

I am making this submission in order to express my grave concern about provisions in the proposed anti-terrorism legislation.

Of particular concern is the threat to ordinary democratic rights like expressing opposition to governments and their policies and to the monarchy, contained in the sedition provisions.

It is ordinary Australians who would be affected by these provisions, not terrorists, who do not try to advance their cause by peaceful protest or argument, but by the blackmail tactics of terror and bloodshed. In fact, bloodshed is their only tactic. They do not show their faces publicly to advance their cause but operate secretly and deceptively.

Ordinary Australians, concerned about an issue and wishing to make their views known publicly, would never contemplate bloodshed as a means because they know it is counter productive, persuades nobody, and is contrary to our enlightened and democratic values.

I consider the provisions a dangerous departure from our Australian values and way of life, and cannot be justified by any excuse.

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