



COMMUNITY FIRST.

*How can we redesign politics
to place community well-being
and ethics FIRST?*

The Demise of Ethics.

This has undermined loyalty to
“The Basic Principles”
that protect Righteousness and Justice
in
Government Decision-making
and
Community Administration.

About the Author.



John R. Brodie. J.P. (Ret)

I was invited to be a Justice of the Peace, in 1973, because I was regarded as being ethical. For the 600-years, prior to 1990, being an ethical person was the only way to become a Justice of the Peace. This is why the JP Commission was honourably conducted and highly respected. It was an honour to be a JP. This was shattered, when the 1990, Queensland Goss Government, used the radicalism of the Anti-discrimination Act to abandon selection of ethical people. It predictably opened the flood-gates. I have had endless complaints about the abuse and indecency of modern Js P. Government atrocity then extended to punishing the loyal, ethical Js P who had done their job faithfully and well for years. That was the final insult and I declared my retirement from JP duties, rather than bow to departmental corruption. I am the first JP, probably in history, to retire.

Websites – www.newliferetreat.net.au www.brodiespeaking.org.au

My Community Assistance involvement.

- ⤴ Branch Secretary – Queensland Sub-Normal Children’s Welfare Association – 1970’s.
- ⤴ Vice President - Brisbane Arts Council – 1980’s.
- ⤴ Assisting victims of Domestic Abuse – since 1982.
- ⤴ Council Member - Queensland Justice’s Association – 1990’s.
- ⤴ Board Secretary 3 years – Brisbane Youth Crisis Service – (street kids) – 1990’s.
- ⤴ Founding, Executive Member, Family Council of Queensland – 1990’s.
- ⤴ Emotional Abuse Injury Coach – since 2004.
- ⤴ Past Member & Chairman – Queensland Horse Council – 2008.
- ⤴ Inducted member of Lions International – 2013.
- ⤴ Member - National Child Protection Alliance - 2014.
- ⤴ Volunteer Emotional Abuse Injury Counsellor – Bay Island Crisis Service. 2016.
- ⤴ Member of Australian Women Against Violence Alliance - 2016.
- ⤴ Contributed to reform in Law, domestic abuse & other social matters.
- ⤴ Contributor – Royal Commission into Corruption in the Building Industry.
- ⤴ Invited contributor to Federal Government Committee on Domestic Abuse.

Over the years, I have spoken to many Clubs, on the subject of ethical conduct and constitutional loyalty. Failure to adhere to these two “necessities” is a growing problem that increasingly causes internal friction and the decline of membership. The fraudulent manipulation of the Constitution has caused many a crisis and I was involved in the “salvage” of two Clubs – forced into closure for months – in order to unravel the illegalities.

On two occasions, dominating Presidents convinced the membership that they could use By-Laws to over-rule their Constitution.

WHAT is ETHICS?

Ethics – is respect for moral principles. Such respect allows us to undertake all that we do, with least impact on the integrity of our undertaking and least impact on the dignity and security of other people affected by our undertakings. Ethics is a dedication to decency and justice in all that we do. It is a way of life, doing what you know to be the right thing, even when it compromises selfishness, even when no one is watching.

The old cliché – “Those who are only ethical when it suits their purpose are basically corrupt” is a truism, so often proven. Our failure to uphold standards in the selection of leadership in clubs, organisations and politics adversely impacts on sense of direction and quality of judgement and decision-making. There are two ways of doing anything – a right way and a wrong way. It is only those who are properly focussed who always tend towards the right way.

Ethics is the result of a sound schooling in “doing it right for right’s sake.” It requires disciplined thinking and disciplined performance, constantly paying homage to a standard list of essential Basic Principles. Alternatively, self-interest, expediency and quick fix is a threesome that guides those unethical, because they do not have the discipline or the dedication to the Basic Principles. This contrast is clearly apparent, in every direction, and the “threesome” is dominant in the administration of governments, Church groups, businesses, clubs and organisations, families and, from time to time, the conduct of the legal system. It has slowly unravelled the quality of that which bound together our quality of life, as a community, and our faith in justice.

