

From: John Buchanan
To: [medboardconsultation](#)
Subject: Public consultation on Good medical practice
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I must object to apparent over-riding of a medical practitioners trained and reasoned opinion by 'cultural appropriateness' in the revised version.

A doctor must be able to give their trained honest opinion on matters of health without constraint by political correctness, or a vague perception of cultural appropriateness. For example, would a doctor be expected to support female genital mutilation, just because it is considered 'culturally appropriate' by some?

A doctor must retain the capacity to offer a trained reasoned professional opinion (which may be accepted or rejected by a person) without challenge by a vague arbitrary 'culturally appropriate' standard of AHPRA.

A doctor must have the freedom of speech (as afforded to a citizen of any democracy) to offer their opinion on a matter of medical or social importance in public. The Medical Board would be over-reaching its area of influence to attempt to control a doctors professional opinion on a health or social matter, provided it can be supported by reasoned argument, within the doctors areas of competence.

sincerely

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