The committee secretary
dear sir/madam,

I write to you regarding this horrific Bill that has been proposed. How dare you try to take away any person's right to offend any other person. To be offended is a choice of the receiver of the perceived insult/offence. I am a retired police officer and have been insulted by a multitude of persons, some quite proficient in the art, and yet I did not take offence at the remarks, because to do so would drag me down to their level. We have a grand tradition in this nation to take the p*ss out of others. It appears to me that this is directly threatened by this absurd bill. It could only have been thought up by closeted individuals, usually protected by the walls of scholarly institutions, who have no idea of the outside world.

If some are so heavily involved in protecting others from insults, where were they when the muslim bloke hung a banner on an overpass desribing Australians as kafirs, a deadly insult in the middle east. You may notice that none complained as we did not choose to be offended, therefore the words had no power.

By all means, take action against continual harrassment, but for the sake of Australia's sanity, do not try to stop any person from offending/insulting any other person. If this bill was proposed in the USA there would be blood in the streets as they would defend their freedoms to the utmost. I do not believe that any other nation on God's earth has a similar statute forbidding anyone from offending any other.

If, by the actions of this minority government, this bill is carried, as soon as the new government takes over next year I will vehemently pursue its reversal

This bill is a shameful indictment on the proposers who carry political correctness to insane levels.

Trevor Adams