

# Council For The National Interest

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## Newsletter July 2018

### Forum:

We are pleased to advise the next CNI Forum is to be held on Sunday 12 August, 2.30 – 4.30pm at the Royal Perth Yacht Club, Australia II Drive, Crawley Bay, Nedlands.

Our guest speaker is Dr Paul Monk to address the topic of **China's Influence in Australian Politics**.

Professor Clive Hamilton's recently released best seller: *Silent Invasion: China's Influence in Australia* was the stimulus for the forum as Australia is at the crossroads of geopolitical alignment with President Donald Trump in the Whitehouse at odds with conventional old world diplomacy. Dr Monk has an ideal background from which he can base his commentary and respond to a range of questions raised by this current hot topic.

Dr Monk has a BA with First Class Honours in History from the University of Melbourne, where he majored in European History, ancient, medieval and modern. He has a PhD in International Relations from the Australian National University. His honours thesis was a study of the student rebellion and general strike in France in May 1968. His PhD dissertation was a study of US counter-insurgency strategy in Southeast Asia and Central America throughout the Cold War.

He is a former senior intelligence analyst with the Federal Government's Defence Intelligence Organization (DIO), where he was Japan and Koreas Desk Officer in the early 1990s and headed China analysis in the mid-1990s. He is a writer, a speaker, a poet, a moderator of public debates and a facilitator of critical thinking workshops.

After leaving the Federal intelligence service, he co-founded a consultancy called Austhink Consulting (Van Gelder and Monk Pty Ltd), which specialized in applied analytics and decision architectures and ran analyst training programs for, among others, ASIO, ONA, the CIA and the DIA. He has lectured in Chinese politics, strategic intelligence analysis and Australia and Asia in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

He is the author of ten books, the titles of which convey something of the range of his intellectual interests and creative abilities:

*Truth and Power: Robert S. Hardie and Land Reform Debates in the Philippines 1950-1985* (1990)

*Thunder from the Silent Zone: Rethinking China* (2005)

*Sonnets to a Promiscuous Beauty: A Homage to the Western Canon* (2006)

*Fair Choices: Flexibility and Negotiating Power in the Workplace* (2007)

*The West in a Nutshell: Foundations, Fragilities, Futures* (2009)

*Darkness Over Love: A Writer's Workbook* (2014)

*Opinions and Reflections: A Free Mind at Work 1990-2015* (2015)

*Credo and Twelve Poems: A Cosmological Manifesto* (2016)

*The Secret Gospel According to Mark: The Extraordinary Life of a Catholic Existentialist* (2017)

*Dictators and Dangerous Ideas* (2018)

He is a well-known essayist, book reviewer and opinion writer in the serious press on a wide range of subjects. He is all but unique in having written extensively for both the Fairfax and Murdoch press and for both *Quadrant* and the *Australian Rationalist*. He is on the editorial board of the journal of the latter and is currently at work on a historical novel about the rise of Islam, the Abbasid revolution of 750 CE and the creation of the independent emirate of Cordoba by Abd al-Rahman, the Falcon of the Quraysh - under the title *Against the Caliphate: Memoirs of the Falcon*.

**Review of Forum: The Court of Injustice.** (6 May 2018) Presented by Augusto Zimmermann and Russell Goodrick highlighted the inequities of the Family Law Court which, to the uninitiated, would sound beyond belief. Unfortunately the reality described by both speakers is a flawed legal system which in the main discriminates against males with the consequences of violence, suicide and the social misery created by a judicial

process with no recourse to justice. Where the judiciary allow perjury, false testimony, allegations without proof, unfair rulings and negligible review of court decisions.

If a case ever returns to court it may be after a period of years by which time irreparable damage to children and parents has occurred. The perverse use of violence restraining orders is just one area of abuse of judicial power and influence. There needs to be a Family Law Court Decision Review Tribunal to review disputed cases after a fixed period of at least two years beyond the original decision.

The Tribunal should have the power to prefer perjury charges against any respondent, revise or reverse custody or access to children and intervene in administration of Violence Restraining Order Policy.

Without doubt the no fault divorce law, introduced by Labor Party Attorney General Lionel Murphy in 1975, allowing easy divorce after 12 months separation, destroyed the moral basis of marriage and has resulted in the terrible conditions related to by Augusto Zimmermann and Russel Goodrick. The children suffer the consequences of this unjust family court process which passes on to future generations which will further undermine the family. For the children's sake the Family Law Court must be reviewed.

