Australian Parliament Joint Standing Committee on Migration

Submission no. 299 FAMILY COUNCIL OF VICTORIA Inc.

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Maria Vamvakinou MP, The Chair of the Committee, The Federal Parliament Migration Committee

Inquiry into multiculturalism in Australia.

Dear Maria

As President of the Family Council of Victoria I make the following comments on behalf of the affiliate organisations which make up that Council.

The Family Council of Victoria is totally committed to promoting and supporting the natural family as the foundation of society. We desire to see the natural family and marriage, exclusively between one man and one woman, supported and promoted above all other types of human relationship.

Therefore, we are totally opposed to the legal recognition of any other form of relationship by governments, as is being encouraged by some recent Migrants (mainly Muslims who support polygamy). This change and others being supported by Labor in Australia, such as same-sex relationships will simply undermine the relevance and importance of marriage itself.

It is very timely to consider multiculturalism. Because, unfortunately it is visualised today in very different terms than it was when the term was first instituted.

Indeed, your own term, 'social inclusion', clearly defines what you government means by multiculturalism. The Labor Government's 'social inclusion agenda' clearly puts the emphasis on including all other cultures as 'equal' to the traditional Australian culture based on Christian values of freedom of thought and religion.

Most new arrivals to Australia up until the latter part of last century believed multiculturalism to mean we were willing to accept people from all cultures as long as they attempted to assimilate into the broad definition of our Australian Culture.

Therefore it is true to say that multiculturalism up until that time was successful.

Unfortunately, that has now changed,

It should be very clear to anyone who has eyes to see, that people have been encouraged to bring their own culture, largely intact, with them. All too often it is now Australians who are expected to blend in with them, to accommodate them, rather than the other way around.

Please do not think this is racist, because it is not. The truth is that all cultures are not equal. That should be obvious to everyone but sadly people have become afraid to say it because of such taunts.

We should be able to welcome people from any nation to our nations if they are seeking a better life. That is, after all, why most have come and settled here. But things have indeed changed and largely because of increased Islamic immigration.

It should be obvious that one man and four wives is total inequality. It is un Australian and undermines the basis of marriage and family that has established this nation.

It should be obvious that women having to keep their whole face (except perhaps their eyes) concealed behind a veil is totally demeaning to women, and is un-Australian. Especially when their men can wear

whatever they like.

Yet your government has turned a blind eye to this inequality and largely supported it with a blind eye and even encouraged it through a very poor accountability for welfare. This has led many Australians to ask what is really meant by, "the Government's agenda of social inclusion" which is clearly very different to assimilation?

It was also very disappointing to hear the government claim multiculturalism was a success hear when others were at last starting to admit that 'modern' multiculturalism had indeed failed.

This suggests that this inquiry is more about gaining support for the Government's agenda of 'social inclusion' and accommodating the needs of migrants, rather than a serious look at the direction the current policies will take us. I sincerely hope not.

Clearly, many Muslim immigrants support the 'modern' idea of Multiculturalism because the underlying aim of Islam is that the whole world needs to be Islamic and live under Islamic Sharia law. Modern multiculturalism has also led to 'multi-faithism' which wrongly assumes that all religions are good and equally valid. That too is absolutely nonsense.

We need to have a strong policy of requiring all migrants to actually assimilate into our existing Australian 'culture', to accepting our value of women, marriage and family.

This model has served us well, better in fact than any other culture around the world.

This might actually tell us why people have consistently, for the last 200 years, wanted to call Australia home.

Please do not allow political correctness, which is so often blind to truth and evidence, to undermine this nation, its values and it's Christian heritage.

Evidence from Europe is now so clear that we should all know what the results of today's ideology of multiculturalism will produce if allowed to continue.

Our country can and should welcome people from across the world and invite them to become Australians, and while some of their ways will certainly permeate our society, we should ensure that our culture stays Australian, underpinned by our Christian heritage of the natural family, as one man and one woman. We must also ensure that our values always treat men and women as equaly but different and that we maintain our freedom of speech and religion.

If any group of people want to change this nation to suit their values then that crosses the line and becomes unacceptable. Again I state that that is not racist - it is a fact that all cultures are not equal as all nations' laws and values are not equally good.

Thank you for taking the time to read this submission.

Peter P Stokes President Family Council of Victoria