

# National Human Rights Consultation Submission

AGWW-7QRFFV

**Name:** Terence Dwyer

**Submission Text:**

Dear Fr Brennan

I have come reluctantly to the view that the "war on drugs", the "war on terror" and the latest "war on tax havens" are wars on liberty waged by bureaucratic power centres against their citizens. Whatever may have been the good intentions behind such things they represent horrendous attacks on human rights at the most basic level necessitating as they do the implementation of a police state apparatus in what used to be considered common law consitutional countries.

I therefore attach my protests to the Attorney-General about the Anti-money laundering legislation (attached below). I got a reply so inane it was not worth replying to.

It's a strange world we live in where the "right to privacy" means babies can be killed before or during birth but personal bank records are opened up for "transparency and accountability", not of governments to taxpayers but of taxpayers to government. I would have thought a "right to privacy" had nothing to do with the former and everything to do with the latter.

I am obviously pre-post modern as I regard all this as fundamentally un-British and un-Australian and completely inconsistent with the common law liberties of the subject.

If we are to get a Bill of Rights I want an updated version of the 1688 version and the US version, not some ephemeral wish list of sectional aspirations which no one can enforce and no one has a duty to respect. I want an end to illegal tax gathering and vexatious inquisitions. I want a presumption that the subject is entitled to be left alone in the enjoyment of his property and nothing is to be taken from him except by due process of law and by clear and unambiguous words. In short, I want restored what was our birthright.

Yours faithfully

Terry Dwyer

.....  
25 April 2008

The Hon Robert McClelland MHR  
Attorney-General  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr McClelland

**REPORTING OF "SUSPICIOUS" MATTERS – TURNING AUSTRALIA INTO A GESTAPO STATE**

It is Anzac Day and I am reading the letter my uncle wrote to his brother on the evening of the 3rd of September 1939, the day war was declared against Nazi Germany. He had visited Nazi Germany in the 1930s and had seen the coming horror of totalitarianism. He volunteered immediately to join the 6th Division of the AIF.

He wrote –

"This evil philosophy which Germany has adopted can only be exterminated by

its destruction. The nobility of the individual will only triumph over the brutishness of the state after many free men have died.”

He died on the 4th October 1943 in the Ramu Valley.

I now refer you to the Anti-Money Laundering legislation and its proposed extensions which will require professionals to report on their clients for so-called “suspicious” behaviour as defined by the bureaucracy.

My question to you is simple.

Do you think my uncle died so that I should be forced to spy on my clients and report them to the Government, just as the Gestapo and the Stasi required Germans to report on their neighbours?

Is this what Australia has come to?

If this is what the future Australia is to be, I want to advise you I want no part of it. I was born a British subject in Sydney in a free country. I want to live in a free country where I am not required to suspect my neighbours nor spy on them nor report them to the Government. I do not want to live in a “police state”. Of course, I have no intention of assisting murderers, terrorists and criminals or but I have no intention of being a State informer or spy either. I want the elementary liberty of being allowed to presume men innocent until proven otherwise. Normal and natural human social intercourse will become impossible if we are required to suspect each other.

So far from being a suspicious person, I am naïve enough to hope this personal protest may make you think for yourself about what your bureaucracy has drafted for you. As the First Law Officer of the Crown I expect you to defend our liberties rather than erase them.

I am personally outraged by this legislation and I am giving this letter of protest a wide circulation.

Yours faithfully

Terence Dwyer

.....  
Attorney-General  
c/-Attorney-General's Department  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Sirs

AUSTRALIA AS A GESTAPO STATE

I refer to your so-called anti-money laundering “reforms”.

May I suggest that these be abandoned entirely?

Reading through the list of things to be reported, one realizes it would do credit to the Gestapo or the Stasi.

My uncle did not volunteer the day after war was declared in September 1939 to fight for Australia to become like Nazi Germany and that was not why he shed his blood.

If the sort of intrusive spying in the so-called anti-money laundering regulations is the price of defending the Commonwealth of Australia, then it is not worth defending.

I was born a British subject in what was a free country where the common law presumed every man to be innocent. I do not spend my life thinking

suspicious thoughts about others. On the contrary, I have suffered more than once by believing people – sometimes, sad to say, our elected legislators and public servants.

But I would much prefer to believe in people and be saddened occasionally than be some sort of “sneak for the State”.

And, please, if you are going ahead, I repeat my request for the monument to Magna Carta outside the Old Parliament House to be removed. We should not be reminded of what we are throwing away.

Yours sincerely

Terence Dwyer

Terry Dwyer B.A. (Hons) B.Ec. (Hons) (Syd.) M.A. Ph.D. (Harvard), Dip. Law (Syd.)