

From: Angela Wong
To: [medboardconsultation](#)
Subject: Medical Board proposed changes consultation
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I write to oppose the proposed changes of the code of conduct.

A problem with the wording of the draft code is the inherent limitation of free speech. The minority will not be able to challenge the views of the alleged majority which is, in itself, undemocratic, but also opposed to the scientific method in which hypotheses are formulated, argued and tested.

Adherence to the code extends beyond arguments about science to the realms of personal ethics and religious beliefs. Indeed, the whole purpose of the paragraph is likely to be focussed on societal values.

The new code would prevent doctors from speaking plainly on matters that challenge their conscience. These matters include euthanasia, late term abortions, childhood gender dysphoria, legalisation of recreational marijuana, outcome of children adopted by same sex partners, etc.

Contrary to the suggestion by AHPRA that 'community trust' will be ensured by limitation of comment, it could be argued 'community trust' will be reduced by the knowledge that the medical profession will only speak with one voice because of the silencing power of AHPRA.

How can AHPRA judge the nebulous concept of 'community trust'? And can AHPRA ensure the small committee of its judges will not be influenced subjectively by pressure groups?

A civil society allows for freedom of speech. To suppress differing opinions is narrowed-minded and offensive to human intelligence .

I sincerely ask the medical board not to impose the proposed changes.

Regards

Angela

Wong