



Inquiry into Australian Expatriates
Fax no. 6277 5794

Dear Sirs

I wish to make one comment regarding the above enquiry.

I believe it is in the best interests of Australia that expatriates be encouraged to eventually return to Australia and bring back with them skills obtained from overseas together with the original skills gained here.

Amongst the many possible problems, one encountered by a member of my family and no doubt a potential problem for a number of others is where the Australian marries someone of another nationality. In our experience the non Australian is treated with suspicion with many hoops to be jumped through before being allowed to settle here. In our own case both our daughter and her fiancé are Harvard MBA graduates and as such can offer excellent skills. She is interested in returning to Australia at some future date. However the procedures involved for her partner to obtain residency are beset with such red tape (which almost looks as though we are suspicious of his motives in wanting to come here) as leave him feeling that he is not welcome to settle in Australia as a result of which he prefers to consider other countries in which to reside.

I believe the system should be more streamlined/ simplified to encourage such people to settle here and offer their skills to this country rather than settling permanently elsewhere as a result of which we lose both the original Australian citizen and another highly qualified person.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul Sheridan".

Paul Sheridan