

【刘哲伟专栏】 成立独立委员会决断敏感课题



刘哲伟

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本届政府或未来的任何政府应该采取的另一项改革，成立更多独立和中立的委员会，以便做出的决定时。（档案照：透视大马）

您在8月12日是不是早已另有计划了？若是的话，抱歉了，您可能要在州选投票和原有计划做出选择了。当然，这不是今天讨论的主要话题，只是忍不住想讽刺一下，在我之前的文章中，我主张应该固定选举日期。

回到今天我想讨论的话题，即最近几个月，数名部长一直强调的选举期间应该勿玩弄3R（王室、种族和宗教）课题。平日里，政府也试图淡化敏感的问题，避免冒犯性的言论，可是，什么是敏感或攻击性的言论呢？

檳城属于吉打？捍卫马来人权益？华人在马来西亚受到歧视？你是马来人，他是华人，她是印度人？各源流小学是各族的权利。

以上几个例子，哪一个不恰当，哪一个是恰当？由谁来决定，又由谁来定义？在国阵政府时代，要定义敏感性课题，总是由执政政府和当权者来决定。通常，对政府不利的言论，就是冒犯。

对于我们华人来说，或许一些捍卫伊斯兰宗教和马来人权益的问题，例如禁酒和禁赌，都被视为极端。

同样的情况下，在马来人眼里，捍卫各源流教育、华文教育的存在，维护华文教育可能是冒犯。捍卫华人诉求，复兴印度人权力是否被视为攻击性，是否被有心人认为是冒犯到他们的权益？

有鉴于此，在很早以前，我就提议成立一个游说委员会，来鉴定什么事情是逾越，什么言论是过偏和越界。这个委员会的成员必须不受到政治影响和政治关系，这个委员会可以决定一切。

由于这一任政府是建立在多元民族和多元化的基础上，如果我主张伊斯兰国家或以马来人为主的国家，我的言论可能会被认为是攻击性的。同样的，如果伊斯兰党领导联邦政府，如果我为不符合伊斯兰教法的自由辩护，我也可能被认为是冒犯。

简而言之，许多定义往往是基于一个政府的倾向，并受制于非常主观的边界线。而很多时候，这样的界限限制反对党的言论（不管谁是反对党，情况亦一样）。所以，由一个中立方来界定，可以更公平和中立。当然，前提是这个委员会必须是令人信服和公平的，否则，它就会像其他单位一样变成另一个政府的机构。

总结来说，这是本届政府或未来的任何政府应该采取的另一项改革，成立更多独立和中立的委员会，以便做出的决定时，可以做出中立，甚至是对各方，包括政府和反对党都公平。

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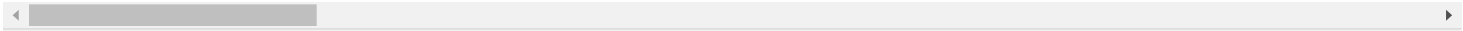
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[Liu Zhewei Column] Establishing an independent committee to decide sensitive issues



Liu Zhewei

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Another reform that this government or any future government should adopt is to set up more independent and neutral committees to make decisions. (File photo: Malaysian Insight)

Do you have other plans for August 12? If so, I'm sorry, you may have to choose between voting in the state election and your original plan. Of course, this is not the main topic of today's discussion, but I just can't help but make a sarcastic remark. In my previous article, I advocated that the election date should be fixed.

Back to the topic I want to discuss today, which is that in recent months, several ministers have been emphasizing that the 3R (royalty, race and religion) issues should not be played during the election. On weekdays, the government also tries to downplay sensitive issues and avoid offensive remarks, but what is sensitive or offensive speech?

Is Penang part of Kedah? Defend the rights of Malays? Are Chinese discriminated against in Malaysia? You are Malay, he is Chinese, she is Indian? Primary schools of different streams are the rights of all races.

Which of the above examples is inappropriate and which is appropriate? Who decides and who defines it? In the Barisan Nasional era, the definition of sensitive issues was always decided by the ruling government and those in power. Usually, any speech that was unfavorable to the government was offensive.

For us Chinese, perhaps some issues related to defending the Islamic religion and the rights of the Malays, such as prohibiting alcohol and gambling, are considered extreme.

In the same situation, in the eyes of the Malays, defending the existence of various streams of education and Chinese education and maintaining Chinese education may be offensive. Is defending the demands of the Chinese and reviving the rights of the Indians considered offensive and is it considered by some people to be an offense to their rights?

In view of this, I proposed a long time ago to set up a lobbying committee to identify what is excessive and what speech is excessive and beyond the line. The members of this committee must not be subject to political influence and political relations, and this committee can decide everything.

Since this government is built on multiracialism and pluralism, if I advocate for an Islamic state or a Malay-majority state, my comments may be considered offensive. Similarly, if PAS leads the federal government, I may also be considered offensive if I defend freedoms that are not in line with Islamic law.

In short, many definitions are often based on the inclinations of a government and are subject to very subjective boundaries. And many times, such boundaries restrict the speech of the opposition party (regardless of who the

opposition party is). Therefore, it can be more fair and neutral to define it by a neutral party. Of course, the premise is that this committee must be convincing and fair, otherwise, it will become another government agency like other units.

In conclusion, this is another reform that this government or any future government should adopt, to set up more independent and neutral committees so that when decisions are made, they can be neutral and even fair to all parties, including the government and the opposition.

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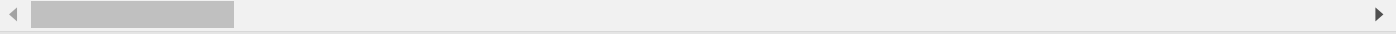
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