

Dear Sirs,

To the best of my knowledge, there has not been a single act of terrorism in Australia. Not one. Yet we are gearing up with a set of laws that can be used in future to circumvent all current legal processes to defer this perceived threat. In the long run, how are we going to differentiate between petty crime, for which one set of laws applies, and terrorism for which another set applies? I am not naturally a civil libertarian, but I fear the potential for creating a police state in which it is a crime to even report on what is going on.

There are other real threats to our welfare from many sources - climate change, environmental degradation, oil depletion etc. Over the next few decades, maybe even years, we are going to be under great pressure, potentially leading to a breakdown in social behaviour. Please let's concentrate on what are our real problems.

Yours sincerely,

John Sved