As a citizen born in this country, I appeal to those drafting this legislation to be very careful to preserve freedom of speech and freedom of religion, including the right to choose prospective employees, and to have open discussion of issues without incurring vexacious litigation and suppression of minorities.

I firmly believe that to try to legislate on these matters to too fine a degree will result in the kind of thing we saw under Stalinist regimes, and currently see now in certain countries. I grieve for Australia if we ever become like that.

It is my view that the way human beings relate to each other can only be regulated in a general way. The way we treat others comes from the heart and cannot be successfully imposed from outside, or as we see in the world today, 'rights' are regarded for one group and not others.

Ruth Zanetti

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