

Brian Crowther

Dear Committee Secretary,

I am concerned that the Inquiry into antisemitism, **is a set up**, by the Israel Lobby and Zionists groups. The IHRA working definition is an instrument designed by them to stifle legitimate criticism of Israel based on facts, ie to suppress the facts of Israel's dreadful behaviour, as per eg the rulings of the ICJ and ICC. Our anti-discrimination laws are sufficient to protect Jewish people. Indeed, this definition and its use as seen eg in the UK only serves in the end to make a mockery of the term antisemitism. It does this because it protects Israel from the brutal slaughter, war crimes, crimes against humanity, ethnic cleansing, genocide of the defenceless Palestinian people in their own country by Israel to steal the land that belongs to Palestinians. This has resulted in a genocide that surpasses that of the Holocaust in intensity, 186,000 Gazans slaughtered in 9 months, doing the sums on a pro rata basis that is about 850,000 of these children (using the Hamas Health Ministry numbers, the numbers usually used), from the prestigious medical journal Lancet. If transposed to Australia the numbers in 9 months would be, 2.6 million brutally slaughtered (greater than the populations of most of our capital cities, including the capital, Canberra, 1.8 million of these children brutally slaughtered).

This makes the IHRA a mockery as by my saying this, ie comparing it to the Holocaust, which is perfectly legitimate as facts, would render saying these truths antisemitic under that definition. It serves to harm Jews because it conflates Israel with being Jewish, which is a lie and these Jews, all Jews guilty collectively of Israel's crimes, {which is actually genocidal by law, to punish a population (Jews) collectively for a state (Israel), actions}. It allows people who are antisemitic to use Israel's atrocities to label Jews as Nazis etc against Jews in general. I would, indeed compare, factually, the extermination of the Jews in the Warsaw Ghetto and the role of the German Nazis in perpetrating this, with the genocide of the Palestinians in Gaza and the identical role of the Israeli state to that of the German Nazis. To stress the point, this is a fact. To say so under the IHRA definition is antisemitic. Which is obviously ridiculous as I am defending Jews here. The far right, white supremacists would have a field day with this IHRA definition and then go on to use this to attack Jews. This IHRA definition is just a ruse by Israel and the Zionists (who drafted this in Hungary or Rumania, I can't remember which, at some conference, what nonsense) in order to stifle the dissemination of facts showing Israel up for what it is and to attack those who seek to show this, ie used to intimidate critics of Israel into silence via threatening them with sackings or actual sacking as an example to others, etc as indeed happened to a ABC journalist, for just posting a link to an article by an organisation with the equivalent standing as Amnesty International showing Israel's atrocities as facts, (The Guardian). Or the disgraceful destruction of the UK's opposition PM at the time Jeremy Corbyn, (Owen Jones freelance journalist, columnist The Guardian).

This is an interference in the running of our democracies, sponsored by Israel to ensure it can continue its atrocities, as above with impunity, to realise the Zionist Project, ie Have all of Palestine as Israel and more eg parts of Lebanon, Jordan, Syria etc. A genocide of historic intensity and magnitude, so far. Polling shows eg in the UK and Australia that the vast majority of their populations do not support their countries behaviour in their facilitation and complicity in these crimes. The adoption of the IHRA definition of antisemitism, undermines our ability to protect Jews from antisemitism, undermines our democracy, hides Israe's atrocities and silences those who correctly show these as such, so it can continue its horrific behaviour. Indeed, many Jews who support the Palestinians would be labelled as antisemitic under this definition, that is, practicing decent Jews labelled as antisemitic. The state of Israel is not behaving in ways that real Jews support and actively object to eg publicly at the Pro Palestinian Protests.

This IHRA definition is so ridiculous that I will not adhere to it even if it is adopted. I will go out of my way to deliberately go against it. I will treat it with the contempt it deserves. As indeed I have done here. I will just ignore it as a document of the powerful oppressing those who expose them.

There are far better definitions that have been adopted eg the Rome Declaration and this specifically says, that Israel is not to be conflated with Jewishness and criticism of Israel is not antisemitic. I would support that and that would help arm us against the real danger to Jews, who are not Palestinians and their supporters. The real danger is the far right neo fascist and neo-Nazi groups. The LNP MPs and Senators that support the use of the IHRA, as a means to support Israels disgusting behaviour and hide their own facilitation and complicity, are putting Jews in harm's way, which only serves to expose their own motives, to preserve their and their kind's privileges. What pathetic specimens.

Do not adopt the IHRA working definition of Antisemitism, banish it from our politics and law!!!

Yours Sincerely Brian Crowther BSC (Ex Senior Petroleum Geologist Exxon/Mobil), BA (Politics), Dip Ed, COGE (Post Grad Cert in Gifted Ed).