

## **THE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE HUMAN RIGHTS INDUSTRY**

**A lot of what is done in this country to encourage community harmony is probably well intentioned but is nevertheless often quite counterproductive.**

**I grew up in The Hague, Holland, with Indonesians and Chinese amongst my close neighbours. I migrated in 1960 at age 19. In the last 51 years I have lived in New Zealand and Australia, and I love both countries. There were no financial handouts or free English lessons, no human-rights growth industry, and there was thankfully no policy of multiculturalism**

**Like many others at the time, I had to make significant cultural adjustments and I integrated quickly. I considered the latter a very reasonable expectation on the part of the host country. Those who do not integrate do not really want to be here. They should seriously consider going back to from where they came.**

**In the workplace I got tons of flack, but I decided not to allow myself to get a chip on my shoulders. Besides, I did not have human rights bureaucrats to encourage me to feel outraged.**

**When one looks for racism, it is easy to find. My only right was to work hard, to integrate and to stand on my own feet.**

**These days, when migrants do not achieve, it is always someone else's fault. Others naturally are said to have discriminated against the poor achievers. When human rights organisations confirm that sentiment, you just cannot go wrong whinging. Thus a victim mentality is encouraged in many from the moment that they arrive here.**

**Much of what is done by the Australian Human Rights Commission and its state counterparts is not always very helpful. To legislate against discrimination often produces the opposite effect. The Victorian Racial and Religious Tolerance Act caused more intolerance than it resolved.**

**The Islamic Council of Victoria's action against the *Two Dannys*, encouraged by the VEOHRC, backfired big time on Muslims around the country. From that time, one can observe a serious deterioration in the prior reasonable national harmony.**

**The human rights officials often increase problems where they previously hardly existed. It keeps them in a financial and ego-rewarding job. They preach their sermons at taxpayer expense. They do the same with dreaming up more counterproductive legislation. The well-intentioned and above mentioned Victorian Racial and Religious Tolerance Act has been proved to be a conflict and intolerance producing disaster.**

**There is much talk of racial taunts these days, but offence is only taken when the people thus taunted are encouraged to take it all too seriously.**

**I will supply an example that affects me personally:**

**The English language is full of derogatory expressions containing the word Dutch. This could actually be labelled institutionalised racism if people with Dutch heritage bothered to lodge a complaint..**

**Dutch courage means a lack of courage, unless drunk.**

**Dutch treat means that the Dutch are mean and only look after number one.**

**Dutch uncle means that someone is very outspoken.**

**Doing a Dutch means committing suicide.**

**Dutch comfort means cold comfort.**

**Dutch oven is heat generated under the blanket by farting. (Now that one is funny).**

**Dutch headache is a hangover**

**Double Dutch means gibberish.**

**Dutch nightingales are frogs.**

**‘Dutched’ means cancelled.**

**Well, I'm a Dutchman! This is an exclamation expressing strong incredulity.**

**The above are some of these expressions in print in every library in this country. At times we might hear some on television.**

**If one would use even a fraction of the above and instead of ‘Dutch’ would say Asian, Arab or African, all hell would break loose. The human rights gurus would be first off the starting blocks.**

**The human rights ‘victimologists’ have taught people to take themselves far too seriously. They would have done better by teaching people to**

take themselves far less seriously, even to the point of learning to laugh at themselves. Now the latter would go down well in the Australian ethos. Instead of pompous officials we would be better off sending in the comedians. It is always better to send in the clowns rather than the lawyers.

This is why John O'Grady's 1957 (Nino Culotta) *They're a weird mob* was so popular. This is why the 2000 film *The Wog Boy* is such a hit. They tapped into the Australian psyche.

Some time ago, one of my sons respectfully reminded me that I am a 'clog wog'. I found that quite funny.

Having pompous self-righteous bureaucrats tell us how to behave gets Australians' backs up. Such legalism does a lot more harm than good. It fails to understand that Australians do not like to be told what to say and how to say it. Such legalism produces nothing but disharmony. Moreover these pompous human rights clowns are not even funny.

They should take a leaf out of the *Wog Boy* film and try some humour. They would be well-advised to teach the 'hard-done-by' to learn to laugh at themselves. You do not need a law degree for that.