### **Bettina Arndt Presentation:**

Russell Goodrick is promoting a presentation by Bettina Arndt at the **Hellenic Club, 75 Stirling St, Perth** on **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> August**, 7.00pm to 9.00pm. Bookings via [www.eventbrite.com.au](http://www.eventbrite.com.au).

Hear about the casualties of a male-bashing society. Why do men no longer get a fair hearing? Bettina speaks out about our male-bashing society where rules and regulations now increasingly advantage women at the expense of men. She'll explain how feminists, a noisy minority, have silenced dissent and captured key institutions. Bettina Arndt trained as a clinical psychologist before becoming well known as one of Australia's first sex therapists. She then became a respected social commentator appearing regularly on television and radio and writing about gender issues. Bettina now makes YouTube videos campaigning to the end the demonising of men.

### **Landgate:**

The Labor Party is still actively canvassing the sale of Landgate to give the WA budget a sugar hit, however as previously stated the taxpayer will ultimately pay back in taxes and increased charges for no net gain. Privatising is a short term fix which will ultimately disadvantage the taxpayer.

There is no limit to the opportunities for bankers and bureaucrats to disadvantage the Australian people by privatising government organisations for their own gain, all for the benefit of the taxpayer of course. The short term gain is always magnified and the long term pain ignored. The WA Labor Government does not have a mandate to sell off profitable government institutions. Labor benefited from a backlash from poor budget control by the Liberals that does not translate into selling off data critical *Landgate*.

The Government must maintain sovereign control over the *Landgate* data base for purposes of cyber security and the ongoing provision of services. Allowing a foreign entity to secure access to privileged cyber data regarding land transactions and ownership would not be in the best interests of Australian citizens.

Retired *Landgate* employees have highlighted in letters to newspapers their concern about escalating cost of services to citizens and diminished counter service at Midland to the extent that enquiries normally covered by *Landgate* have been referred to other organisations.

*Landgate* has the potential to be a first class cash cow charging all the government departments currently using *Landgate*, at fair and reasonable costs, with escalated prices for valuable data.

The WA Police routinely use the registry for criminal enquiries as does agriculture and bio-security departments plus surveyors, valuers, urban developers, conveyancers, universities and numerous other existing customers.

Short term gain and painful uncontrolled costs carried by the entire community is the likely outcome. Former lands minister Terry Redman has already sounded the alarm with a write up by Brad Thompson in the Australian Financial Review dated 19 October 2017.

The sales of NSW and SA land registry has highlighted the potential for property fraud, data security and monopoly power of operators with criticism from unions and user groups. Security of land tenure is the cornerstone of our economy and should not be subject to increased risk. For further reference visit website: <http://www.concernedtitlesgroup.com.au/> (repeat from CNI newsletter Nov 2017)

### **Membership and Donations: Thank You for your Support.**

The CNI is very grateful to the many members who have generously contributed their financial support with membership and donations. Your generosity has funded a regular lobbying process and the presentation of our regular forums. There are plans to present interesting topical issues with knowledgeable and enlightening presenters. Our success in attracting speakers of note relies on our capacity to finance travel, accommodation and venue costs.

### **Christian Foundations of the Common Law: Vol 1: England**

Dr Augusto Zimmermann, who presented at our forum on 6<sup>th</sup> May, has recently released Volume 1 of a three volume work on the Christian Foundations of the Common Law. Although aimed at law students and members of the legal profession it is very readable for those without any legal training. Highly recommended reading at a time in history where Western Civilisation is being undermined by cultural marxists, to remember the course our civilisation has travelled and appreciate how much we have to lose.

William Wagner, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Law, Western Michigan University, U.S.A. Former U.S. Federal Judge & U.S. Diplomat, President, Salt & Light Global writes:

*"In his latest tome, 'Christian Foundations of the Common Law', Dr Augusto Zimmermann rediscovers the Christian roots of the English, American and Australian legal systems. With scholarly acuity, this work skilfully uncovers how great thinkers in Western Civilization understood the cultural importance of these self-evident truths to society and good governance under the rule of law. At a time when perhaps we need it most, Zimmermann shows how Christian ideas like 'natural law', 'natural rights' and 'natural justice', contributed to the development of the common law. In doing so, Dr Zimmermann's work convincingly confirms for us that ideas informed by the Bible influenced in important ways the development of the Common Law, and indeed, the preservation of freedom and justice. Woven through the very readable chapters of this book is a profound understanding of an ancient sacred premise: God revealed moral absolutes in His Word, and placed these truths on the human heart".*

Dr Augusto Zimmermann's book will be on sale at the Paul Monk Forum on 12 August at RPYC.

