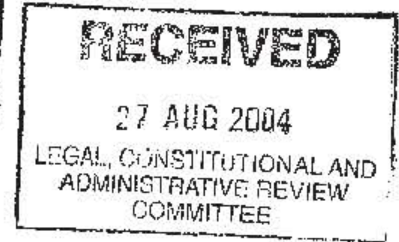
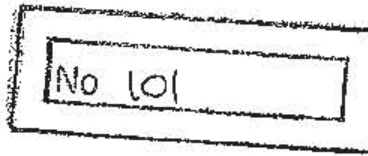


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Mr R. J. Doyle

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2004

The Research Director  
Legal and Constitutional and Administrative Review committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Fax: 3406 7070

RE: Submission for the Preamble For The Queensland Constitution

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to make comments regarding a preamble for the Queensland Constitution.

This country was settled by barbaric behaviour where the wrongs from the past have not been fully addressed to make right with the first people of this land. There is not one township in Queensland that does not acknowledge the sacrifices of our fallen who have died defending our country. There is not a township in Queensland that has acknowledged the fallen Aborigines that died trying to defend their land from superior alien forces.

How could we use the word "God" when one of the Ten Commandments says:

"Thou shall not steal."

I feel it would be an insult to use the word "God" as this country was not settled in what would be called an amicable way. This country was settled by invasion, unheard of atrocities, abuse, violence, aggression, neglect, naivety and total disrespect for the world's oldest culture.

The colonists were "Christian" people who used the bible and refer to "God" but it seems blatantly obvious to me that they did not practice what they preached. I refer to the Book of Deuteronomy Chapter Verse 14:

"Thou shall not remove thy neighbour's landmark, which they of old time have set in thine inheritance, which thou shalt inherit in the land that the lord thy God giveth thee to possess it."

An example of this is the Queensland -New South Wales border line at Coolangatta which splits the Bunjalung nation in two. It would be totally hypocritical to mention "God."

The least we could say is the "Creator." This wording would be more accommodating to the many people that currently reside in Queensland from one-hundred and forty-nine (149) birthplaces around the world who speak one-hundred and four (104) different languages. These figures will surely increase in the future. These people have the right to practice other religions which may not necessarily have any particular emphasis on the use of the word "God." The aboriginal people used and some still do use the word "Biame." Perhaps, the use of the word "Creator" would be a small acknowledgement of the first people of this land.

As an act of conciliation with the first people of this land, may I suggest that they be acknowledged in chronological order as to the settlement of this land? We must have conciliation before we have reconciliation. A gesture like this may be a start to help heal old wounds. The first people of this land should be mentioned first because they were here first. It only seems fitting that we acknowledge them through the natural and logical progression of time in our Queensland history.

After "the rule of law;" there should be an insert, namely, "and the lore of this land."

After "unique natural environment;" there should be an insert, namely, "peoples' inheritance."

After "opportunity for all;" there should be an insert, namely, "people regardless of race, culture, sex, creed, beliefs or religion."

In summation, what is said in the proposed preamble is good apart from what I have commented on. It would be a good idea to have a preamble to the Constitution for it would create an ownership for the people who live here. The current Australian Constitution needs to be reviewed and updated. I refer to Section 51 (xiii)

The Parliament shall, subject to this Constitution, have power to make laws for the peace, order, and good government of the Commonwealth with respect to:- (xiii) Banking, other than state banking; also stat banking extending beyond the limits of the state concerned, the incorporation of banks, and the issue of paper money:"

Paper money has become obsolete.

Yours sincerely



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Ron Doyle