The *self-interest, expediency and quick-fix* threesome has long-since become a consolidated part of political culture. This unethically based combination has flourished, because a legal system riddled with insufficiencies, inconsistencies and bewildering technicalities, can be frequently manipulated to satisfy unethically based objectives. This has become the long-standing basis of community administration, at the expense of and loyalty to “the basic principles.” It is such a chronic indecency, today, that we need an Ethics Council made up of certified ethical people to preside over all of political decision-making, in order to sanction only that which will achieve balance and long-term benefit.

Radicalism is a consequence. It is apparent in some Legislation, the creation of other Legislation that is frighteningly indecent and alarmingly dangerous. It is also apparent in a variety of decision-making that seemingly has nothing to do with community best interest.

The Basic Principles – which once held pride-of-place:-

- The law shall be flexible not rigid.
- The law shall not be used for the exploitation of stupidity.
- Err on the side of caution not on the side of recklessness.
- Every human on Earth has the Right to protect themselves from that which may do them harm. (It is a constitutional obligation for governments to protect the people from that which would do them harm).
- Maintain balance.
- Everything comes with conditions attached. Nothing is rigid.
- One set of Rules must apply to things of similariry, equally.
- Ethics before selfishness.

Why have these Principles been pushed into the background? Because those who preside over decision-making do not have a dedicated loyalty to ethical thinking. It is not their way of life. The extent to which this is found in the administration of the legal system and in governmental administration is what does so much damage to community quality of life.

The identification of problems always has an origin. The concept of Democracy has been degraded, particularly over the past fifty-years, because of the growing political rejection of the Basic Principles. As a result, the money-driven, power of corporate enterprise has had far more influence in political decision-making than has community influence. A pinnacle example is the TPP Agreement, giving corporate enterprise outrageous power over the community. Unions represent the working community and apply obvious pressure to governments but the general community is only represented by very small, fragmented interest groups. As a result, even the most worthy of requests can take years to achieve a result, instead of months.

This is a product of the failure of politics to adhere to one of the basic fundamentals in sound management – long-term planning. Futures Management, looks at trends and influences, over the ensuing ten, thirty and fifty years. This is fundamental in sensible management, to determine that all being done today will fit well into the future. Failure to engage in Futures Planning produces the very costly, very disruptive, political way of management.

This is a manifestation of a *self-interest, expediency and quick-fix* Culture. A glowing example of it that will “dog us” for decades to come is the blatant embrace of the coal industry and coal power stations, ignoring the damage and impact on climate-change. Even today, the effort put into solar energy and the independence of residential Australia from coal power stations is only a fraction of what it should be. Had we been led by political regimes loyal to the Basic Principles and educated to an ethical way of life, residential Australia would have been solar powered 30-years ago, with massive cost savings and Power Bills.

Failure to apply a Futures Management policy creates spontaneous decision-making. This is why various sections of community life constantly impact on each other. It is only when balance is maintained that harmony results. The “term of government” between elections has always been the focus resulting in spontaneous management rather than Futures Management. There is no incentive for politics to “raise its game” leaving the community crippled, each Election, by an intolerable choice between “bad and worse.” No remedy!

The Bureaucratic System has always been a “fortress” behind which can hide a multitude of political and administrative indecencies. Many, well-meaning people have tried to change the system and the System has retaliated and crushed their effort. It is a system that devoutly embraces “guarantee and perfectionism,” a focus on “the package,” its correct size, how well it is wrapped and how perfectly tied is the ribbon around it. The important “contents of the package” are not the focus. Pushing parameters, “going for gold,” taking chances is outlawed in bureaucracy, for fear of “making a mistake.” This is why bureaucracy costs so much. In contrast, the culture of private enterprise is focussed on “excellence and achievement.” Pushing parameters, getting the best from every dollar and “going for gold” is the prime motivation. This is why employees conditioned to the bureaucratic system for years find it very difficult to survive in private enterprise. This explains why bureaucracy is third-rate.

Community well-being increasingly suffers the consequences of this, because of the inadequacy in the Australian Constitution in not foreseeing degrading political standards and making allowance for community intervention. It has long-since reach the point where the community needs its own Ethics Review Commission, utterly independent from politics, through which all proposed legislation and other regulatory proposal must have approval. The community also needs the Constitutional means by which to change the culture of politics.

