

**Submission
No 81**

**ADEQUACY OF THE REGULATION OF SHORT-TERM
HOLIDAY LETTING IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

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In 2014, while working in casual employment and looking for ways to sustain a living without creating a drain on the government through joining a dole queue, a friend suggested that as I live in a great location, why not consider becoming an airbnb host. Why not, indeed, I thought...particularly as I am 58 years old and nobody wants to admit the rife ageism that exists in all other areas of employment.

So, I decided to read about it online, and before I'd finished reading, I had managed to register myself as an airbnb host, having uploaded my first photograph albeit upside-down! The wonderful team at airbnb helped me put more photos on my post to attract interest and, bingo, within days I had my first booking.

I have met wonderful people (like myself) from all over the world as a host on airbnb, and if you care to read my reviews, they are consistently very good - not only about the location, but about myself, which is excellent for boosting my self-esteem!

When tourists come to Sydney, a great many of them are wishing to have a homely, affordable experience which cannot be found in hotels. They want to "see how the other half lives"...the old "when in Rome..." attitude. As I am a seasoned traveller, I get this. I also do not wish to stay in often sterile, overpriced establishments, nor am I seeking a backpacker's hotel, but rather something in between.

I want to continue to support this clever win-win system, and seek for whoever is reading this to step out of your comfort zone, extend some friendly trust, go stay in several airbnbs, and then make an informed decision as to how to introduce supportive, progressive, fair legislation so that humans across the world can continue to share, exchange, connect and belong!