

National Human Rights Consultation Submission

AGWW-7SWDTN

Organisation: Wangerratta Committee on National Rights

Submission Text:

We take a keen interest in the future of our country, and particularly the rights of the Australian people. We believe that under current laws Australian's rights are satisfactorily protected. We are not in favor of the proposed Charter of Rights for the following reasons. We have including examples to illustrate our points.

1.

The Charter does not lead to compulsory human rights enforcement, as seen in countries such as Zimbabwe that have a bill of Rights.

2.

The Charter has lead to judges authorizing the rights of citizens instead of the Parliamentarians, as occurred after the UK's Human Right Act.

3.

We do not wish for our rights to be debated in a courtroom by judges we didn't select.

4.

The charter's language, no matter how general, leads to many interpretations. If the language is too rigid, rights are restricted and impinged.

5.

Having a Charter of Rights would allow lawyers to have a field day, for example, an increase in house rent in New Zealand was challenged because it violated a tenant's "right to life."

6.

Using the bill of rights, lawyers may 'bend' the rules which will effect the education, health, and housing rules negatively.

7.

Freedom of assembly, association and expression will be defined, which in fact impinges these rights. The rights may be so rigid they may effect the nation on a security level, for example if police are not allowed to search at will with good motive.

8.

Human rights are currently well protected and implemented in Australia.

9.

If and when Australians are not satisfied with the level of human rights protection, we would prefer to take our matter to the Parliament and have a law implement or altered.

In conclusion, we ask the committee to consider our argument and resolve not to enact a bill of rights to our country. Thankyou.