

## OPENING STATEMENT & OBSERVATIONS.

Having previously taken the trouble to make a submission to a House of Representatives Enquiry AND to have appeared before that enquiry, as well as having been personally present in the Senate gallery when notice of *this* enquiry was first given, I find it quite annoying and off-putting when I came to read the Terms of Reference for **The Joint Standing Committee on Migration's, "Inquiry into Multiculturalism in Australia"**, to firstly see declared that the Committee wishes to enquire into the "social and cultural impacts of migration in Australia.... "

But then to have it heavily qualified by the stated purpose of making "recommendations to maximise the *positive* effects of migration".

This of course immediately assumes that there are no *negative impacts of migration*, or it least that the committee is not interested in seriously canvassing that proposition.

Then we see the points under the subheading "**Multiculturalism, social inclusion and globalisation**", again to be quite constricting and 'directing' about what it is that the Committee wishes to hear. And so it flows under subsequent subheadings and criteria.

I wish to put to the Committee that the first part in particular as to *what is it that the committee are enquiring into* i.e. **the economic, social and cultural impacts of migration in Australia**, creates an impression that the committee is genuinely interested in looking at and considering 'the good, the bad & the ugly' of Australia's migration policy and programs: but then one is quickly 'brought to ground' by the pre-declared presumption in the stated objective of "**make(ing) recommendations to maximise the positive effects of migration**".

This infers for example that not only is it unlikely that anything will be done about, but indeed there is *not even open the prospect* of correcting any *negative* effects of migration.

I think there would be many people like me who would read the Terms of Reference of this enquiry and conclude that it is yet another 'happy clappy process', designed to attract 'motherhood' type statements and observations about our migration policy and multiculturalism in particular, for the sole purposes of producing yet another report that will affirm the status quo, thereby leaving us subject to the many problems that arise out of a "multiculturalism" based migration policy.

## **MY SUBMISSIONS.**

Because of my lack of belief about the real substance, objectivity and conviction of this enquiry, the essence of my submission ( apart from my preceding 'Opening Statement & Observations' that form part of my submission) is to request that two substantive works of written material should be tabled as relevant references.

These I submit should be reviewed/studied by members of the Committee in the prospect that this material might give said Members cause to reflect on the objectivity, seriousness (lack of) and intent of the enquiry with the prospect of broadening its terms of reference or indeed recommending an extension the current or new enquiry with wider and more insightful parameters.

My first proposed reference is a book the details of which are:-

**TITLE "Origins of Multiculturalism in Australian Politics 1945 – 75".**

**AUTHOR: Dr Marc Lopez PHD**

**APN: 9780522848953.**

**ISBN: 0522848958**

This book was the first systematic study of the historical origins of multiculturalism in Australian politics. It answers such fundamental questions as: what is multiculturalism; how did it originate; and how did it become a basis for the Australian government's ethnic affairs policy?

Much of the research information was made available exclusively to the author and the book is considered to be "an essential and solid foundation for future research and policy work in the field."

My second proposed reference is an article author by highly regarded and experienced journalist **Mr Greg Sheridan** that appeared in "**the Weekend Australian**" newspaper of **April 2-3, 2011** in the "**Inquirer**" section under the title "**How I lost faith in multiculturalism**".