

Racism

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Racism has preserved Australia's proud white heritage. Without the "cleaning" of Australia through the White Australia policy and the *Immigration Restriction Act* of 1901, modern Australian society's racial minority groups, characterised by their high rates of juvenile and even mature delinquency could potentially be a majority group, returning Australia to its convict roots, although with a different group of convicts, based upon physical appearance. If we embrace multiculturalism now, we eradicate 220 years of hard work in Australian society.

No, only kidding. Now that I have captured your attention with an unfounded rambling, let's move on to the real matter at hand:

Numerous political issues apply to a selected demographic within Australia's varied society, often determined by gender, culture, race or socio-economic status to discern who is ultimately affected. One issue that escapes the firm grasp of demographic limitations and extends to all Australian citizens is one of national identity. Who do we see ourselves as? As a nation of people, as a society and as a culture? How do other nations perceive our people and what characteristics do we retain, in their eyes?

Recently, a suffocating ambiguity has taken hold of Australia's "National Identity" and led it away from the imperious path of definition and certainty that it once followed. Many influences have shaped our identity, transforming it from

a resistant principle into an ideal that is characterised by constant alteration and uncertainty. Once upon a time, we were the “Meat-and-three-veg, knockabout” group of larrikins with an allegiance to the “Mother Country”. Once upon a time, we were a working-class society bordering on alcoholism, making a beeline for the pub after a hard day’s work.

In the modern age, governments striving for universal inclusion and political correctness promote the “tolerant, new age, multicultural society” to its constituencies, consisting of acceptance and harmony among diverse people. Of course, this proposition is an overly idealistic principle, when considered alongside the realistic views, stereotypes and prejudices held by many members of our society.

Our real identity is far removed from these naive perceptions of our culture as a whole. Our real identity is something much more sinister. Our real identity has remained attached to our nation since its inception.

Our real identity is racism.

Racism and discrimination unite Australia as a nation, as a culture and as a people. These omnipresent principles permeate every facet of our society. Throughout Australian history, there are innumerable instances of discrimination and xenophobic prejudice amalgamating Australian society as one. It extends beyond the scope of Federation, all the way to our initial colonisation.

1788 seemed to be a reasonably rewarding year for the British Empire. After all, it had colonised *terra australis*, the seemingly fictional and mythical “unknown land of the South” and in the process had created the perfect dumping ground for its dishonoured, rejected and discarded convicts to allow Britain to rid itself of the lower echelons of society. However, this dumping ground was created through the use of unlawful and unsympathetic force against the native Aboriginal population, under the concept of *terra nullius*, meaning “Land of no-one”. Of course, *terra australis* was not a “land of no-one” in 1788, with the thriving Aboriginal population surviving sufficiently and effectively from their use of the land. British

settlers, however, did not recognise the Aboriginals' use of the land as legitimate under British law, and hence decided that Australia was free to colonise for British settlement.

Soon after, British settlers initialised the process of Aboriginal assimilation into the new-found British colony of New South Wales. The Aboriginal population was resistant to this modification of their land and pre-existing society; however, the nomadic condition of Aboriginal culture proved to provide little defence against the elaborate weapons and constructs of the British settlers. It is estimated that Australia's indigenous population numbers dwindled to 10 per cent of their original number in the 100 years directly following British settlement. This desecration of the Aboriginal population through the 18th and 19th centuries is now considered by many historians to constitute genocide.

Following the massacres and attempted genocide of the indigenous population, Australia moved on to new targets for the 20th century: immigrants. The Immigration Restriction Act 1901 was introduced by Edmund Barton, Australia's first prime minister, and formed the legislative base for Arthur Calwell's White Australia policy some 50 years later. The White Australia policy encompassed a number of pieces of legislation governing immigration restrictions for Australia's shores, including dictation tests able to be given in any language, essentially granting Australian authorities the power to determine who was allowed and who was prohibited to enter Australia. Eventually, the abomination that was the White Australia Policy was abolished by the Whitlam government in 1973, to much fanfare from the general public.

Of course, these two instances are just a drop in the ocean when racist events within Australia are considered. Australia's history is defined by racism and racist action — the discrimination on the goldfields, the Black War, the ostracising of ethnic cultures in the 1970s, the Cronulla riots and modern Muslim vilification, as well as the White Australia Policy and the Aboriginal genocide all are events that define Australia's history

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and tell the story of our thriving nation. To truly prosper as a nation, we need to unite under the one flag, the one religion and the one culture. Without this proper unification, Australian society will never overcome the hatred based on fear and misunderstanding that we currently experience. The modern, idealistic, multiculturalist society that embodies our apparent national identity in this modern age is a lie, and simply a result of mass government propaganda. Australia is told that it is a multicultural and tolerant society by mass media outlets, when the harsh reality of our nation's relations as people is nothing but a stark contrast. This inaccurate and feebly grounded rhetoric burdens our society and is simply pushing our society further backwards, with no end in sight.



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