The adverse impact on the integrity of Democracy is such that no matter what community feeling or need might be, it is placed at the bottom of the “pecking order.” The community does not have the power of corporate enterprise or even the Media to stimulate political support. We do not have the means by which to maintain balance or influence change to the present system that will produce a more balanced more compatible result. The present circumstances are un-constitutional and penalise the community, in defiance of Basic Principles.

If there is one example that advertises the abandonment of the Basic Principles, it is probably the irrational focus on discrimination.

“Every human has the Right to protect themselves from that which may do them harm.”

This Principle comes first. It is, therefore, the most basic obligation of government and the legal system to “protect the community from that which may do it harm. This obligation comes first so why is it so often ignored? Why does political selfishness undermine our protection?

The radicalism of the Anti-discrimination Act is a gross indecency that is unethically supported by governments, the legal system and miss-used and abused by countless others seeking an indecent result. For instance – the Queensland government, of 1990, used its interpretation of the Anti-discrimination Act to trash the near 800-year, dedication to only selecting ethical people to hold the Justice of the Peace commission.

While loyalty to ethical selection was maintained, the administration of the JP Commission enjoyed community respect and holding the commission was seen as an honour. The community was well served by a just and respectful service. The unethical, miss-use of “discrimination” to stop selecting ethical people to hold commission was seemingly undertaken “because it was too much trouble.” It opened the flood-gates and the full range of community indecency now fills the Commission. As a result of commissioning un-ethical people, it was necessary, for the first time in history, to hold a training course to teach these people how to perform the tasks previously undertaken with ease. The value of the “training course” was undermined, when the government decreed that at the final exam, those attending could look up the answers in the JP Journal. This was an insult to decency.

Once corruption starts, it is like the snow-ball that gains in momentum and size. It was not enough to focus on the indecency of those now new-holders of the Commission but, in order to achieve the bureaucratic loyalty to “the package,” ahead of ethics, government declared that all of the ethical Justices of the Peace who had fulfilled their obligation, honourably and well, in some cases for decades, “must” also sit this demeaning training course test or be demoted. Government involvement in this matter has been nothing but a corruption of standards. Many long-serving, Justices of the Peace resigned, rather than be subjected to the indignity, others were demoted and had their commissioned obligations “unlawfully” reduced.

It was a massive humiliation and the manner in which it has been legally unchallenged advertises how the corruption of our circumstance can be achieved and maintained so easily. This is why I “retired.” I will never bow to corruption. No one has the right to take away my Commission when I have not, since 1973, done anything to dishonour the Commission.

This is just one, small example of “the corruption of the system” that aides and abets in the demolition of decency standards. It highlights the wrong focus in decision-making and how the legal system that supports it can be manipulated to suit the purpose. The community has no say but desperately needs a dominating influence.

The irrational, misinterpretation of discrimination and equality knows no boundary.

On each occasion the ignored fundamental is our basic right to “**defend ourselves from that with would do us harm.**” To add to this, other indecencies are wilfully tossed aside, with complete contempt, to satisfy the selfishness, expediency and quick-fix, three-some. The most outstanding example of this and the horrendous ramification involved has to do with the rise and rise of “Muslim pressure.” It is also a glowing example of “double-standards.”

It is a disgraceful indecency to be invited into someone's home and then have the audacity to tell them that they have to change their way of life, because it offends you. This is another Basic Principle of decency that governments ignore.

We need also to constantly remind ourselves of the historic fact that **"indecency uses decency"** as a platform for its own escalation. It is the vicious, selfish indecency amidst the Islamic faith that uses for its own gain the irrational labelling of discrimination and equality, to undermine legitimate Christian values. The growing examples of this are frightening.

In January, 2016, Muslims in Switzerland demanded that the cross be removed from the Swiss national flag because as a Christian symbol, it "no longer corresponds to today's Muslim, multicultural Switzerland." Not the Christian based Switzerland but a multicultural Switzerland dominated not by the number of Muslims but by Muslim power-pressure. This on-going pressure was supported by on-going demonstrations and a "burning of the flag" demonstration. It is all about constant pressure and domination, led by indecency.

Numerous Muslim "attacks" have been made on American and Australian Universities to have them remove Crosses and any reference to Jesus. The University focus is on money and income and how their refusal may impact on these. Does this focus on money justify bowing to the indecent demands of Islam?

