

**Australian Parliament  
Joint Standing Committee on Migration  
Submission no. 350**

Dear Maria Vamvakinou

Australia is the best country to live in. I came from the Netherlands 42 years ago. I love the people of Australia. Australian people are friendly and have a caring attitude towards people from all ethnic backgrounds. It is like this because the laws are based on Christian values where each person is valued for who they are.

As a migrant you can feel culture shock in the beginning of your stay here, but that is because a migrant has to negotiate departments and government authorities uniquely Australian. That is totally different from their country of origin. That is the difficult part of adjusting. Then there is the new language and culture of the this great country, the migrant's choice. I believe that does not mean that the migrant then endeavours to change the rules in the country of choice to make it the same as their country of origin. I believe it will be much more beneficial to give them the help they need through migrant courses so it is made easier to negotiate.

Yours sincerely Johanna Kol

E-mail: