Australian Parliament Joint Standing Committee on Migration Submission no. 185

Dear Sirs,

With reference to the Terms of Reference (TOR) detailed below, please accept my submission as follows:

Firstly

Any detailed inquiry must consider a "total picture" approach and provide a "wholistic" view of considerations, reviewing "home" thoughts, as well as reviewing experiences of other nations with sudden or insidious immigratory population increases.

A nation's culture is developed/formed over time based on such factors as background of immigrants, initial and subsequent over time; environment and climate; natural resources in global demand; skills of population to transform natural resources (and imported resources as applicable) into saleable/exportable commodities; education standards; and above all, Government regulations and the ability, willingness and commitment of Governments to enforce those regulations based on the will of the people. For a definitive culture to be developed that is recognisable as uniquely Australian, total assimilation is not only necessary, but is mandatory. Inclusive of this assimilation are language, education standards, the recognition and adherrance to the Laws of the Nation and its values, and ALLEGIANCE to the Nation above all else, as well as maintenance of its culture. Any relaxation of these aspects will undermine the uniqueness of the culture. As mentioned, the Governments must strictly enforce these aspects of assimilation – any transgressions being treated most urgently and harshly as applicable. Immigrants and refugees (unless definitively temporary) must commit to these aspects or be rejected forthwith. On commitment and subsequent "trial" (say) of 4 years, the immigrant may be offered permanent citizenship/residency. Treason and sedition laws must be definitive and enforced, with a minimum outcome of deportation of the individual and immediate family for any transgressions. This is not meant to be indicative of a "police state" merely an assurance to the remainder of the Nation's people that their culture is being preserved.

Secondly

Our Nation is based on democratic principles – it is a Democracy. A democratic outlook can be both advantageous and detrimental to a nation at the same time. In its simplest, democracy allows the rule of the "majority". That is, with our obligation to vote, the majority of votes will determine who/which party rules the Nation. Therefore "numbers count"!

Whilst our citizens are of the one "national culture" and have allegiance to the Nation under that culture, we can "reasonably" expect that our choices in potential governing parties and their leaders will be fair and just and in the interests of progressing the development of the Nation and maintaining its culture. At present our "culture" exists because there is a population majority comprised of Caucasian, Christian (or Christian tolerant) race and religion types.

To maintain this majority, their birth-rate must be such as to maintain that majority. Should that population majority be reduced by faster population increases by immigrant populations that may be adverse to our democratic bases of culture and life, our culture and its future would be under immediate threat. Not simply because of the individuals of that population per se, but by the immergence and influence of radical thought within that rising population.

Australia is a vast land and its many resources, wealth and growth potential are attractive to be taken advantage of – amicably by peace-loving immigrants willing to fully integrate and contribute - but also deviously by immigrants wishing to overthrow the political processes that currently protect our Nation and its culture, in whatever time it takes!

What needs to be recognised is:

- a. What level of any particular population/culture could pose a potential threat to disrupt or overthrow our democratic processes?
- b. What time frame could this possibly occur in?
- c. How can such a potential be recognised in time for corrective action to be taken?

d. What corrective actions could be taken if necessary?

e. If already too late, what mitigating actions could be considered and implemented? This is basic "risk assessment" – and needs to be taken extremely seriously and immediately – not relegated to the medium or long term, or even the short term. It is in the long-term interests of our Nation and its current culture. It is in the interests of our current population and their future generations. **It would be utterly irresponsible for any Government not to act in this way!**

Thirdly

It is important, for a population as relatively small as ours, with a land mass as large as ours to insist that immigrants , and legitimate refugees, have skills sets that can be utilised to capitalise on making our vast areas more hospitable, more agriculturally viable, and to populate areas on a more dispersed basis, rather than congregate in existing cities. Current cities provide an attraction to immigrants and refugees for potential but rarely realised job opportunities, affordable accommodation and wealth accumulation, and simply create a mass of humanity despairing in employment and an increasing drain on water, and the need for expensive transport and utilities infrastructure to maintain them. Multiculturalism must include dispersion of population and diversity of populations.

Incentives can be provided, but not at the expense of current populations, viz Indonesia's "Transmigrasi" policy caused considerable discontent when the Govt "migrated" numbers of population from overcrowded areas, such as major cities, to remote islands or inland areas, handing out incentives such as "a block of land" and "starting capital", without some compensation to the land owners of the areas to which these populations had been moved. In one particular case, the island of Ambon received whole new groups who had been given such incentives but were also predominantly of a different religion. This caused such animosity in Ambon that the religious differences caused long term violent riots with remaining undercurrents of ill-feeling to this day. Fairness and equity should be considered for all sides, as well as the compatibility of religious beliefs. Assess the culture/s of the immigrants we want to attract – are all aspects compatible with our way of life, with our way of thinking? If not, have the courage to reject them. And have the resolve and the courage to reject any who subsequently want to "stir the pot" for radical change!

To say that Australia aspires to "multiculturalism" but is restrictive in its selection of immigrants (including refugees) is OK. Australia is located in the Asian and South East Asian Pacific region. Most other nations within this region are restrictive in their selection of citizenship and permanent residency. We don't need to show the world that our "experiment" is the one that works. We don't need to show the world that our "experiment" is the one that works. We don't need to show the world anything! We simply need to be strong in our policies and enforce them – harshly if need be. We need to nurture our own current population, we need to ensure our own productivity. We need to protect our own way of life. We need to "look after our own backyard" first. If there is anything left over, we can be selectively benevolent, but only if there is anything "left over". We cannot be benevolent to others first, at the expense of our own population. I'm reminded of the advice given in an aircraft by the attendants – "in the event of cabin depressurisation, please ensure your own mask is firmly in place before attending to an infant or elderly passenger next to you or nearby".

In Conclusion

The "world" is getting smaller. My late father once said "Australia is so large and has so much potential that if we don't **selectively** increase our population on our own, one day a "world body" will force us to take immigrants". The operative word here is "selectively". We definitely can be selective, we should be selective – based on the thoughts above. BUT – we need to be determined, we need to be strong, and we need to take action quickly.

freely emmigrated from the Dutch East Indies, now Indonesia, as a young child with his parents and a younger brother in the early '50s. His father's qualifications as a Doctor of Law, and Dutch Crown Prosecutor for Japanese War Crimes in Ambon and the Dutch East Indies after WWII were null and void here in Australia, so he started "from scratch" to build a new life for his family of wife and three sons. mother worked her whole life in Sydney. The whole family "assimilated", English was the family language, and became an Officer in the Australian Regular Army, serving in Vietnam, and completing over 20 years in the Regular Army and a further 18 years in the Reserves.)

From links at: http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/mig/multiculturalism/index.htm

Inquiry into Multiculturalism in Australia

Terms of Reference

The Joint Standing Committee on Migration shall inquire into the economic, social and cultural impacts of migration in Australia and make recommendations to maximise the positive effects of migration. The inquiry shall examine and report on:

Multiculturalism, social inclusion and globalisation

- 1. The role of multiculturalism in the Federal Government's social inclusion agenda; and
- 2. The contribution of diaspora communities to Australia's relationships with Europe, the UK, Middle East and the immediate Asia-Pacific Region.

Settlement and participation

- 3. Innovative ideas for settlement programs for new migrants, including refugees, that support their full participation and integration into the broader Australian society; and
- 4. Incentives to promote long term settlement patterns that achieve greater social and economic benefits for Australian society as a whole.

National productive capacity

- 5. The role migration has played and contributes to building Australia's long term productive capacity;
- 6. The profile of skilled migration to Australia and the extent to which Australia is fully utilising the skills of all migrants; and
- 7. Potential government initiatives to better assist migrant communities establish business enterprises.