Citizenship is a privilege, not an entitlement

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Immigration Minister Peter Dutton will be doing the country a favour if he is successful in tightening citizenship qualifications (“Tougher test to be a citizen mooted”, 3/1). For too long, we have treated citizenship as an entitlement rather than a privilege for those entering the country. Dutton is right to talk of the need for immigrants to demonstrate they have effectively integrated. Such integration must include language, culture, lawful behaviour, religion and social values. Having a successful employment record must also be a fundamental requirement. No doubt there will be the usual opponents to whatever Dutton proposes, but Dutton must persevere in the national interest.