

13 July 2009

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Dear Sir,

The cases of Stern Hu and David Hicks

With her usual balance, Janet Albrechtsen criticises Liberty Victoria and Get Up! for not taking up the case of Stern Hu in the way they took up the case of David Hicks.

It really should not be necessary to point out the obvious differences between the two cases. One involved a person with no external support up against the governments of his own country and the most powerful country on earth. The other involves a person with the support of his own government, his multinational employer and no doubt a range of other powerful interests, governmental and non-governmental.

Unfortunately volunteer organisations like Liberty Victoria must ration their meagre resources and have to be selective about the cases they take up.

Liberty is genuinely concerned about the case of Stern Hu but, given the support he has and our limited resources, we have not yet taken any action in his support. We may yet do so depending on how his case unfolds.

If Janet Albrechtsen and your readers would like Liberty to do that, then they should join or make a donation (which can be done online at www.libertyvictoria.org.au). We might then be in the position to take up more cases of human rights abuses like Stern Hu.

Meanwhile we must be selective about the cases we take up.

Yours sincerely



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