Islamic activist group, Hizb-ut-Tahrir, has campaigned in America and Australia against Muslims children having to sing The National Anthem.

The end of Christmas.

Muslim families in Montgomery County, Maryland USA were not happy with the celebration of Christmas. They wanted the end of Ramadan added to the list of religious holidays, just like Christmas. But instead of adjusting the calendar, the school board caved to indecent pressure and made their holiday schedule "religion neutral." Christmas is now "Winter Break" and there is no such thing as "Easter Break." Thanks to these hyper-sensitive Muslims – many of whom come from intolerant countries that execute Christians in the streets – have taken advantage of "political correctness" and the irrational view of Anti-discrimination to terminate what was left of any religion in the Montgomery County schools.

Much of the Muslim attack is aimed at the ignorance and insufficiency of school Heads or school boards. How is it that they can make such impacting decisions, without community consent? Having established one precedent after another, the trend towards "national domination" is established. If a precedent is created unchallenged and apparently supported by an irrational government focus on right-from-wrong, how do we legally stop a stimulated increase in the Muslim campaign for national take-over?

Bowing to Sharia Law. This is the worst example a government's failure to protect the innocent, by embracing an insane interpretation of Anti-discrimination. Sharia Law determines that a rapist can only be charged, "if four men witness the rape," because a woman's testimony is worth only half that of a man. This wilfully places innocent women at even greater risk than already faces them, as a result of Western law insufficiencies.

Protection of Christian Countries.

The "basic principle" that must be prioritised at all cost **is the historically documented, Islamic declaration of their determination to "rule the world" and annihilate the Christian Religion.** Why then, are Christian country governments do all that they can to assist such a take-over?

If there are so many in community administration supporting the growing, ground-swell of Islamic domination – **how do we define treason?**

It should have been a first-reaction, from ethical people in leadership, as soon as the escalation of the Muslim community became large enough to “demand” changes to Christian tradition – to immediately seek to alter to the Constitution to forbid Muslims from entering politics. Failure to do this has deliberately “left the door open” for future Islamic take-over.

Now England, the home of the Church of England, and other Christian churches has allowed an Islamic with firm attachment to Sharia Law and contact with radical Muslim groups – to become Mayor of London. How can the British Constitution allow such “a threat to national security” to even stand for public office? **How do we define treason?**

What if, instead of Muslims, there was an inundated with migrant Communists from Korea? What if their “declaration” to rule democratic countries was similar to the Islamic declaration? Would government treat them the same? Would anti-discrimination and equality still apply? Or, would they be declared “a threat to national security” and immediate steps taken to protect the nation?

This “corruption of standards” has been escalation out of our control, for decades. As the standard of social education has declined, throughout the community, so too has the standard of loyalty to ethics fallen in community leadership. There is no mechanism existing to either prevent it or change it for the better. Why are we so penalised, as a community?

Above the law.

In 2015, the Republicans in the US State Government of Oklahoma, filed a Bill that has infuriated many. It is alleged that similar Bills were introduced in two other State governments. House Bill 2206 – seeks to prevent district attorneys from prosecuting state officials. It sort to reserve the power exclusively to the state’s Attorney general – by so doing exempting lawmakers from prosecution of nearly any crimes that are normally handled at the local level.

The Oklahoma Bill stated – *“The jurisdiction of a prosecution against a principal in the commission of a public office, when such principal is a state elected official, state legislator, district court judicial officer, appellate judicial officer or an appointee of a state board or state commission at the time of the commission of the offence, is within the sole and exclusive prosecutorial authority of the Attorney General of Oklahoma. Such an action must be filed in the county of residence of the state officer.”*

The “power of political office” has long been a magnetic attraction to people joining politics for the wrong reasons. The huge salaries and payment after retirement from political representation adds to this. The standard of behaviour in politicians is on the decline and of critical concern. Again, the focus is not on solution and raising standards but rather accepting deteriorating standards as a ‘right’ and changing “the just rules of ethical administration” to accommodate them.

The Oklahoma House Bill is a declaration that politicians and their mates in office want exemption from the Law that governs the remainder of the community – because their ability to perform decently is not a way of life but rather very much of the decline.

