

As an ordinary Australian, I am appalled at some of the features of the proposed Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Bill.

I find it obnoxious in two ways:

1. It proposes to criminalize offending people. Free speech necessarily involves some offence, and the Bill is an attack on free speech.
2. It reverses our tradition of “innocent until proven guilty”. It is beyond belief that any Australian government would propose anything so pernicious and so hostile to the Australian people.

The sentiments expressed by Mr Jim Spigelman at the recent Human Rights Award Ceremony should be taken very seriously by the Committee.

Lance Eccles