

I would like to make a submission to this enquiry based on recent experiences trying to obtain tickets to the rolling stones Sydney concert.

I tried to purchase some tickets online for the event. I was online before the tickets went onsale. I have ADSL2 internet connection, and submitted my first request for 4 tickets, 1 for myself and 3 for friends, 3 minutes after the tickets went onsale. At that time the site replied there were middle tier tickets available. I tried again for the third tier seats, and again there were none available only 5 minutes after tickets went onsale.

Later that day I searched Ebay and gumtree for tickets and there were lots for sale at 3 and 4 times the original price. I even found one site located in Canada advertising tickets for the Sydney concert. They had single tickets onsale for \$1000 each, and advertised they had 8 for sale. Ticketek site said there was a limit of 4 tickets per transaction. How can someone in Canada buy 8 tickets to a Sydney show when a resident of NSW can not get them?

If you go online today and search for concert tickets you will see lots of sites set up just to scalp concert tickets at anywhere between 2 and 4 times the original sales price. I am sure these scalpers are not paying any tax on their lucrative income.

I would like to suggest that the only people allowed to legally sell the tickets is the promoter. If someone buys tickets and later finds they are unable to attend, then they can only sell the tickets back to the promoter, and then the promoter can sell them again. This would stop all scalping.

Regards  
Keith Sawers