

## **Tony Abbott to Andrew Bolt: immigrants should 'join our team'**

JOE KELLY, The Australian, November 15, 2015

Abbott on The Bolt Report: "We want people who come to this country to feel absolutely welcome."  
Source: Channel 10

Islamic State must be defeated because it cannot be contained, former prime minister Tony Abbott said today.

Speaking on The Bolt Report on the Ten Network, Mr Abbott warned that Islamic State was growing stronger. he also said that that only people who were prepared to "join our team" should be allowed to settle in Australia.

"I certainly think that this latest atrocity, on top of other recent atrocities, does indicate that we do need to do more to tackle this toxin at its source in Syria and Iraq," Mr Abbott said.

"The point I make is that this ISIL caliphate — it can't be contained. It has to be defeated. And it's not going to go away just by wishing it to go away. It's only going to be defeated if people take very strong steps against it. And that's what the Australian government under my leadership did at home and abroad."

Abbott: Open borders create a terrorism risk

Mr Abbott said the attacks were evidence of the "malice and the reach" of Islamic State. He called on Muslim leaders to speak out against the threat posed by radical extremism.

"Any death-to-the-infidel mindset is ultimately conducive to the kind of vicious evil that we have seen on the streets of Paris and elsewhere in recent times," he said. "And it's absolutely incumbent on all decent people, particularly on religious leaders, Muslim religious leaders, to say: 'This is not part of our faith. It never should have been and it must not be now.'"

Mr Abbott said it was "very important" that Australia take in the 12,000 Syrian refugees announced when he was prime minister, but warned the effort to resettle persecuted minorities should not harm the national interest.

"The point is that we want to take people who have no realistic prospect of peacefully resettling in these parts of the Middle East. And obviously what we want to do as a general matter of principle is bring people to Australia who are prepared to join our team," he said.

"We want people who come to this country to feel absolutely welcome, but we want them to join our team."

Mr Abbott said the government should continue to support the US in the Middle East and warned it was not Australia's role to "sit in critical judgment of the leader of the free world."

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