

This is from a deeply concerned citizen who migrated to this wonderful country from apartheid South Africa 25 years ago and have never regretted the decision for one second.

I find the moves to try to muzzle the Murdoch papers for being critical of the Greens, for example (and I believe that is precisely what we're seeing) and to convict Andrew Bolt -- no matter what anybody thinks of him -- of a crime for expressing an opinion (ditto) frighteningly reminiscent of the totalitarian behaviour displayed by the apartheid regime. We left South Africa to escape this kind of intolerance. Please help ensure open and free debate exists always and that no Australian ever needs to be threatened with court/jail for expressing an opinion that *might* hurt somebody else's feelings.

Please also never forget the words of Evelyn Beatrice Hall (often wrongly attributed to Voltaire): I disapprove of what you say but will defend until the death your right to say it.

Finally, antidiscrimination laws should apply to every Australian equally. The revolting racism displayed recently against Jewish businesses in Australia, I'm sure you'll agree, has no place in our country. Yet nowhere, for example, in relevant government literature do we ever read about measures to protect Jewish people from discrimination. I went to a Jewish wedding in Sydney a couple of years ago and they had to hire security guards to protect the guests. Why?

Thank you for reading this.

Love, light and peace (and freedom)

Bruce Heilbuth