This is further substantiated by the US State of Oregon that legislated that it owns rain water that falls from the sky. It is illegal, in Oregon, for anyone to collect rainwater on their own property. One small farmer was jailed, in 2014, for collecting rainwater on his small, 150-acre farm-let. Gary Harrington was convicted of nine misdemeanours and sentenced to 30 days in prison, as well as slapped with a \$1,500 fine.

Every human on Earth is entitled to free access to the two things that we require to survive – air and water and both are given to us by God. What is next? Are we going to be taxed for the air we breathe? This is the corrupt thinking that leads us and it gives clear understanding to the old Cliché – *“Those who are ethical only when it suits them are basically corrupt.”* Leadership that is devoid of dignity and respect cannot achieve a dignified term of office or claim respect from the community – but who gives a damn? How do we change it?

It explains why politics, in general, and government in particular are so contributory to falling social standards and the **Demise of Ethics**.

A clear advertisement of this is the 2016 US Presidential campaign and the conduct of the man in front who captivates massive support. Look closely to how Trump keeps “ringing the bell of indecency” to invigorate the attention of supporters who either embrace indecency themselves or are so fed-up with the deteriorating “bad or worse” political choice that they will support a “gladiator” who looks like changing it. The fact that such a “gladiator” may well produce the worst result in history is lost in the hype. The System is our worst enemy

Band-aide application, not Solution – Punishment not Correction.

Nothing in history has been more supportive to the continual collapse of the community social structure than has been these two bureaucratic policies. Despite their horrendous adverse impact, not one branch of politics has made the effort to change. Crime has escalated at an alarming rate. The cost of policing it, the massive cost of jailing ever-increasing numbers and the impact of it all on our community way of life has been terribly destructive. Not even that assortment has stimulated a focus on change. Instead, compromise leads not ethics.

To add insult, to justice and ethical administration, jails have become a “revolving-door” system where pressure is applied to Parole Boards to release prisoners as soon as possible, to make room for others. Many prisoners have woken up to the fact that they can “pretend” to be oh-so-nice and polite in jail and this is an excuse for an early release – as a changed person. When these people were imprisoned for violence, their release then places former victims at risk. How many women and kids have been murdered by early-release con-artists? This too advertises the abandonment of Basic Principles, in preference to expediency.

The rise and rise of hostile, intolerant behaviour, in both males and females, has turned the domestic scene into a constantly volatile, war-zone. Domestic “violence” is rampant – and still there is no plan that has any meaningful focus on solution. The cost, financial and otherwise, of the idiotic political embrace of “band-aide application,” is an appalling insult to intelligence and a complete disregard for community need and well-being.

If the “rules” that guide our performance, (in this context our Constitution), are so out-dated and inadequate – change them. The exact same Principle applies, in other directions. If a school curriculum was constantly causing trouble and failing to satisfy need – it would be quickly changed. If a Corporate Policy was causing loss of production and income, it would be immediately addressed. **One set of Rules applies to all** – is a basic Principle.

The failure of the Legal System to predominantly support “correction” adds to the breeding-ground for behaviour deterioration. Most jails should have been converted, decades ago, into Secure Rehabilitation Centres, where behaviour problems are address by the Psychology Profession and inmates are not released until certified corrected. Then everyone wins. If “the system” will not provide correction, where does “correction” come from? Who is responsible? Why do we pay such a high price for a system that assists community deterioration? In addition, hardened criminals interned for life, with no chance of parole, should be given the choice of euthanasia, instead of life in a cage. This too would be a benefit all-way-around.

The ignorance buried in the administration of Law adds further damage to community need and well-being. Violence is like an addiction on a very short fuse. It is easily provoked and once this occurs all regard for reason and consequence vanishes. Irrationality takes control. Just like other forms of addiction, when mental control is activated, it is impossible to “negotiate” with the addict. All of this is fundamental logic and known fact – so why has the Court System perpetuated with the issue of DVO’s against violent offenders, when a piece of paper means absolutely nothing to them? How many women and children have badly beaten or killed because of the blind stupidity in issuing meaningless pieces of paper as a “tongue-in-cheek” attempt to control those of violence?

