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**From:****Sent:** 13 June 2013 15:45**To:** Pubs Consultation Responses**Subject:** Opinion

I am a private individual. I enjoy going to pubs, esp ones that serve real ale.

I feel very strongly that the beer tie is an outmoded and unfair practice. The pubcos say they charge a lower rent which is subsidised by charging a higher price for the beer which the landlord has to buy off the pubco. I do not accept this argument: the rents are often very high too. If market forces were brought to bear rents would fall as people have less disposable income for pubgoing.

My favourite pub, in , is struggling because they are not allowed to buy Black Sheep which is what the majority of the customers want. If they were allowed to source even ONE beer from suppliers other than the pubco they would be more competitive and attract more customers.

Frankly the pub tie is akin to the Company Store. The pubcos have had plenty of time to put their house in order and I urge the government to act.

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