### **Main Stream Media Language:**

An example of the standards of journalism and mainstream media editorial management ignoring the reality of political activism by left wing progressives, who are given free reign to wreak havoc, is the recent visit to Australia by Lauren Southern and Stefan Molyneux. Andrew Bolt is a lone voice calling out the actions of leftist agitators as was published in the West Australian 23 July 2018, titled "Left's brutality unchecked".

Typical language and labelling is evident in the 5cm column in The West on 23 July stating:

"Supporters of alt-right commentator Lauren Southern last night faced off against dozens of protestors from United Against Bigotry and Racism at the Canadian speaker's appearance at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre. Members of self-proclaimed "pro-Australia" activist group True Blue crew turned up at Ms Southern's event. The 23-year-old YouTuber and right wing provocateur is touring Australia with fellow far-right commentator Stefan Molyneux."

Labelling by the media is sloppy journalism and does not contribute to free speech dialogue about issues which reach into the soul of Australian culture. No report by the West Australian newspaper on the content of the presentation by Southern and Molyneux or arguments as to the validity of their propositions. Is it no wonder thinking people are relying on alternative news sources for an understanding of the reality of our changing world, especially as the issues of multiculturalism, immigration and muslims are tearing away at the heart of Australia.

### **Globalisation:**

Twenty years ago Graham Strachan published his book on globalisation and the demise of the Australian nation which is applicable today as it was all those years ago. Nothing has changed in 20 years with the wholesale treachery by the manipulating elite of politics and industry. Reprinted with permission is the Foreword of Graham Strachan's publication.

## **Foreword**

There is a rule of evidence to the effect that a label on a box is not evidence of the contents of the box. It makes sense. A box labelled 'Danger: Explosives' might well contain heroin. Unfortunately the rule is not applied as widely as it might be. Encouraged by new style 'journalism', the general public is encouraged not only to believe in labels, but to think in labels. Ideas and people are routinely lumped into categories and branded.

People who believe in old fashioned democracy, government of the people by the people, are now labelled 'populists'. If they object to political correctness they are 'rednecks', if they question Aboriginal affairs they are 'racist'. To challenge immigration policy is to be 'xenophobic', resisting social reform of any description is to be 'divisive'. To dare suggest Australia is heading in the wrong direction is 'scaremongering', while intimating that the government is not being entirely honest with the people is to be a 'conspiracy theorist'. Australia's Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade personally endorsed the label for people who oppose the globalisation of Australia: 'globaphobes', a 'phobia' being an irrational mental state.

While these labels might help simple minds better understand an otherwise confusing universe, they say nothing about the actual ideas of the people so labelled, and contribute little to intelligent debate about human affairs. What is more, labelling is reductionist, doing no justice at all to the subtleties and nuances of the human intellect and character. Perhaps the tendency to trust the label has something to do with the age of the opinion poll, the underlying assumptions of which are that people tell the truth, and always do what they say they will do. In fact neither of those propositions holds up too well in human experience.

Believing things are what the label says apparently has led otherwise intelligent people to believe economic rationalism is what it claims to be, free market economics, and that 'free' trade is exactly what the 'experts' say it is without the need to ask 'free for whom and in what way?' By believing statements on labels, near monopoly can be a 'competitive market', there can be 'increased employment opportunities for the community as a whole' even though jobs are being destroyed, and 'improved customer service' even though bank branches are closing and fees on services are rising. It can be 'good for Australia' to sell a viable asset like Telstra, capable of making record profits, to non-Australians.

By the same token, Globalisation could never be Communism by another name because the label on the coffin said 'Communism: deceased', even though as Shakespeare counselled, one should go by the smell, not by the label on the rose. Naïve trust in labels could well be about to lead the people of the world into a new Dark Age of neo-feudal oppression. But of course to suggest as much would be 'scare mongering' or 'conspiracy theorising'.

People ask what would a lawyer know about economics, but this book is not really about economics. It is about dishonesty....dishonesty born out of greed for wealth and power by people persuaded that they can have all the benefits of civilisation without the need to behave in a civilised manner, in accordance with moral principle. Dishonesty of that nature should be the concern of every lawyer.

Graham Strachan B.Sc., LLB. September 1998