

From: Eugene Evgenidis
To: [Assistance Bill Consultation](#)
Subject: Please do not let our country fall apart like this
Date: Friday, 7 September 2018 10:35:25 AM

Hi there,

It was a sad and angering yet unsurprising moment when I learnt of the news of the Assistance and Access Bill being drafted.

I had really hoped that Australia would not be so reactionary and shortsighted to destroy its citizens privacy like this.

To say the road this bill leads down to is one of totalitarianism is an incredible understatement, it is thinly veiled that the government will be using this as a means of spying and gathering intelligence on the countless majority who are innocent. This abuse of power has already been seen all over the world such as the US and UK for example, at least the UK had the backbone to at the very least enact judicial oversight in their Big Brother scheme.

There are already broad powers law enforcement have in monitoring communications, this bill is deliberately vague and open ended to allow full control and free wheeling capabilities for the exploitation of the privacy of all Australians.

The perfect and infallible way the government is also portrayed whilst on almighty pedestal, displays the gall of those introducing such a bill.

For example, whistle blowers can receive jail terms of 5 years, I can understand that as a deterrent to prevent counter terrorism operations, however whistle blowers whether you like it or not serve a purpose, and that is to expose abuses of power and concealed wrongdoing of those in power.

This again just proves the effort to expand into an all seeing, privacy-less, total surveillance state.

This is not about counterterrorism, this is about ensuring every single Australian can be exploited without a shred of privacy, not to mention the bullying of companies (10 million dollar fines) to ensure they play ball with the ridiculous demands being given to them.

Amazing that such a significant draft of a bill is not even making headlines, it's merely as if there's a control on the news and a deliberate attempt to dent the public's awareness of this issue.

Please if you really are reading this and made it to the end, do not let our country fall into the end game of an authoritarian state, if this bill does get passed, see it as one of the most significant pillars of our democracy falling.

Please do not pass this bill, this draft of a bill or anything like it that exploits our privacy and protection of personal data, this is not simply a case of "I have nothing to hide" but a case of " I don't want faceless, countless strangers to be viewing and storing my personal data"

If you have taken the time to read this and correctly understand the strong sentiment within it and are willing to open your mind ever so slightly , then thank you, I appreciate it greatly.

Regards,

E