



Good Day to You. Listeners maybe aware I am a devotee of certain aspects of American Democracy which emerged from their War of Independence in 1783. With new found freedom the Americans had to start from scratch assembling their legal structures and **human rights** standards and so on. Granted, this was influenced by the English democratic system and its long history and common law. Nonetheless they really made a good job of it and the written foundation was the Preamble to the Constitution plus the Constitution itself and their Bill of Rights. In my view these are outstanding documents and we have nothing like it in Australia to our measurable detriment. Don't let anyone tell you that being tied to English law makes up for this because it doesn't and thankfully this is finally being challenged in part by Senator Cori Bernardi with his **Australian Human Rights Amendment Freedoms bill 2019**. Regardless of the outcome of this Bill we owe Cori Bernardi a debt of gratitude in my view for raising this matter.

Our basic rights in Australia should be inalienable but are being undermined by minority groups and discrimination laws and the selfish myopia of a relative few. The notorious section 18c of the Racial Discrimination Act creates an example of unforeseen consequences where it was probably designed in good faith but the discrimination issue has now been high jacked for many reasons. It's easy to hear the phrase **"that's discrimination or racist"** as a threat and the phrase is used regularly in society without any wisdom or insight attached. It has become a reckless shotgun act to persecute others and in this simply claiming a person is discriminatory or racist can ruin lives and end a career. There is a fear in being ascribed the claim of **'discriminatory'** or being homophobic or sexist and so on. The effect is that the law has been weaponized and by minority groups to amplify their own point of view way beyond being reasonable or fair. Without a Bill of Rights to provide a priority base line of inalienable rights we are at the mercy of the few.....sound familiar. Add political correctness and you have the irrefutable perfect social engineering weapon. This is precisely why society today runs to the tune of the minority and not to the benefit of the many and often defies common sense. At the heart of the antidiscrimination act lies the basis for stupidity where it states you can't offend or insult others. Who on earth can predict what will insult or hurt another and the last person I would ask would be a judge living in the rarefied atmosphere of our pompous judicial system. This is where Cory Bernardi's bill comes in. His **Australian Human Rights Amendment Freedoms** bill seeks to bench mark and prioritise the law with the inalienable rights of freedom of speech and worship for life liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Senator Bernardi tabled his Australian Freedoms bill recently, a bill that puts freedom and the right to protect the family above race and other discrimination laws. It would require the government to explain each time it tables new legislation how the laws give freedom priority over other rights. The senator believes these other **"rights are cannibalising each other"** and I agree as some things must take precedence. The term **"discrimination"** has sadly broadened and apparently now includes criticism, critique and anything other than endorsement, celebration and praise. Anti-discrimination laws are becoming weapons to ostracise opponents and drive them out of the public space and it's a deleterious change in society. Senator Bernardi has rightly attacked the LGBTIQ community as **"imperialistic and aggressive"** since winning the same-sex marriage debate. Unfortunately, basic freedoms long considered implied and existing by default in our Constitution and common law, can no longer be taken for granted. As a myriad of new rights are defined with new laws enacted and new legal and corporate precedents set, our inalienable freedoms are being gradually whittled down, crowded out and competed away. I think we all see this and wonder why. We the people must take an interest because if we don't then this slow erosion of basic rights of freedom will continue. I wish Cory Bernardi well in his endeavours.