

## TO BE OR NOT TO BE AN AUSTRALIAN DOES THAT MAKE ME A RACIST

Peter Adamis - Abalinx 2 November 2015



It is of interest to note that when one is faced with life's uncertainty due to illness that one has the time to reflect upon life and critically look at what is important at that very moment. As a complex person, life's uncertainties have not worried me as I would view each one as a challenge to overcome using whatever life's skills I have amassed. When faced with a challenge that I personally find insurmountable, I would garner support from the rich plethora of good friends that I have come into contact with in my life.

These good friends would not hesitate to support me as they too knew that I would in turn be the same for them. My attitude and outlook on life are typical of Australian values, values that were tried and tested over time. Cultural paradigms of two cultures tested under difficult and often thought provoking periods of one's life that led to a happy medium being reached and feeling comfortable with the notion of being an Australian whose origins are from a country far from this nation's shores.

We as Australians are who we are, resilient, courageous, tolerant, compassionate, embraced by a Spartan look at life that freedom does not come without some form of sacrifice and commitment to those freedoms. Mind you it's important that the reader understand that I like millions of others was not born here but one who embraced Australian values. It was a conscience decision on my part as I wanted to be acknowledged and accepted for my contribution to this nation we call home, Australia. As a consequence of my decision, my children who are proud of their Greek and British origins are Aussies first and so will their descendants. They have embraced and enhanced the values and ethics I have instilled in them and have gone on to create their life paradigms that will enable them to survive in today's changing society.

Having said the above, I as an ex serviceman wonder why our government ministers, captains of industry, entrepreneurs, business community leaders and in some cases our institutions kowtowing and falling over themselves in trying to cash in on the money being poured in by external sponsors such as the oil rich and resource hungry nations. Look around you observe and take note of how our society is changing from the one we all grew up on. I am not saying or advocating that change is not good, in fact I am saying the exact opposite but that with those changes, caution and vigilance should be the watchwords if and when our core values are being infiltrated by stealth and/or direct action.

I sit at home, gaze upon my books that sit silently on the shelves as guardians and as a reminder, that those who dwell within also had a part to play in this nation of ours. I wonder whether other generations will take the time to sit down and read the lessons of the past and how did those who lived before us tackle the challenges they faced. As a one who has been raised within a Christian environment, I made it my business to look at other religions and faiths in order to find out whether there was a common theme amongst them. There are amongst the many books that line my shelves at home one will find the Bible, the Jewish Bible, The Koran, The Indian Transcripts, Buddhist scriptures and the old gods of mythology all saying the same thing. Love thy neighbour is predominant amongst many other examples.

Therefore in hindsight, I have come to the conclusion that at the age of 65, I am no different to the many other millions of Australians. I too, monitor and observe the many changes within our society, many of which have enhanced our way of living. "But" and it is an important pause in the discussion that those fabrics which have strengthened our Australian society in the past are under enormous challenges. Were our ancestors and those who came before us, racists or did they just want to maintain and enhance their gene pool by accepting like minded individuals and families so that when society developed, it would be along the lines and foundations of a British Commonwealth?

I don't believe that they were racists, but a society fearful of losing its identity as a young nation. They in their collective and blinkered wisdom developed and implemented policies and concepts that was acceptable to mainstream Australia at that time. I find nothing wrong with that concept, given that other nations have the same "hidden and unseen" policies but reluctant to publicise in fear of upsetting the hearts and minds of their voters and supporters. But although we as Australians may wish to have xenophobic and Spartan values does not necessarily mean that we are averse to change and innovation. We as Australians have the sovereign right to determine our way of life and whom we choose to accept within our society.

I ask readers, does that make a racist? If my point of view is being seen as racists, then they who make judgement upon my way of life and beliefs can only blame themselves if I too as a right wing conservative succumb to extreme right wing views if there are no other alternatives to maintaining my way of life are not being acknowledged and met. This then is the whole crux of the matter when dealing with radicalised Australians of the Muslim faith. If they are not made to feel welcome, acknowledge or their needs met, then they too have choices. Choices, if not managed correctly may lead to inappropriate and fearful consequences that will impact upon themselves as individuals, their community and the wider Australian community.

Some years ago, I can remember having a discussion with Bruce Ruxton who was concerned about Australian values being forgotten and that society's heroes and representatives being relegated to the books shelves amidst the dust and long legged spiders well known for spinning their long webs. Bruce Ruxton loved this nation, accepting all new comers who wanted to make Australia home and with that choice

were expected to embrace Australian values without losing their cultural identity. It did not take long for Bruce to take up the cudgel so to speak and spearhead a campaign that would see Australian military history and culture being

I wonder whether I am the only one who thinks like this or am I barking up the wrong tree. The future as we know of it today is uncertain and it does not take crystal ball, prophet or a seer of entrails to see what is in store for us as a nation. What I do know is that despite our personal beliefs or knowledge of people like Bruce Ruxton, Australia is in dire need of another hero like him to express the forgotten Australians' point of view. Pauline Hanson expresses some of those views but is hardly seen as Bruce Ruxton's successor and lacks his credibility on the world stage.

Left and Right extremists groups of which involve some of my friends, joined only after losing faith in our systems, politicians, institutions lack of action. Left and Right extremists groups are both fearful for reasons known only to them that inaction will lead to being overwhelmed by cultures and faiths not conducive to our way of life. Therefore does the reader consider them as racists one may ask? I think not. Consider well the 'watchword' vigilance is the key to maintain the freedoms we enjoy this day and wish that may also be enjoyed by our children's children.

As a passing remark, we must not forget that we who are the silent but not forgotten members of society are not racists, nor extremists but a concerned about the direction Australia is being taken to. A direction that may not be compatible with the long term longevity this nation.

As always, I apologise to the purists for the punctuation and grammar.



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