

SUBMISSION AND COMMENT re PROPOSED IMMIGRATION BRIDGE ACROSS LAKE BURLEY GRIFFIN

The concept of an immigration bridge across Lake Burley Griffin in Canberra is vainglorious in the extreme, and inappropriate. The concept appears to be driven by a false idea of multiculturalism, that only post-war migrants from non-English speaking countries have made any significant contribution to the progress of Australia. This exclusivity is a notable feature of current multiculturalism which has departed from the original concept of an ultimate unity despite diversity.

Modern multiculturalism has slipped within the scope of political correctness to deter criticism. This has allowed some immigrant groups to resist assimilation into the mainstream of Australian society and to believe that their difference is superior and that the host society which gave immigrants succour and freedom, is to be despised. A graffiti slogan summed this up as “Skips suck. Wogs rule.”

For all the symbolic words of its proponents in the multicultural industry, the extravagant folly of a bridge imposed on the nation’s capital, rather than a memorial on land, illustrates that the original concept of multiculturalism has been eroded to the point where separateness is proclaimed as superior, and a continuing goal demanding exclusive treatment.

Primarily politicians are to blame for encouraging such a separatist attitude in their quest for votes, but they are aided by sections of the media that cheapen Australia, by those in academia and teaching who belittle Australia’s achievements, and by bureaucracies that highlight non-Australians in every illustrated brochure.

Have we taught and are we teaching immigrants just what it is that they are signing up to? Australia is an exceptional place with its own concepts of equality, freedoms of thought, speech, belief and worship, and as fierce a love of country as exists anywhere else. If we have not instilled these things then the proposed grandiose bridge will proclaim our failure to meld as one people.

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