

Dear Honourable Madame,
RE: Multiculturalism

I am a teacher and a Christian. I interact with different cultures all the time. What I see is a lot of groups of people who feel no responsibility to relate to one another. You can not assume that people who come to this country want to accept this country and relate to those of us who were born here. You can not assume that they are thankful to be here. You can not assume that they will fit in. The old mechanisms that allowed pre-existing Australians to express our values openly have been dismantled and nothing has been put in its place. Howard did try to re-establish our identity but even that has undercut by the stupidity of the racism expressed in the Northern Territory Intervention. How can governments really promote an attitude of treating others as they themselves would like to be treated without giving others the right to disregard our way of life?