

**AUGUST  
29**

# *Writing Rings* for Righting Wrongs

August 2019

**Join with Australians  
across the nation!**

**Speak up for justice!  
Speak up for truth-tellers!**

**RING OR EMAIL:**

**Attorney-General (02) 6277 7300**

[https://www.aph.gov.au/Senators\\_and\\_Members/  
Contact Senator or Member?MPID=208884](https://www.aph.gov.au/Senators_and_Members/Contact_Senator_or_Member?MPID=208884)

**Prime Minister (02) 6277 7700**

<https://www.pm.gov.au/contact-your-pm>



JOIN THE

# VIRTUAL DEMONSTRATION

**When:** Between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Thursday 29 August.

**What:** Demand the discontinuance of the prosecution of  
"Witness K" and Bernard Collaery.

**How:** Ring or email the Prime Minister and Attorney-General.

**Why:** Laws supposed to protect Australians are being used to  
threaten truth-tellers. Who's next

**Who:** You and other concerned Australians.

# Background

In 2004, Australian security personnel from the **Australian Secret Intelligence Service (ASIS)** impersonated AusAid workers and put listening devices into the walls of the Timorese Prime Minister's cabinet offices. The purpose was to eavesdrop on the planning sessions concerning a Timor Sea resources Treaty. This act of espionage invalidated the right of the Timorese to open and fair negotiations.

One of those involved, now known as **"Witness K"**, complained to his superiors in Australia. He had found that Australian officials who had ordered the spying were lobbying for Woodside Petroleum, one of the oil companies set to benefit from the Timor Sea deals. These included **Alexander Downer**, the Foreign Minister at the time of the bugging, and **Ashton Calvert**, who had been Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Witness K was advised by ASIS to get a lawyer, and was given a list of those acceptable to the department. He engaged **Bernard Collaery**.

Upon hearing of the espionage against them, the Timorese government withdrew from the relevant Treaty, and demanded an internationally recognised border. On March 6, 2018, the border was agreed on. Two months later, **"Witness K" and Bernard Collaery** were charged with allegedly communicating Australian security information under the Crimes Act and national security legislation. They face two years' jail.

Neither the espionage nor its revelation had anything to do with the safety or security of any Australian person or institution. The prosecution of these men is both revenge and warning. It is revenge for the international humiliation and loss of billions of dollars resulting from Australia's attempted fraud. It is a warning to all Australians not to obey our consciences if that means challenging government.



Bernard Collaery at Magistrate's Court 6 August

## Phone calls are the most effective action!

DECIDE WHICH OF THE STATEMENTS OPPOSITE YOU WILL USE, OR MAKE UP YOUR OWN.

You: "Good morning. My name is ..... from ..... I wish to make my views known on the prosecution of "Witness K" and Bernard Collaery. MAKE YOUR STATEMENTS."

Phone answerer: (Whoever it is will not enter into discussion. His or her job is to take your message.)

You: "I am very concerned about this, and I ask that my concern be made known to .....today. Can you assure me of that?"

## Statements you could make:

- I do not agree with the prosecution of Witness K and Bernard Collaery.
- I call on you as Attorney-General/Prime Minister to discontinue the case immediately.
- I think the use of our laws to cover-up government wrong-doing is dangerous.
- These men told the truth.
- It is Alexander Downer who should be on trial.
- The pursuit of these men is revenge for national humiliation and the loss of revenue.
- This is another warning that government will not tolerate challenge to its wrong-doing.
- I strongly object to the use of national security laws to protect government and its ministers.
- Discontinue the case now, and so avoid disclosures from people not subject to our laws.
- I am ashamed that our structures were used to spy on a small, impoverished neighbour.
- It seems that Australia has overplayed its hand. Pull out now before it gets worse.

ALL THIS  
MIGHT  
TAKE FIVE  
MINUTES.

WILL YOU  
MAKE  
YOUR  
VOICE  
HEARD



Please email [susan.connelly@sosj.org.au](mailto:susan.connelly@sosj.org.au) or [josephine.mitchell@sosj.org.au](mailto:josephine.mitchell@sosj.org.au) and let us know what action you took.

*Thank you!*