Once again, The System reserves the right to operate completely independent of the Basic Principles and in fact diametrically opposed to them. Why has there never been a concerted effort to correct this atrocity? **Where are the Principles of Ethical Administration?**

Emotional Abuse Injury – is the most debilitating health problem in the community that has escalated out of control, riding on the back of bureaucratic and legal system insufficiency. Those most affected are children and the national consequence is horrendous. Sustained abuse attacks self-esteem, dignity, pride, self-worth and emotional balance. It becomes horribly oppressive and even confronting run-of-the-mill circumstances that we take for granted can cause many an EAI victim to shake with insecurity.

Emotional balance is utterly essential to confident, controlled performance. EAI has a crippling effect and if not treated will shatter the victim’s quality of life – for life. This is what confronts tens of thousands of children, now products of an abusive home-life. A recent Study, in America, concluded that children suffering EAI attracted far greater levels of illness and had a shorter life-span. EAI also affected their performance socially and educationally, their choice of occupations, their performance in the workplace and added to unemployment. EAI severely affects motivation in children and in adults. The damage done by abusers, be it emotional, physical or sexual, is horrendous and must be addressed.

Family Court Ignorance, Intolerance and Indecency.

The Family Court is a little like a “catch-pit” for the impacting behaviour problems, encouraged by the insufficiencies of other sections of “The System.” Part of the performance of Family Courts could be likened to the insulting DVO’s in Civil Courts. The blind disregard for the impact of EAI is clearly evident, each time a Family Court gives a known abuser, sex-offender and violent father custody of children.

We hear often enough the term “contempt of court” but are there **two sets of Rules?** What about the court’s contempt for community well-being? The flagrant disregard for Child Rights is plain to see. Children locked into a violent home environment, constantly in a state of fear are relieved, when the mother has the nerve to escape. She applies for divorce and a Judge sends the children back into the home-life that previously produced the fear and distress.

To add “insult to injury,” there are States in America that have an archaic attitude to protecting women and children. The State of Mississippi has twelve reasons why you can apply for a divorce – **but domestic violence is not one of them.** Another example of the indecent compelling of people into a destructive environment. An effort was allegedly made, in 2016, to have this atrocity corrected but the Mississippi Senate that supports abusers turned it down.

We have seen, over several decades, one “Investigation” after another unearthing child abuse in Church Groups, live-in colleges, youth centres, nursing homes for the handicapped and elsewhere – resulting in jail sentences and massive compensation payment to victims. How long will it be before there are “group actions” against the Family Court, seeking compensation for children forced by the Court to live with abusive fathers?

A policy of contempt is not hard to find in politics. The most ethically respectful section of the Australian community is its aging population – those raised generations ago to respect ethics, decency, courtesy that, in those days, upheld the quality of social coexistence. In recent decades the growing political attitude has been to turn its back on the aging population, by increasingly withdrawing funding in support of them. The 2016 Budget again reduced Aged Care funding. I rest my case.

Nothing is sacred, when it comes to fulfilling the political threesome that guides decision-making.

- The embrace of GMO crop production and the refusal to identify GMO on food labelling, ignores the obligation to *protect us from that which will do us harm*.
- The massive, destructive impact of Climate Change is the product of the “political threesome.” The growing extent of this imposed disaster is seen around the world but the most alarming evidence of it is on Australia’s doorstep – The Great Barrier Reef.

Even now, with all the evidence staring us in the face, political decision-making still favours support for those who would add further to the destruction. There are many examples of this.

Elections are less about doing the best for the State or Nation and far more about “buying votes.” Elections are historically a contest to win office and the community is just the means to that end. This is virtually the extent to which Democracy is recognised and exercised, today. It has long-since become appallingly insulting.

This is only an essay on the Ethics and Basic Principles dilemma.

A “wake-up call,” if you please, to cause all “ethical community leaders,” of various denominations, to seriously justify a policy of “same-as, same-as” syndrome, whilst supporting the collapse of our social structure.

“Where there’s a will, there’s a way” is a truism and every problem has an ethical solution, when placed in the hands of ethical people. How many truly ethical people do we have left, in community leadership? Who among you is strongly motivated enough to seriously discuss solution?

This may well be a last “ring of the bell.”

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J.A. Brady', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.