

feel that the surveillance of COVID19 lockdown behaviour by police soon became yet another form of harassment, exacerbated by their overcrowded living conditions and poor incomes. Single mothers with children, still working on limited incomes, feared that they would lose what work they had, as slow test processing times meant they had to stay at home in self-isolation until cleared: they feared the self-isolation regimes.

Why we have to do “multicultural” properly

The signs of a second wave are already riffling the not so distant horizon. Official after official told me, becoming astonished in the telling to realise it, that there was no data about ethnic diversity. We are on the edge of something very complex with potentially major “downsides”. It is not just the abandoned asylum seekers whom I see searching for cans in the bins on my local street in order to collect a few coins, or the refugees fed by charities shivering in the cold as winter comes on, or the international students riding through the night for Deliveroo, but the whole edifice of multicultural Australia that has been overcome with shadows.

Hopefully someone will work out that some authority needs to say, “let’s do this right”, and open up the illumination. This must begin by redefining the Notifiable Diseases strategy to recognise Australia as a multicultural society, and soon, so that if/when wave 2 arrives the country is rather better prepared to respond, resist and recover.

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One thought on “Dark data hole leaves multicultural Australia in danger in second wave pandemic.”

1. [ravideshpande](#)

SAYS:

[AUGUST 8, 2020 AT 11:58 AM](#)

Dear Andrew,

Wish i had read this illuminating yet alarming article on June 22. Since then the second wave has shrouded Melbourne and now threatens to spread into other states.

The abandoned asylum seekers searching for cans might have increased in your street. What definitely has increased is the feeling of unrest, of an impending void like uncertainty amongst the Indians ‘clumped’ together in menial jobs in Sydney. This along with other rapidly changing circumstance will create not only mental distress but a recourse to arms, villainy, and crime. That inevitability is the most worrying aspect of tomorrow for the multicultural society.

History will always look at the dominant representation of the data and the fears are of a misrepresentation of the problems assailing the multicultural society in Sydney.

Each paragraph of yours is food for thought and a call to study and understand better the issues at hand.

Grateful to you for such an eye opener.

Your comment on Anagha’s page prompted this click on your page. And a journey has begun for me.

Thanking you,

Ravi

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