

## Citizenship Application

Dear Sir, I think it is grossly unfair to introduce the changes proposed without prior warning or before the rules were even passed into law or brought before Parliament or the Senate. I had been in the middle of a citizenship by conferral application when the rules were changed. I started the application on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, unaware that any changes were imminent and the only reason my application wasn't complete before the 20<sup>th</sup> April was because I was awaiting the issue of my sons learner permit to prove his 100 points of ID.

I finally finished and submitted the application on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April, 2 days late under the new rules.

We came to Australia in May 2011 to give a better start in life for our children. My son is an A grade student who will study either medicine or engineering, both of which are skills Australia is seeking to import. Unfortunately if we don't get citizenship for our son we will have to return to the UK as we cannot afford university fees upfront as my wife, a midwife and myself a steel process worker, cannot afford it.

We uphold everything that is expected of migrants to Australia. We work, contributing to our local community, our son has won 2 cricket premierships since we came here and plays soccer for Sandringham Soccer club. We have integrated fully into our community and absolutely love being here.

If the rules could be imposed from the date of acceptance into law then that would be the fair Australian way, but to impose them on people who already had their irons in the fire so to speak is completely unjust and clearly un-Australian. All we ask is for a fair go and the acknowledgement that we had already started the application and for that to be taken into account in the final reckoning.

Yours Hopefully