

**Australian Parliament
Joint Standing Committee on Migration
Submission no. 244**

Committee Secretary
Joint Standing Committee on Migration
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Australia

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for giving the general public an opportunity to comment on this inquiry.

I would like to say that having many cultures coming into Australia does afford us many benefits. We get to experience their foods, their cultures and many bring great skills and expertise with them. Another person's nationality or culture does not mean that they don't have intelligence, skills or talents.

There are examples over the years where overseas skills have helped us carry out great achievements. Take the Snowy Mountains Hydro Electricity Scheme. Many people from many different countries came and helped us build that amazing piece of work that serves so many people though they may not realise it. We also have to recognise the great work of many medical experts eg Victor Chang.

As I grew up I saw people come in from countries like Italy and Greece. They would settle and live in a shack; they would work hard in their market gardens and the like and eventually build themselves a lovely home. They were workers and didn't bludge off our country.

Then the Asians started coming in and they too worked hard and built a life for themselves within our communities. I understand why people group together with like-minded and like-speaking people. I have lived overseas for an extended period of time and in a second world nation and I understand why people would do this. At the same time, we have friends and neighbours in Australia from an Asian heritage who have deliberately moved into areas away from their own culture so they could become a part of the nation and so their children would grow up with Aussie friends and affiliate into our culture.

Now we see a lot of people coming from the Middle East. A different culture and religious belief all together. They also bring diversity and skill to our nation.

Over the years I have heard people grumble and complain about other cultures coming into Australia. And still it happens today. We would be ignorant to believe that will ever stop.

We will always see problems with people; theft, bashings, bad drivers etc, but we get them with any nationality, even us Aussies. We will always have people with different religious beliefs and we need to be tolerant of those beliefs but only to the extent that it does not interfere with our Australian way of life, our Nations policies and our own freedom of speech and religion.

I am very concerned that our Australian leaders are blind or ignorant to the teaching of the Islamic faith and their underlying plans to eventually take control of all western nations and enforce their own law system - and then what that would mean to people who are not 'muslim'. Serious consideration needs to be given to the advancement of this religion in Australia.

I recognise that there are many good muslim people in Australia (I have some as friends) but there are also those who are undeniably radical and are pushing for the Islamic way and the exclusion of our way. I have seen Islamic radicals on television inciting young muslims to extremism,

I seek this inquiry to look seriously at this issue and not just push it aside while it considers other issues such as social inclusion and utilisation of skills. Yes these definitely need to be addressed but not without also considering the serious ramifications of the advancement of Islam in Australia.