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Article

The Battlefield Back Home

The most marginalised minority in our Australian society today is made up of arguably those willing to do the most for our country - and who already have.

Identifying as a Special Forces Veteran in Australia today, unfortunately brings with it labels you might not expect including 'war criminal' and 'murderer'.

These are men who know what real courage is. They've committed their lives, livelihoods and families to serve on the very front line for our country - they're been the tip of the spear for Australia's armed forces. At the very least, these men should be honoured and respected for their service to our nation (not to mention the other nations with whom we partnered). At their very best, these men are role models, who can inspire the young men and women who will be the future leaders of our great nation.

Instead these men are readily torn down and told that their physical courage, combat excellence and patriotic beliefs are no longer values that are important or even acceptable to some in society today. Who happily prosper today off the back of the efforts and example of our Veterans gone before.

The reality is that our offensive military might is only deployed when the politicians and bureaucrats can no longer get the job done, when diplomacy fails, or when words and documents no longer deter those who would intend harm to our nation. Many seem to forget this fact, particularly those now in the positions of power that are responsible for what has become some of the most shameful and disgraceful treatment of our modern day heroes. As many of our Veterans are now left abandoned and alone to fight on a new front - exposed to the trial by media set against them by some sitting comfortably behind keyboards and character limits online.

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FILE: THE BATTLEFIELD BACK HOME.