

# HELLENIC BY BIRTH - I AM AUSTRALIAN



In previous articles I have written briefly about my Hellenic origins and my pride in being an Australian of Hellenic origins. What I have alluded to in the past but never fully explained is how difficult it has been for someone to grapple with his identity, clash and reconciliation of cultures, demons, values, paradigms of the past, differences, self worth and self esteem.

Despite the what others see of one's self and what is projected, the sea of people we meet on a daily basis is and/or was the identity of one's personality, acknowledgement, achievements and the masks that we put on a daily basis to survive.

I was once foolishly asked by an inquisitive friend, what I would do if the country of my place of birth clashed with my adopted country. My response was truly laconic:

***"When wearing the uniform of Australia."  
"A bullet will not discriminate."***

This returns me to how one sees themselves and their own acceptance at a reconciliation of two cultures without losing one individual identity in an overwhelming sea of humanity. Confusing it may be, but how else can the essence of one's soul and identity be otherwise described. **Peter Adamis**