

Dear Committee Secretary,

I write about the issues relating to multiculturalism in Australia. This country was built on great values and the Australian spirit is still strong. However, our culture is changing and of particular concern is the lack of assimilation into our society by those who are migrating to Australia.

There is a great deal of difference between 'immigration' and 'multiculturalism'.

A country can welcome people from across the world and invite them to become Australians and while some of their ways will certainly permeate society, we want our culture to stay basically Australian, underpinned by our Christian heritage. The reason many people come here is because Australia is based on Christian values. The freedom we have comes from believing that ALL people are equal but that all cultures and lifestyles are not.

People that migrate to Australia need to see the need to become "Australian" and adopt our way of life otherwise extremism and segregation can become issues of concern. We see major changes in England and France in particular which seem very hard to reverse.

I believe it is important to invite people to share their ethnic culture with us so we can learn how they live and they can still enjoy some form of culture and community, but that does not mean we have to share their values or agree with their worldview, the values that make this great nation what it is need to remain unchanged.

People that migrate to Australia need to understand that we live in and enjoy a democracy and do not want that changed.

I am concerned for Australia that it may be headed in the same direction as other European countries. We have a great nation and we want it to stay that way, therefore assimilation is of utmost importance, learning the language, education and employment are critical for people migrating to Australia, that contribution is made like that of the early migrants.

I therefore hope that you consider carefully the submissions that you receive as this is a very important stage for Australia. I do hope that we as a nation will go forward and continue strong as a democracy.

Sincerely