

Bigotry Australian Style

HRC Work in Progress Seminar

Professor Malcolm Campbell University of Auckland

Bigotry is an endemic feature of Australian life. From the arrival of Europeans in 1788 through to today, intolerance based on an array of grounds including race, ethnicity, gender, religion, sexual orientation, and disability have ruptured community relations and harmed those people subject to prejudice and discrimination. This presentation discusses the historical experience of bigotry in Australia and asks whether a general understanding can be developed that helps account for the experiences of groups most subjected to bigotry in Australian life. It contends that knowledge of the historical experience of bigotry is critical to informing our thinking and decision-making in the present, not because the past is a reliable guide to present action but because the perspective of history helps us better understand our lives and our communities and work towards repairing the wounds of bigotry.

Malcolm Campbell is Professor of History at the University of Auckland, New Zealand, where he teaches Irish and Australian history and the history of empire. A graduate of the University of New South Wales, his current research project focuses on the history of bigotry in Australia.

Details

Tuesday 7 November 10:15am Baldessin Precinct Building, Level 4

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