

Cathy Agar

To whom it may concern

RE: Australian Citizenship Amendment (Citizenship Testing) Bill 2007

I am writing in relation to my sister Diane Agar, who moved to Australia in 1962 as a 4 year old, and returned to England in the early 1980's when my parents decided to return to England. Diane is now desperate to return to Australia to be reunited with myself and our sister Joanne who were both born in Australia and therefore have Australian citizenship. Diane has been advised that as she is not an Australian citizenship and is now over 45 years of age, she can not be granted a permanent visa to allow her to return to Australia to live.

I believe this ruling to be very unfair, as she grew up in Australia, Diane has always considered herself to be an Australian, when she left Australia, Diane was not advised that if she wished to return she would be required to become an Australian citizen, if she had been advised of this, I know that she would have been happy to become an Australian citizen. Diane simply did not apply to become an Australian citizen when she lived in Australia as she believed that she was an Australian citizen. Diane has watched myself and Joanne return to Australia to live without any trouble. To have one sibling treated differently for reasons outside of her control is I believe unjust.

I ask you to reconsider Diane's case, and the cases of the thousands of people also in Diane's position.

Yours sincerely

Cathy Agar