

## **Canberrans want 3am last drinks: alcohol poll**

*Most Canberrans want the sale of alcohol in pubs, bars and clubs to end at 3am, a new pollshows. Photo: Andrew Quilty*



Most Canberrans want 3am last drinks for bars, clubs and pubs, and many feel more threatened in the city by drunks than people high on drugs.

Nearly two-thirds of Canberrans support reduced trading hours to tackle alcohol-fuelled violence in the city and two in every five believe Civic is unsafe on Saturday nights.

Overwhelmingly, drunk people were the main reason Canberrans felt unsafe in the city, nearly double the number who feared for their safety because of drug-affected people.

Canberrans who support earlier closing times outnumber those who are against the measures three to one, ReachTEL polling commissioned by the Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education (FARE) shows.

The poll of 1184 Canberrans comes as the ACT government considers possible changes to liquor licensing, including 3am last drinks and increasing fees for pubs and clubs that want to stay open past 3am.

FARE chief executive Michael Thorn believes community attitudes to alcohol have shifted, but the "problem" was getting political leaders to accept evidence on alcohol-related harm and community sentiment.

***Adapted from The Sydney Morning Herald, Natasha Boddy, June 16, 2016***

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