

Dear Committee Secretary

While I am preparing more detailed response about the issues of Anti-Terrorism laws and its implications, I will give brief comments about the Reform Bill 2009 proposed by the Greens party.

This reform bill is not more than a cosmetic try to make the high draconian laws look like the opposite. The original laws, even if the reforms would be accepted, is still highly unfair, draconian, and unjust and could be continued to be used to target certain community to spread fear and division in the society to achieve regressive political agendas.

The amendments are not more than playing with words, but do not change the draconian nature of the laws.

While we do not mind any changes on the laws to make them looks better, but we would like to see the whole laws repealed altogether. There are enough legislations in Australian courts to deal with any serious crimes.

In addition, we would like to emphasise here that we think that there are more efficient ways to deter people from committing horrendous crimes. Further targeting certain community and consequently increase their feelings of marginalisation definitely would not make Australia safer nor would deter people from committing crimes. On the contrary. Spreading harmony, respect and engagement would minimise such feelings of marginalisation and being targeted.

In general, I would not mind any changes to the law that could make them better, less draconian, more transparent and more just. This would not be achieved completely until all these draconian laws scraped and repealed.

Thanks

Yours sincerely

Jamal Daoud