

# US decision key to Korea peace

The brief cancellation of the June 12 summit by President Trump was a hasty overreaction to a legitimate complaint from North Korea about remarks made by John Bolton that were repeated by Mike Pence ("Embrace thy neighbour", May 28).

For some time now, the momentum has favoured North Korea. It seeks peace and security on the Korean Peninsula - as does the whole world. It is prepared to trade its nuclear capability in return for "a guarantee of its security and removal of the US military threat". Kim Jong-un regards it as imperative for the prosperity of his country that the US agree to end the state of war that has existed for almost 70 years. China and South Korea desire the same objective.

The problem is Washington. But contrary to what some commentators have suggested, there is no disagreement on what "denuclearisation" means. It means - freeze, disable and dismantle.

The core issue is actually whether the US will agree to a peace treaty and a non-aggression pact. If it is prepared to do so, denuclearisation will occur. Talk of "unilateral denuclearisation" is delusional.

Trump's readiness to reverse his "cancellation" suggests that he just might understand the dynamics, even if Bolton and Pence do not. Certainly presidents Moon Jae-in of South Korea and Xi Jinping of China do understand.

Michael Pembroke, Woollahra  
(author of *Korea - Where the American Century Began*)

North Korea has finally woken up that Japan's former enemy the US helped rebuild them into a wealthy country, they helped impoverished South Korea to become an industrial nation and

did the same with US technology and trade for China. China knows it will lose heavily if the US stops trading with it. Obviously this history is what the Chinese President Xi Jinping has told Kim Jong-un. So he will meet all the US requirements for the benefit of his countrymen and turn North Korea into a strong industrialised wealthy nation too.

Gil May, Forestdale

## Foley not in the mix

I agree with Kathryn Lai (Letters, May 28). Luke Foley doesn't have the inclusive, progressive, global outlook NSW requires to make it a truly fantastic place to live and work for all citizens. I live in the inner west and have worked in western Sydney for 25 years and continue to feel energised and exhilarated by the mix of people and cultures and the projects we collaborate on. That diversity is one of the best things about NSW.

NSW Labor needs to reinvigorate itself with people who have brilliant and productive ideas, are genuinely consultative and with the guts to stand up to the developers and their small-minded, money-making-obsessed ilk who control the current state government and too many powerful NSW institutions.

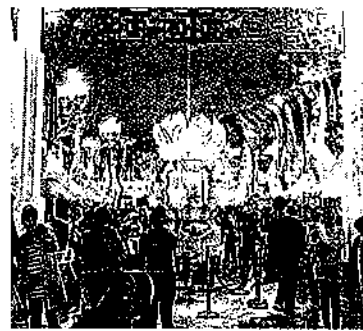
Pla Larsen, Stanmore

As the Anglo wife of a non-Anglo, I think Foley has a nasty case of the "us and them" mentality. The "them" group being Australians of non-Anglo or not white or maybe even perhaps not white enough for the 'burbs of Sydney. I spent my first few years in Cabramatta in the 1950s and early '60s and was surrounded by "non-Anglos". The neighbourhood was made up of a large proportion of migrants. I don't recall my family remembering it with any grief and from what I've been told it was quite the opposite to Foley's comments. It was a kind and

welcoming place where its citizens were, like most people, proud and grateful to have a home and community to be part of. I find his comments sad and ignorant.

Lee Wu, Kentlyn

There is a certain cadre of "white" Australians that will always regard me as Chinese. I'm half Anglo, was born here and can



Cabramatta: kind and welcoming.

only speak English. It doesn't matter how "assimilated" or "integrated" non-white Australians and their children are, to some Australians white skin is a prerequisite to being a "real Aussie".

Samantha Chung, Newtown

## Tick for density

Nano Passmore (Letters, May 28) challenges pro-density politicians to live in an apartment with small children. Well, I'm a pro-density town planner and we lived in a '60s two-bedroom walk-up with our three children under six, and lived in apartments for years before that. We now live in a dual-occupancy, but far from public transport. While we did eventually need an extra room, I liked living in the apartment much better because it was a five-minute walk to shops and the trains. We made good use of our balcony space; and the apartments being built now are much better.

Matthew Benson, Hornsby

## 13 good reasons

I am a teenager and a fan of the Netflix series *13 Reasons Why*. This series is an important step for our culture ("Reasons why 13 Reasons Why should be pulled" May 25). The series allows for a discussion of serious issues that teenagers face daily. While the series can be extremely graphic at times confronting and even heartbreaking, it's important to understand that it allows for a discussion of the issues that teenagers regularly face worldwide.

While I have not personally struggled with any mental health issues or sexual assault I have connections with many people who have, and will continue to struggle because of it. The main reason *13 Reasons Why* is so important is its main idea is to start the conversation. It's about breaking the social stigma surrounding mental health problems and sexual assault.

Another issue raised in your article is that people are involuntarily being exposed to this series. There are settings on Netflix that enable parents to restrict what their children are viewing. In every episode of season 2 there is a trigger warning, where the creators warn of graphic scenes and advise that people struggling with these issues should not watch. At the end of each episode, they show their web address where viewers can access crisis helplines in areas near them.

I cannot stress enough just how important this is to me and should be to everyone.

Australia has an issue with sweeping under the rug problems that so many face. It's time to allow the conversation to start and demolish the social stigma surrounding these major issues that have such a huge impact on young people across the world.

Caitlin Munday, Kemp