

Dear Sirs,

I understand that at present you are calling for submissions regarding your proposed introduction of legislation to make it a crime to associate or meet a person based on the fact that they are a member of a terrorist organisation. As a law student, mother, wife and muslim I must alert you to the following:

1. Terrorists rarely notify the general public of the fact that they are terrorist;
2. Membership lists from terrorist organisations are rarely released;
3. Members of the Islamic community continually meet for information sessions etc, would the bill include arresting and jaling every person who attended the same meeting regardless if they were aware of such a persons presence and of who that person is
4. Will the bill cover legal advisors, if not, why does a law degree protect people from the laws that are applied to the general public, what is to stop the terrorists from simply all gaining law degrees and thus congregating together, if it does apply, then their right to a fair trial might as well be given away also.
5. This bill will effectively drive apart people in communities, no-one will make new friends, no-one will want to work in muslim communities for fear of being arrested with such a person etc.

The logistics are incredible, how does the average person know that another is a terrorist? Do they have some distinctable recognisable featurer. I communicate with many people everyday in my role as a member of the Executive of the Islamic Womens Welfare Centre and I would think that none of the people that I associate with were involved in terrorism, but I am not so niave as to think that it doesnt exist. How can a person offer assistance and help to another without fear of arrest.

Please do not table this bill. I am sure that there are a million emails like mine that you must examine but should you require further information from me please contact me, Mrs Christie Elemam at Punchbowl NSW

Regards

Christie Elemam and family.