

## Reader responds to letter

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

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Dear Editor,

“I WAS A STRANGER AND YOU WELCOMED ME.” Matthew 25:35

A letter to the editor of April 26, supporting and quoting an article from an area newspaper, compels me to respond. The article was copied from the Julesburg paper regarding the purported rebuke of Prime Minister Gillard speaking to Australian Muslims.

Internet research strongly indicates that these remarks were not of the current Prime Minister and had also been attributed falsely to the previous Prime Ministers Kevin Rudd and John Howard.

The “speech” “comprises snippets of sentiments expressed in public forums shortly after the terrorist bombing of the subway in London in 2005.”

My nephew, Jim, and his family have lived in Australia for over 30 years, and I trust their knowledge of such “news stories.” For those interested, an article in the main Australian newspaper—The Australian—May 17, 2011 related an exchange between the Attorney General Robert Mc Clelland and the Australian Federation of Islamic Council around the new multicultural policy.

The following internet address gives a report on that exchange:

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/muslims-use-multiculturalism-to-push-for-sharia/story-fn59niix-1226057476571>.

The world, the earth belongs to everyone and to no one. We are now seven billion human beings sharing the earth and its resources but not equally or fairly.

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Migration and immigration occur for many reasons, but one could safely say it is ordinarily with the intention of bettering oneself and one's family.

We fear the different. We are more comfortable when our friends and neighbors can finish our sentences and their first language is our first and maybe only language. It has been the story of our United States that each new "wave" of immigrants are sometimes shunned but always tested.

The question "... AND WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?" Luke 10:29 greets us every morning.

Dorothy A. Ortner

Holyoke Enterprise May 24, 2012