

OPINION

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EDITORIAL

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sex marriage. Then they will refuse to accept that decision and will vote against it in parliament.

Their position is hypocritical. Such is the way of the closed mind fundamentalists but Ireland has shown their days are numbered.

Reg Wilding, Wollongong

A POINT OF ORDER

I read Mr Ben Morris letter (*Illawarra Mercury*, September 15, 2016) with surprise.

Yes, many Vietnamese refugees have roots in North Vietnam but they did not move south because of the war; they moved to escape the notoriously brutal communist regime. They did again in the post 1975 exodus after the war already ended, for the same reason. To understand communism, you must live with them.

Communist North Vietnam raised the war (cheating the world via its cover organisation called The National Front for the Liberation of South Vietnam) flouting the 1954 Geneva Convention, and invaded the South, dishonouring their signature in the

1973 Paris Accord.

There is no glory for the offenders, Mr Morris. They were not mere participants, they were invaders. History does not recognise criminals' deaths no matter how large their loss. Only the victims are honoured, in this case, the Republic of South Vietnam Arm Forces.

Communists bulldozed the cemetery to revenge the (dead) soldiers of South Vietnam, whom when alive, the North Vietnam could not match in battles.

Yes, beating, torture, killing were common in world history. In the Vietnam War, the South had Open Arm policy, treated the wounded or the captured humanely, while the North shot even their own injured soldiers to reduce burden on veteran pension. They left 1.2 millions of ex-soldiers of the South to death in prisons (disguised as re-education camps) through harsh labour, poor food ration and no treatment, medical or surgical, to any of those victims.

Dr Anh Nguyen, President, Vietnamese Community in Australia

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