

In the science area, Senator Carr promised complete freedom to scientists, the right to speak without fear or favour. We needed scientists to speak out. Indeed, they would be encouraged to speak out. That is, of course, until one took a whack at the government. All of a sudden we needed appropriate restrictions. We needed protocols, and they had to be rushed into place. So, when the CSIRO's Dr Spash had a peer reviewed article for publication that was critical of the government, he was denied permission. Not until the censor's pen had done its bit would the full scientific gems and thoughts be allowed to circulate to us, the great unwashed. George Orwell would have been proud. I understand that Senator Carr's ministerial title will soon become 'Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science, Research and Truth'.

As an aside, Labor's censorship now also extends to the fact that if a listener wants a copy of this speech I will not be allowed to mail it to them using my meagre postage entitlement under Labor's new rules. Reason: I have criticised the government. However, if I gave a speech and misled this place by saying what a good job the government was doing I would be allowed to use my allowance to mail out the speech. The sinister control-freakishness of the Prime Minister now reaches from members of parliament to our scientific community. This culture of censor-

ship, vetting and 'no criticism of government to be tolerated' supposedly will help foster and grow innovation. I say to the government: this is the culture that fosters the Trabant of last century totalitarianism, not 21st-century thinking.