

National Human Rights Consultation Submission

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Name: Stephen Lumley

Submission Text:

It is good to see a Bill of Rights finally being drafted for Australia.

This needs to be, like the law, a very static document.

I would like to see freedom to correct information.

This right however would have to be carefully worded but not unworkable.

Why include a freedom to correct information;

1) The 'vale of secrecy' has caused many human rights abuses. Particularly state sanctioned killings (Cambodia, Germany) to abuse of financial institutions and peoples rights to collect money(ENRON e.t.c.)

2) It is the foundation to many of the UN Rights. The right to education, the right to justice etc All which depend on the right to freedom of information.

3) Any person should be given the ability to make a decision based on the widest possible lattitude. One would expect that not everyone will use this lattitude. However one would expect that ignorance, or the deprivation of information would lead to the limitation of decision making and therefore the ability to make a more correct choice.

4) It frees a person from the burden of being colluded against.

5) It brings more accountability to large institutions, political bodies.

6) Allows journalists to investigate information within the public domain.

Obviously it must be co-existent with an individuals right to privacy as well as considering a countries right to conduct defence/foreign policy.