

From: ANGE KENOS, FRVAHJ [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, 27 October 2021 12:44 PM
To: oldervictoriansinquiry
Subject: submission

Dear Members of teh Committee

I am utterly amazed that it has taken so many decades of pleading and asking and informing and discussing with MPs current and past, political party committee persons, staffers etc etc before this review finally got off the ground.

That said, IF you have NOT advertised in every ethnic Newspaper, and non every SBS program (radio & TV) then the inquiry is a sham - but if you have, please pat each other on the back.

But a little about me, if I may -

- contributor to each inquiry into the Equal Opportunity Act, and several federal inquiries related to multiculturalism
- foundation member of then City of Essendon Ethnic Liaison Ctee
- until recently, Chair of the Moonee Valley Interfaith Network
- past member Victorian Govt Standing Ctee on Local Govt & Cultural Diversity
- ex middle manager at Australian Greek Welfare Society
- Past Board Member, former Migrant Resource Centre
- frequent contributor to Neos Kosmos over 40 years, past Editor of DILADI Magazine and past sometime producer and co DJ on then Zorba on Sunday (3CR) with Nikos Loupos
- member Regional Adv Ctee, N-W, VMC
- member various associations
- plus...

I am thus rather knowledgeable in many aspects of ethnic policies, programs and conduct NOT that anyone can claim to be an over arching all embracing expert.

So, to try to save you some time, I will deliver the following in point form, but NOT in any order of priority.

- Racism - let's be blunt, racism continues on so many levels albeit it is NOT as bad as when I was a child decades ago. When my face was slashed in primary school and the school never offered us any support, medical attention, compensation... But when you are born in Australia as I was, a Justice of the Peace for decades, volunteered with police and received awards from same, sat on several boards (and that is another matter to be discussed infra) but you still hear - when people learn your name - "I knew I could detect an accent". That is the least issue in racism because I have gone through racism in being kicked out of teaching at Melbourne High School as all the 'Greek' Aussie teachers were by the then racist principal and the Education Department did NOTHING when approached, and so many more examples. You will certainly receive more but I do not wish to labour this issue, today.
- Appointments - if only Victoria had a policy as NSW did once upon a time, when Hungarian born Nick Greiner was Premier. Albeit, John Cain II was pretty good in this state and Mr Andrews is definitely the best since Mr Cain. But Mr Greiner looked at suitably qualified ethnic Australians for appointments to boards, tribunals, committees, the bench, as school principals, senior public

service... areas where Victoria - the most conservative state - has been slow to act. With so many state govt controlled boards, and the multicultural status of our population, look at how few ethnic Australians sit on said boards...

- Political Party representation - again, look at the demographics. Of how many "Greek Aussies - seven generations worth in my family, totally about 500000 (I spent considerable time years ago researching at the Aust Bureau of Statistics) and yet percentage wise how many MPs do we have regardless of political party? OK we do not need strict numbers but my point is that few if ANY political parties openly encourage ethnic Australians to stand for parliamentary winnable seats. I state the latter because a friend, well known to Mr D Davis, was a Liberal candidate several times but in unwinnable seats, and that was insulting to all concerned.
- SBS & ABC re ethnic policy
- Elder abuse
- Financial misconduct
- Digital Literacy and (eg) My Gov
- Aged Care
- Home Care services
- Extradition
- Tax fraud

Mr. Ange Kenos,
FRVAHJ

(NB 1/ I have to add Mr as I am sick of getting replies back to me addressed as if I am female. Very uneducated bureaucrats and MP staff

NB 2/ My surname is pronounced as in KEN)