

**Australian Parliament
Joint Standing Committee on Migration
Submission No. 159**

I would like to see Australian communities play an active role in the ongoing development of their multicultural communities. Consider for example the Swiss Naturalisation Model. The Swiss require immigrants live lawfully and productively within Switzerland for 12 years before they become eligible for naturalisation as voted on by fellow citizens/residents not politicians or administrators. Should an immigrant commit a crime within this time period they will be deported not imprisoned at the tax payers expense. Similarly if they arrive and live on government benefits rather than finding gainful employment they are not considered desirable. The decision to naturalise appears to be based on conduct, that is the ability of the immigrant to fit in and add value to the community. It seems the Swiss recognise that social harmony and prosperity go hand in hand thus legislate in support of functional rather than dysfunctional multiculturalism and a functional rather than dysfunctional society.

Unlike the clear cut, transparent Swiss Model, it is not clear on what basis people are invited or accepted into Australia or why (other than some vague notion of supporting economic growth, needing numbers and skills - how many are required and what skills?) or who exactly makes the decision. Further the decisions that are made do not seem to agree with what most people want. Many people do not want a big Australia, they want a sustainable Australia. Most people want immigrants to assimilate, namely embrace the prevailing multiculturalism not segregate into culturally homogenous communities, examples of which abound. Many would prefer gradual immigration of limited numbers of people not the sudden influx of large numbers of people. Australians expect people who are lucky enough to be permitted to live here to respect our values, laws and heritage. Those who do not should be deported without hesitation. Decisions that have the potential to impact positively or negatively on our society need to be made by our society. This inquiry is a positive step in finding out what Australians want (name withheld).

Kind Regards