



Submission No 31

Inquiry into potential reforms of National Security Legislation

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Sent: Wednesday, 25 July 2012 6:10 PM
To: Committee, PJCIS (REPS)
Cc: Edwards, Sean (Senator)

The Joint Committee Members on Intelligence and Security

Dear Members

My submission does not concern technical electronic issues employed in surveillance but rather whether we may be creating an un-necessary monster.

As citizens of a presumed 'free country', we must avoid all intrusions which pose a threat to our privacy because without privacy we have no freedom.

There is sufficient strength in current laws to enable a "watch" to be carried out on the various involvements of people of significant interest. This amount of encroachment is tolerable.

Society would balk at a proposal where every shopper had to have their handbags/wallets inspected at the checkout as a method of apprehending shop-lifters. Store security officers identify the potential thieves and it is only them who have to undergo a search. This is a good model to employ in National Security matters. Let the 'suspects' be monitored.

A particular matter where a Federal Member has been alleged to have misappropriated certain Union funds, has been in the media for several months. Whilst the accusations are still only allegations, research which may confirm the allegations has in part been gathered from mobile phone records. This is proof positive that sufficient powers exist to monitor or verify any activities considered potentially dangerous to Security or any other issues.

Yours sincerely

Ken Grundy

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