

In support of Witness K and Bernard Collaery

It is deeply disturbing to me as an Australian that two people of integrity and high standing are charged with concocted "crimes" while the real culprits are feted and applauded, even to receiving honorary doctorates.

The fact is that Australia spied on one of the poorest countries in the world to get a better financial deal for itself. Agencies responsible for the safety and security of Australians have been used for mere economic gain. This is continually dressed up as "national security". It is no such thing. It is a downright lie to state that this issue had anything to do with national security.

Australian greed and cunning throughout the history of the Timor Sea has rightly brought us international ridicule and disgust. Australia now seeks to prosecute the very men whose actions have been among the few redeeming aspects of this spectacle.

Witness K and Bernard Collaery are heroes to me. We all imitate others, as that's how we're made. I can think of few higher standards worthy of imitation than the courage, integrity, honesty and dignity of these two fine Australians. They are the champions. Those who condoned and concealed the spying are the scoundrels.

I call on everyone to resist the injustice being done to these men. If those who are promoting this farce are successful, who will be next?

The charges laid against these truth-tellers are attempts to invert Australian values. These charges assert that telling the truth is wrong. They assert that spying and lying, and dealing by stealing are in our nation's best interests.

Most Australians take pride in calling a spade a spade. Well, now we have the opportunity to go further and call a spy a spy, and a lie a lie, and that greed is greed.

And that the truth will set us free.

Susan Connelly
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