

Kirribilli
NSW

9 November 2005.

The Secretary,
The Senate Committee Dealing With Anti-Terrorism Legislation
Parliament House
Canberra.

Dear Sir,

ANTI-TERRORISM LEGISLATION.

I wish to express to your Committee my deep concern about the threat to hard won rights and liberties of the Australian people represented by the proposed anti-terrorism legislation.

Whilst there is no doubt that the government has an obligation to take reasonable steps to protect this country from terrorist attacks, it has shown no reasons why the existing laws are inadequate to enable it to fulfill this obligation. It has in no way justified the way in which the proposed legislation so seriously erodes the rights of Australians. The extent to which the Bill allows detention without trial, for example, is outrageous.

I sincerely urge your Committee to thoroughly examine the Bill and to challenge all of its provisions that diminish rights that we have come to accept as fundamental to our democratic way of life.

Yours faithfully,

David Cooper.