

Submission to the Parliamentary Inquiry
into the Proposed Anti-Terror Laws

Its clear the existing Criminal Code 1995 as amended last week is sufficient for law enforcement to do its job.

The difference between the recent events and those in the future if the bill becomes law is the media coverage.

The government will be able to control what the public hears about future police action.

Anything which puts the government in a bad light will be suppressed.

There are many examples from recent history (the last few years) that illustrate how this power is exercised.

Those who ignore history are doomed to repeat it.

Please consider the ramifications of what is being proposed.

Imagine the ability to impose an order of any kind on anybody, denying recourse to independent legal assistance.

In the U.S., independent legal advice is becoming hard to find. Defending counsel has been successfully charged with aiding the enemy. This makes lawyers reticent to act for a client charged under terror laws.

Any opposing voice, no matter how law-abiding, can be effectively eliminated, indefinitely.

Likely targets over the years will include

unionists environmentalists journalists independent media opposition political parties

with orders placed on

librarians bank staff government staff police military personnel emergency services doctors nurses teachers.

This law puts everyone's freedom in the hands of the government.

The government becomes unaccountable, and omnipotent.

This submission closes in quarter of an hour.

That's insufficient time to develop my submission.

I ask that the period for submissions be extended.

F. Hollis