

Fighting Antisemitism and Keeping Guns out of the Hands of Terrorists and Criminals Amendment Bill 2026

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Submission By: [REDACTED]

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I fully support actions against discrimination that are proportionate and don't take society back to a authoritarian era such as McCarthyism, Joh Bjelke or apartheid type eras where politicians determine what is acceptable. It is better to set a range of rules that are blind to a particular religion, sex, or country and focus on actions and have an independent body such as the Australian Human Rights commission enforce these rules.

In particular banning a contested slogan that does not explicitly call for violence is extremely problematic when it is used by a community that is subject to appalling loss of life and dignity such as the Palestinian people and in particular, the govt that is calling for its banning is the instigator. Before listing any such slogan a careful and public analysis and engagement with the people, cultural and legal experts which will be published should be a simple minimum. Organisations that want to submit in particular must be published and it should be up to a judicial body free from lobbying or the perception of lobbying should make this distinction.

Setting clear standards and definitions of what a terrorist group/country is, how it's determined and a legal opinion to justify its listing, identifying symbols and actions is best. Even this must be done very carefully as determinations and accusations from people and groups that are invested and hurting must be done carefully and sympathetically.

It would also be best after the dreadful and abhorrent actions in Sydney by the DASH terrorist group should not be rewarded with further division. I ask that the contentious part of this legislation be parked and considered carefully with deep community engagement and await the Royal Commission report from the Bondi Shooting where the QLD govt and other bodies can propose its response for deep consideration.

Owning a firearm is a massive responsibility and trust. The opportunities for abuse and violence as a political or individual are inherently worse with a weapon and potential for rapid and random violence or as is often seen domestic violence. The Las Vegas shooting showed one individual with multiple firearms killed 60 people and fired a thousand shots. Limiting guns and ammunition would seem reasonable to address this known risk, I would be horrified to see this anywhere let alone somewhere like the Gold Coast. Addressing mental health with some form of check would seem reasonable in the circumstances of owning a gun and was a recommendation of the Wiemballa inquest.

thank you for taking the time to read my submission and I appreciate this is a fraught and challenging place to legislate in, let's be compassionate and caring.

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