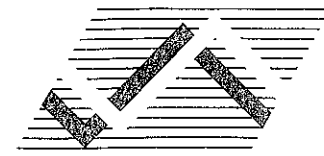


NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research
Department of Justice



DR. DON WEATHERBURN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In reply please quote: 2-2

Your ref: D18/33289

The Hon Paul Green MLC
Committee Chair
Portfolio Committee No. 6
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
Sydney, NSW, 2000

Dear Mr Green

I refer to the questions raised in your letter of the 21st of September, 2018. I have arranged for the latest data on trends in assault for the Kings Cross and CBD entertainment precincts and the proximal and distal displacement areas to be sent to you. If you have not already received it, please let me know.

In your letter you ask whether BOCSAR is aware of any research that examines the relationship between music venues and violence. You also ask what research is needed for Parliament to better understand the interaction between music venues and violence. In relation to the first matter, I regret to say that, although there is a wealth of research on licensed venues, and a body of research on violence *in* music as well as violence at rock concerts, I have been unable to locate any research specifically on music venues and violence.

In relation to the second matter you raise, I must confess to some uncertainty about the underlying question you seek to address. If the suggestion is that music suppresses violence, the ideal study would be one that examines what happens to the frequency of assault at a venue after it introduces music. If the suggestion is that licensed premises that provide music are (for whatever reason) less likely to experience violence than licensed premises that do not provide music, the ideal study would be a simple comparison of licensed premises with and without music.

I hope this answers your question. If you have additional follow-up questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Don Weatherburn PSM FASSA
Executive Director
NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research
2nd October, 2018.