

Dear Sir/Madam,

Australia without doubt demonstrates that when immigrants from other country hold a sincere respect for the beliefs and cultural diversity of the country they enter, then a harmonious and vibrant community can flourish and grow.

The variety of racial and ethnic groups within Australia are many and all contribute to make up the wonderful mix that now represents the Australian culture.

However, the antagonism of some Islamic immigrants toward other sections of the community, including the very government and laws of the land that plays host to them, has been irrefutably demonstrated in both the UK and Europe. As the religion of Islam is essentially a world view ideology, ethical issues such as race or ethnicity are not in question here. Therefore giving an honest assessment of the Islamic community should not get tangled up in issues of racial discrimination. Those who adhere to the Islam do so by an act of will. And if the evidence shows that Islamic communities have elements which equate to a bad attitude then they should be held accountable by the communities which they wish to be a part of.

Australia is comprised of a multitude of rich cultures and communities that are expected to respect each other's differences and ideally embrace another's similarities. That's multiculturalism successfully at work.

However when cultural practices and beliefs that are abhorrent and unacceptable are held by migrants then the prevailing Australian culture must be upheld. Discrimination here is healthy and necessary.

We cannot frame our society to cater for the special interests and attitudes of those coming to our shores. They come here on our terms not theirs.

When an immigrant group establishes itself within a society and holds an underlying contempt for any group other than itself within that society then multiculturalism is doomed. The recent attack on Sydney Hindu temple as reported in the Sydney Morning Herald on Apr 3, 2011, reveals simmering tensions in a predominantly Muslim area.

Australia was founded on Judeo Christian foundations which have seen the flourishing of democracy and the freedoms and tolerance we enjoy. We welcome those coming to our country who embrace these qualities of life. Those who don't can stay out.

Yours sincerely,