

DRAFT

22 September 2006

The Enquiry Secretary
Security & Counter-Terrorism Legislation Enquiry
Fax 02-6277 2067 CANBERRA

Dear Madam

TERRORISM & CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

I make this submission to your enquiry.

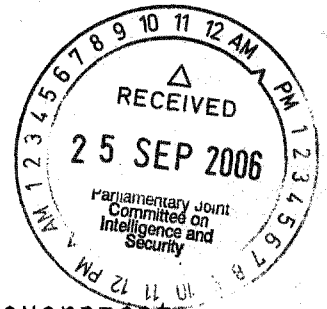
I submit that good government, and commonsense in government, would reinstate the death penalty (with safeguards) in Australia for terrorist slayings.

Terrorism is a greater threat to our nation and the world than our citizens generally realise. The public may only have seen the tip of the danger as yet. I submit that to face this threat without the death penalty for murder is like facing a mortal foe with one hand tied to our side.

It is true that suicide bombers may be looking for death, but behind them are the organisers who are murderers not looking for death themselves, but quite ready to deceive and sacrifice their dupes. A photo of a Bali bombmaker was in the news a few days ago, giving a grinning thumbs-up sign on getting a prison sentence and escaping the death penalty.

Further, imprisoned terrorists may escape over coming years, to perpetrate more terrorism. Rescuing imprisoned terrorists is often a target of their terrorist comrades. The very presence in a prison of a convicted terrorist sometimes gives rise to a further terrorist event and atrocity, as has already occurred in the Phillipines and elsewhere.

What I have submitted above relates to principled commonsense in the war against terrorism. To highlight the principle, please consider the following: How did capital punishment first come to be? Before the Great Flood the earth, with a population likely in the billions, was "full of violence" — Genesis 6. God washed away the violence with a flood, and then appointed the eight men and women that He had saved, to repopulate the cleansed earth.



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And He said "Whoso sheddeth Man's blood by Man shall his blood be shed." — Genesis 9. It is a prime principle of good government, given by direct instruction of God! It has never been abrogated. Jesus did not change it, nor His apostles.

From this, I submit that it is unwise to ignore the death penalty, but that it should be enacted and used for terrorist murders, and other murders, — with suitable safeguards.

An MP recently said "No crime really deserves the ultimate". This outlook is folly. Given the horrific, merciless murders that occur by the hands of terrorists, I believe that the Australian government should enact and use the death penalty for such crimes.

I am thankful to the Australian government, and especially the cabinet, for the grip they seem to have on the terrorist issue, but I submit that the present exclusion of the death penalty is a serious error that weakens the government's stand to an important extent.

I request that you advise the government of this submission, and recommend that it be acted on to increase the proper armoury available in combating terrorism.

Should you wish I can make a personal appearance in support of the foregoing.

With respect, I am

Yours faithfully

Jim Stewart
