

I strongly oppose the proposed 'anti-terrorism' legislation of the Howard government and I do not want our governments passing such laws.

The measures envisaged by the bill are unconstitutional - that much is clear. When we have the spectacle of the Prime Minister holding secret meetings with the State Premiers in order to find ways to subvert the constitution it is time for all Australians to be alarmed.

What is in prospect for the citizens of this country? Arrest without charge? Prison for daring to speak about what has happened to you? Preventative detention on the say so of some member of the Australian Federal Police? Are the judiciary expected to sign such orders so that there is some gloss of respectability?

The fact that our elected representatives are even considering such things is to the undying shame of all Australians! What sort of a country are we leaving to our children and grandchildren?

The people entrusted with making decisions which could adversely affect the lives of our fellow Australians are bound to make errors - think Cornelia Rau. Not to mention scandals like the children overboard lies and deceit. Without a Bill of Rights we are left open to such political corruption.

And once again we have our Prime Minister invoking terror threats to mislead parliament and Australian citizens in order to pursue his own political agendas.

Please consider the future of our country.