



NEW ZEALAND

Incorporated

Affiliated with the International Federation of Business & Professional Women

**BPW**  
NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand Federation of Business  
and Professional Women

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20 July 2015

To the Committee Secretariat, Justice and Electoral Committee  
Parliament Buildings  
Wellington

Online:

**Re: Submission on Sale & Supply of Alcohol (extended licensing hours during Rugby World Cup) Bill**

**Submission:**

This submission is from the NZ Federation of Business and Professional Women (BPW NZ) Inc.

**Our interest in this Bill is because we are a women's group that is committed to ensure the health, well-being and safety of all working women and their families through advocacy, education and mentoring.**

**As alcohol has a large bearing on the behavior and attitudes of people towards violence in the home and within the community, as well as causing economic stress within families that have members who are dependent on alcohol, we feel very strongly about being able to promote education and give authorities the power to proactively reduce the harm associated with the consumption of alcohol.**

**We submit our views on the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Extended licensing hours during Rugby World Cup) Bill because we have policy that was passed in 1992, 1999, 2005, and 2010.**

**New Zealand is a signatory to CEDAW, and we believe that more can be done to protect women.**

**We quote the BPW NZ Policy:-**

**15.19 Alcohol and Drugs**

**15.19.1 Liquor Advertising**

APPEAL to the Broadcasting Standard's authority to revoke its decision to allow brand advertising of beer, wine and spirits on television and radio, since its likely effect will be to increase alcohol consumption which has concomitant adverse social effects.

20/08/2015

**"BPW NZ – Empowering Women"  
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### **15.19.2 Alcohol Labelling**

URGE the Minister of Health to ensure that any product containing 5% or greater alcohol content be identified with a health warning label and that any advertising of such products also include a health warning.

#### **Rationale:**

- Alcohol taken by pregnant women may cause foetal alcohol syndrome or foetal effect.
- Alcohol is a major factor in criminal behaviour and domestic violence.
- Alcohol can alter the efficiency of prescribed medication causing major disruption to individual health status.

### **15.19.3 Alcohol Minimum Purchasing Age**

URGE the government to restore the minimum alcohol purchasing age to 20 years.

#### **Rationale:**

1. New Zealand and international research shows a clear relationship between lowering the age at which alcohol can be purchased, and an increase in alcohol related problems, for example injuries, illnesses, violence, time away from work or education, crime, in younger age groups.
- There is also a predicted rise in sexually transmitted diseases as a result of increased access to liquor at a younger age.

### **15.19.5 Limitations On The Sale Of Alcohol**

“THAT the New Zealand Federation of Business and Professional Women Inc. urges the Minister of Justice to introduce legislation:

- Raising the age for purchasing alcohol from any licensed premises to 20 years.
- **Restricting off-license opening hours to 10 am to 10 pm and make it unlawful for on-license premises to sell alcohol after 1 am.**
- Reducing marketing and advertising of alcohol through television, radio, cinema, billboard or internet; and limiting advertising of alcohol to information related to the product rather than promoting values or lifestyle; and prohibiting advertising which is targeted at youth.
- Lowering the blood alcohol limit from 0.06 to 0.05 for those 20 years and over, and to zero for those under 20 years.”

Our concern with this bill is based on our policy highlighted in red above and that shared with our submission both oral and written on the Alcohol Reform Bill. We also believe that the provision in the current legislation allows for applications for special licences and that this is sufficient.

Thank you for the opportunity to send in a submission, and we would like to take up the opportunity of appearing before the committee with an oral submission.

### **Our Organisation**

Our organisation’s aims are to link professional and business women throughout the world, to provide support, to lobby for change and to promote the ongoing advancement of women. We work for equal opportunities and status for all women in economic, civil and political life and the removal

of discrimination in all countries. We promote our aims and organise our operating structure without distinction as to race, language or religion.

Our structure is comprised of a National Executive, 14 branches and a number of individual members in areas where there is no branch. We are an apolitical organization.

**International Status:**

BPW International has General Consultative Status at the United Nations through the UN Economic & Social Council (ECOSOC). This enables BPW International to appoint official representatives to UN agencies worldwide and to accredit members to attend specific UN meetings.

BPW International upholds the outcomes of the Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) Committee at state party level. BPW International upholds the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of the annual UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) which evaluates progress, identifies challenges, sets global standards and formulates policies to promote gender equality and women's empowerment worldwide.

We wish that the following also appear in support of our submission:

*Hellen Swales, Vice President Issues BPW NZ*

Daytime contact number (04) 939 2811, mobile 027 528 6799 and email in [svp@bpwnz.org.nz](mailto:svp@bpwnz.org.nz)

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to our submission and we hope that our comments are of use to you.

*On behalf of*

***New Zealand Federation of Business and Professional Women Inc.***



**Vicky Mee  
President**



**Hellen Swales  
Vice President, Issues**