

Mr. Jack Herman,
Executive Secretary,
Australian Press Council,
Sydney, NSW, Australia.

Dear Mr. Herman,

Re: "Asian Gangs" - demoralise and downgrade Asians.

We acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 2nd May 2003 and regret to state that we unanimously reject the unjust adjudication by the Press Council with regard to our complaint against the West Australian for its adamant stand on this issue.

That paper knew about that the M"Bros and the Spider Boys are not all Asian-Australians and yet it was quite happy to qualify them as "Asian". When it comes to labelling the Bikie Gangs, that culpable and "ignorant" paper failed to use the epithet "European" on these notorious outlawed Bike Gangs because it had a mind-set ready to corrupt and influence the minds of ordinary Australians for the purpose of forming that prejudiced attitude in all Australians that all things "Asian" must be bad. Surely, this is not a reasonable way of painting Asians, for we know that the majority of Asians are hard-working and law-abiding Australians. We resent this kind of Asian Bashing exercise initiated by the West Australian and surely you the Press Council - headed by Professor Ken McKinnon, seeming to be representing the freedom of expressions of the people of Australia should not be supporting this jaundiced view lest your views be equated with those of personalities like our "Honourable" Jack van Tongeren. Your conduct so far is now surely seen to be unrepresentative of those of the ordinary Australians.

Who is to say that you are incorrect when you fairly well knew about the stand of the WA Government and the WA Police on this issue. We have received replies from the WA Premier dated 19th August 2003 and the WA Police dated 12th December, 2002. They responsibly and appropriately labelled what you would call as "Asian Gangs" as "Youth Gangs" and "Street Gangs" respectively. Surely, they have set the good examples for us ordinary Australians. Why are you not doing the right thing by the Asian-Australians? Do you wish to continue to denigrate us when we have already been denigrated for so long?

As a result, we have now come to the conclusion that the Press Council is nothing more than a paper tiger that is guilty of window dressing the West Australian. We denigrate you the Press Council for discriminating and vilifying the Asian communities in Australia. Would it be reasonable then for us to presume that you in assuming your duty to the public should not be treacherous enough to bite the hands of those who are feeding you?

Surely, you would have realised that we now have come a long way from those days in the 1950s when the racist Immigration Minister Arthur Calwell made the statement: "2 Wongs don't make a White". Today, we would sing in refrain to that racist tune that "One Wong is just as good as one White". May that racist attitude not be reverberated when our Honourable Prime Minister John Howard won his government today. Did he play that "Race card" and win? Are all Australians susceptible to this kind of foul play? Did he exploit the beastly nature of some of us Australians when he won his government or did he not? That is a question for you the Press Council to answer. Just as we require our Governor General Dr. Hollingworth to search his conscience, so do we require you to search your conscience as well.

We urge you therefore that you the Press Council must not allow the colour of ordinary Australians' skin to colour the type of social justice which we ought to receive from all the people of Australia.

Yours sincerely,

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08-May-03.

