

What's Worse Than Banning Intolerant Speech?

Via **LGF** we learn that the Australian State of Victoria's new Racial and Religious Tolerance Act has just been used to prosecute two pastors for

suggesting that the Koran promotes violence and terrorism

The Court ordered them to publish a retraction, and to undertake never to say the like again.

They say they will not comply. Hence, they will go to prison.

When a terrorist is next convicted in Victoria, and claims that his actions were justified by the Koran, will he be convicted under that same Act? And after serving his sentence, will he remain in prison for contempt of court until he agrees to attribute his crime to some other motive?

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Torah?

Not to be provocative but rather, logical. What if two Christian ministers or two Muslim clerics claim that the Torah promotes violence and zionism? Will they have to serve hard time? Do specific passages have to be quoted or would this be Torah bashing in general?

by a reader on Thu, 06/23/2005 - 17:04 | [reply](#)

Re: Torah?

If such a case were ever brought, then the claim that the Torah promotes violence would presumably be considered prohibited in the State of Victoria. But the claim that the Torah promotes Zionism would not, because, to a reasonable person, **Zionism** is not a term of abuse. In particular, it is not terrorism.

by **Editor** on Thu, 06/23/2005 - 17:50 | [reply](#)

Zionism

Unfortunately, reasonable persons seem to be in the minority these

days, and the Zionism=Racism (and related to terrorism and unjust occupation) meme is widespread.

Gil

by **Gil** on Thu, 06/23/2005 - 18:32 | [reply](#)

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