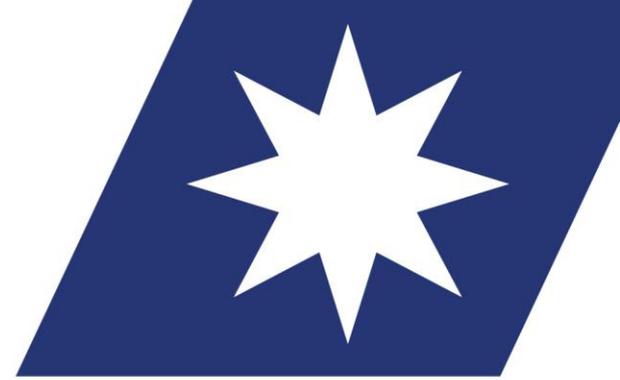


BOB KATTER

Katter's Australian Party

Federal Member for Kennedy



MEDIA RELEASE

18 November 2019

Katter warns Folau witch-hunt example of worsening religious persecution

KAP Federal Member for Kennedy Bob Katter has warned the Australian people that the persecution of Christianity is on the rise as Israel Folau again makes front page headlines for delivering a sermon in his church on Sunday which suggested the bushfires were a Divine repercussion of legalising same-sex marriage and abortions.

Mr Katter said, "I just toured with Pauline Hanson and we have some very fundamental differences but we work together for the good of the nation. I may disagree with Folau on some elements of theology and fundamentalism, but the intense persecution that he has been suffering to me is just continuation of the religious persecution that is taking place against Christianity almost everywhere in Australia.

"Is this any different to blaming the greenies for the fires? And is there any logic in the greenies blaming the people for the fires?"

"They listen to the scientists with a different point of view, the scientists can argue, but theologians can't. Clearly this man is a preacher and I don't feel that a nation that kills little children before they are born is a good thing."

"From where I sit, I've always voted for freedom in a society that is overly restrictive and there is no doubt that religious freedom is under attack here. And whether you agree with his comment or you don't, rest assured they will come after you.

"They managed to take out Pell and Hollingsworth, and now they are going after the most prominent spokesperson for the Evangelic church."

Mr Katter said that the history books tell of thousands of examples where the groups of people rose up against the persecution of their freedoms.

"Most of the world thought communism was good, even though Mao Tse Tung was responsible for 47,000 deaths and Stalin for 28,000 deaths. But we that belong to the English speaking tribe have prided ourselves on freedom of thought and expression and whilst we may attribute this to the German Martin Luther, and the Medici (who were also the Popes for nearly 70 years) Florentine family, both these people were characterised by Freedom of Thought. Tolerating and protecting even fanatics like Savonarola.

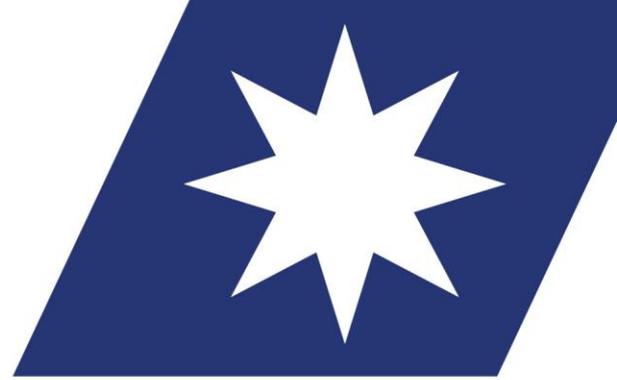
"Unfortunately for our enemies, history records that we Christians thrive on persecution. But even the most cursory reading of history will find that evil people don't like being criticised for their evil – again, Stalin and Mae Tse Tung, McCarthyism, Salem witch burning, the Spanish Inquisition.

"People do not tolerate criticism or even people being different and not towing the conventional wisdom of the day.

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"The great Thomas Jefferson said, 'I do not agree often with what you are saying, but I will fight to the death for your right to say it'."

"Someone that puts moral convictions over his personal income, I find inspirational whether I agree with what he is saying or whether I don't."

ENDS