

From: ALASTAIR DONALD [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2024 9:01 PM
To: medboardconsultation
Subject: Over 70 doctors

Dear AHPRA

Your proposals are completely discriminatory against people who are older. I can't imagine your propositions floating in the United States of America where I practice. It would be unacceptable for this to be regarded as anything but an illegal action of age discrimination. I think it's actually racist. If somebody complains about somebody then by all means ask the person to be checked up, but if there are no complaints, you have no right to interfere with people's lives and ask interfering questions with intrusive bureaucratized fascism. You can ask doctors to look out for each other and to be brave enough to speak up, but you shouldn't order it. One of your perspectives looks like a psychiatric evaluation asking about the person's family? What the heck does that have to do with cognition? By what perspective do you think that's reasonable? and it's a small number of doctors in Australia by your own reckoning and your statistics. By the way statistics are usually forms of power and abuse. See M Foucault.

I don't think you actually want to have doctors in Australia anymore. I think what you actually want is to demoralize and cause enormous havoc because what you're actually doing to poor doctors in Australia is actually defeating. It causes the actual burnout that you CLAIM you care about, but you don't really, since you are a classical case of CAUSING it. Psychologically it's astonishing you can't see that.

Your propositions are intrusively infantilizing and school marmy, and it's astonishing that you perceive this as necessary and the degree of intrusive power filled megalomaniac monitoring that you exhibit is so ridiculous with respect to public health. As a cultural anthropologist it's fascinating that you can't see what is wrong with your propositions and therefore you will cause enormous damage through its lack of subtlety and sophistication. I guess you really are the Australia I left.

For God sake, just leave everything alone. You are not improving anything. I think you are incredible uninformed from an anthropological perspective in telling yourself you are doing such public health good, but when I read all of the stuff that you send out to doctors, I have to say as an anthropologist who studies healthcare, and a psychiatrist, your aggressivity towards doctors is palpable. Please try not to blind yourself to this. Even from the other side of the planet, your actions are chokingly suffocating to the very thing that makes doctors, including older doctors, able to practice. It's sort of a discriminatorily Maoist. Mr. Xi Xipeng would totally agree that you should be telling people when to retire soon for the Socialist Good. But then you already have that in mind because you quote retirement limits on airline pilots. Wow! The whole proposition has the feel of that old movie Logan's Run. Very totalitarian.

Yours sincerely

A currently Australian licensed cultural anthropologist/psychoanalyst/acute care psychiatrist working in the United States of America who is actually 71 years old. Wow! I was thinking maybe I would keep up my license in Australia, but probably I won't. It's so sad though. I'm faculty in a very famous university in Boston, and I think probably approaching my peak performance in terms of my interdisciplinary practice. I think I won't come back to Australia. (I had a little fantasy that I might come home, I really miss magpies, but if you're this hostile...) I'll bear on with the Americans, because despite all the political screaming in this country, at least they really understand the idea of Freedom, and the meaning of that old Aretha Franklin song R-E-S-P-E-C-T.



Aretha Franklin - Respect [1967] (Aretha's Original
Version)
[youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)