

SUBMISSION REGARDING THE PROPOSED ANTI-TERROR LAWS

To whom it may concern,

I am a freelance writer, and oppose the proposed anti-"terror" laws, especially provisions regarding "sedition". While this is an established crime, it's inclusion (and extension) in this context will achieve the opposite of what the government says they are aiming for. The health of any democracy depends on the ability of anyone to express and encourage disaffection with the government - this is the first and necessary step to organising change. The bill is directed not at violence but opinion. This removal of our human rights is not warranted by any "threat", and will foster the disaffection itself. We do not need less expression of opinion, or more fear of being arrested for our opinions - we need the forums to be able to have dialogue with each other.

Andy Jackson
Carlton Victoria