodes instead of attending to non alcoholic related situations. More costs are incurred as more police, ambulance, nurses etc are needed to attend to these cases. This in turn leads to longer working hours and less family hours for these people

**Education campaigns and their role in cultivating effective social change in terms of community attitudes to alcohol consumption:**

Currently there are tv ads portraying the influence alcohol can be imparted from one generation to another and also the ad creating awareness of the effect alcohol has on the growing teenage brain. To be serious about changing the drinking culture in our society we need to raise the age of being allowed to drink to 21 - the age where it use to be. Many states in America have 21 as the age at which you are allowed to legally consume alcohol. By raising the drinking age it would combat a lot of the following situations: 1. Students in year 11 or 12, consuming alcohol while they are still at school - a time when they should be devoting time to their studies not exploring the world of alcohol that has now opened up for them. 2. Under age drinking wouldn't begin until the age of 18 or 19 rather than the age of 15 or 16 as currently occurs 3. Students in University would be able to devote their time to their studies (the reason they are at uni) rather than partying. Young adults have a lot of cope with at this time in their life - dealing with the new found freedom of being away from home without the temptation of alcohol. 4. The message the government is trying to impart with regards to alcohol affecting the adolescent brain would be more relevant and easier to enforce. 5. Less incidents of drink driving and related accidents

**The role of parents in influencing attitudes towards alcohol consumption:**

Parents need to be informed of the medical facts affecting their child's development if alcohol is introduced into their bodies too soon. Many parents have the attitude "Well, I got drunk and I'm alright." More graphic advertisements on the television would probably reach the widest audience and have the greatest impact. Teenagers need to be informed off all the risks associated with alcohol - physical and emotional. A program introduced into the Health Program at school around the year 7.

**The economic cost of alcoholrelated violence:**

Costs occur with emergency services, health workers etc required to deal with such incidents as well as damage to property and costs involved with drink driving. Costs can only be reduced when people begin to consume alcohol more responsibly and take responsibility for their actions when they don't. Possibly a way to deter some drink driving episodes would be to increase the fine and demerit pts when caught driving drunk in a school zone area or with children in the car.

**Any other Comments:**

Would like to be kept up to date on the outcome of this inquiry. Thank you