A brand new Dutton-worthy citizenship test, with extra values

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JANUARY 8 2017

Well boys and girls, it's January in Australia, and we all know what that means: family holidays, sizzling barbecues and blatant racism. Hooray! What would Australia Day season be without our political leaders wheeling out some sweet nationalism infused with xenophobia? Why, that would simply be forgetting the reason for the season.

Anti-Immigration Minister Peter Dutton got into the spirit of things this week as he called for a revamp of the citizenship test that prospective Australians have to undertake. "We need to have a look at the way we welcome people into our country," he said (the phrase "TELL US ABOUT IT!" could be heard echoing around Nauru and Manus Island). "At the moment, the test is dictated essentially by questions about Australia trivia ... my view is we could look at a test that would more embrace Australian values."

Anti-Immigration Minister Peter Dutton wants to be more welcoming? Photo: Andrew Meares

Ah, yes, "Australian values". Those values that we Australians have. The Australian ones. Those Australian, value-y things that we all hold dear. Of course, I don't have to remind you what they are, but for any terrorists who might be reading this, they include a willingness to learn English, to educate one's children, to gain employment and to avoid welfare dependency (apparently). "My view is people who don't embrace these tangible values," opined Dutton, "shouldn't expect automatic citizenship." This is a great idea. No one else in the world gives a toss about finding a job or educating their children, so if we tighten up the test to focus on this stuff it'll properly weed out the real Australians. Only real Australians should be allowed to be Australians because that makes sense. Plus the test needs some updating anyway. Here's one of the practice questions I came across on the Border Force website:

Q. Which of these is an example of freedom of speech?
A) People can peacefully protest against government decisions
b) Men and women are treated equally in a court of law

Now apparently the correct answer is a), but I think in the interests of clarity we should note that in NSW you're not really allowed to protest against fracking anymore. It'd be pretty embarrassing for one of these newbies to catch us out making mistakes about our own country in our own test!

Government bureaucracy being what it is, this revamp is bound to take forever.
Thankfully, I've shown some initiative and made a start on a new-and-improved, values-ridden Australian citizenship test.

See how you go:

SECTION 1: SECURITY
Q1. Are you a terrorist?
Q2. ...but really?
Q3. Did you come here on a boat?
Q4. Are you related to or have connections with a boat?
Q5. Have you seen Titanic?
Q6. Which do you prefer:
   a) Eating ice creams at a school fete
   b) the Caliphate
Q7. Have you watched Homeland? If yes, please name which characters you related to the most and why:

SECTION 2: VALUES
Q1. How many Australian values do you have?
Q2. What colour are they?
Q3. Do you understand the second verse of our national anthem isn't supposed to be taken literally?
Q4. Which of the following is NOT an Australian value:
   a) Beer
   b) Footy
   c) Ramadan
Q5. Refugees are:
   a) languishing in unemployment queues
   b) taking Australian jobs
   c) all of the above
Q6. Which historical event should we "get over":
   a) The British invasion and dispossession of the first nations peoples
   b) The ANZACS landing at Gallipoli
   c) Gang Gajang

SECTION 3: ENGLISH
Q1. Spell "English".
Q2. Which of the following phrases best describes a journalist doing her job?
   a) "Professional".
   b) "Efficient".
   c) "A mad f---ing witch".
Q3. Complete the common Australian phrase: "No one, however smart, is the suppository of w______.

SECTION 4: CULTURE AND STUFF
Q1. Which of the following is the greatest movie ever made:
   a) The Castle
Q2. Blackface?
   a) Yes
   b) No
   c) Maybe
Q3. If I have three shrimps on the barbie and Sheila brings me two more, how many shrimps on the barbie are there in total?

SECTION 5: FINAL QUESTION
Re: Australia, I want to
   a) love it
   b) leave it
   c) change it

Please send your results to the Australian Census ASAP.

Tom Ballard is a comedian. He's touring his comedy lecture Boundless Plains to Share nationally in 2017.