

## AN ALTERNATIVE POINT OF VIEW ON THE CRONULLA RIOTS.

Peter Adamis - Abalinx - 12 December 2015

In every nation where a culture feels that it is under threat, the ugly side will always appear. The Cronulla riots have its origins into many unrelated events leading up to it and most of them involved negative media reports such as crimes against society by first generation Australians. This point of view is not to delve into the ugliness of a nations character but rather to express a view that the Cronulla riots was a wakeup call for all those involved.

I am of the belief that the crux of the matter is the result of an identity crisis that has its roots deeply embedded in the psyche of new members to an existing society. It is paramount and it is expected that every new immigrant that makes a new home in their adopted country to integrate and embrace the nation's laws and institutions without losing one's identity.

If one someone demonstrates a behaviour that is alien to existing societal norms, then those individuals should be dealt with according to the laws of that nation. There are no ifs or buts about it. Religion should never become an issue as that is an individual's right to follow and/or believe who they want. That includes the introduction of a religious law that is not conducive to the security and longevity of that nation.

That is why on numerous occasions I have stated that Australians of Hellenic heritage and other Australians whose origins are from elsewhere are not and should not refer themselves to as wogs or by any other name. Using such derogatory names even in jest is alienating themselves from mainstream Australia and sending the wrong message to the wider Australian community.

I for one am not surprised that the Cronulla riots occurred, but what did surprise me was that it did not occur much earlier which demonstrates to me the other side of the Australian character and that was the patient and tolerant side which does not receive sufficient media attention. People can criticise me for my point of view as it is their right, but in doing so one must remember that we who have worn the uniform of this country did so to give them the freedom to do so.

Whether anybody likes it or not, we are all Australians no matter where our origins are from and as such with that comes responsibilities and societal expectations which cannot be or should not be ignored. This nation is on the verge of greatness, but that greatness can only come about as a united people. Therefore let us become that great nation as one people and not a divided one of many cultures. Vigilance as always is the key to economic security and institutional longevity.

As usual, please accept my apologies for the grammar and punctuation.



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