

From: [Justin Cobbett](#)
To: [AGD:CBS Reforms](#)
Subject: Liquor Licencing discussion paper
Date: Tuesday, 29 December 2015 2:19:29 AM

Consumer & Business Services,

Re: Liquor Licencing discussion paper - Should alcohol be able to be sold in supermarkets?

In 2013 the Australian National Council on Drugs made a submission regarding the Wine in Supermarkets Proposal in which they pointed out "a number of studies have confirmed that restricting the physical availability of alcohol through restricting sales and regulating outlet density are proven measures for reducing acute alcohol-related harms such as assaults, domestic violence, blood alcohol levels in drivers, and hospital admissions. This achieves a reduction in harms for the whole community, not just for individual drinkers."

Of the reasons which might exist in support of sale of alcohol in supermarkets, these need to be weighed against the potential associated harms.

I have not personally experienced any difficulty accessing alcohol and so I'm not sure, at least from my perspective, that selling alcohol in supermarkets is worth the tradeoff if it will result in additional harms to society.

As for any potential reduction in prices for consumers by expanding competition, this needs to be weighed against the further monopoly Coles & Woolworths will gain, while hurting independent bottle shops and the local wine industry - which appears to be the reason the Attorney General decided against allowing the sale of wine in supermarkets in 2013.

Best Regards,

Justin Cobbett