

To the committee,

In regards to 81.1(4), I would suggest an alternative. The swastika in some Indian contexts can be a symbol of religious and racial hatred ie. Golwalkar hindutva fascism. I propose that it be granted the exemption but in a slightly different way. That it is a defense to display the swastika in connection to Hinduism, Buddhism or Jainism only when done so in the interest of promoting universal bhai-bhai. This should simplify counter-terrorism efforts and in countering racial violence. It would ensure that this essential religious protection is compatible with the constitution.

The Bill risks being another Virginia V. Black, 538 U.S. 343 (2003). The clauses attempting to restrain the Supreme Court from striking down the bill may themselves be unconstitutional. The bill misses the opportunity to ban cross burning even before the shining city on a hill.

In regards to 81.1(3), a book store or library or relevant publication. I give some examples of ISBN-13 numbers from my local library.

9780805243376

9780425194737

9781637582626

9780582017368

The last one's cover really strikes a chord. The diary of Anne Frank was published in a 1989 Longman edition where the Star of David really has become inseparable from the Nazi swastika. Might I suggest, as an alternative to burning Jewish books that books published or printed within Australia or printed expressly for distribution in Australia -even by Jewish authors- must not display a swastika. That way people can sit in a park reading about the holocaust without committing a federal crime. The publication of a book may be for a genuine scientific, educational or artistic purpose but reading it in public is unlikely to satisfy that or other subsections.

I also suggest an amendment to 81.2 to include an act done outside of Australian territory by a person employed by or acting in an official capacity or in the course of performing their duties or as an active member of the Armed Forces.

Oakes, D. (2018) Australian soldiers flew Nazi swastika flag from vehicle in Afghanistan; PM says diggers' actions 'absolutely wrong'. Thu 14 Jun 2018. ABC News.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-06-14/photo-shows-nazi-flag-flown-over-australian-army-vehicle/9859618>

Robert Heron