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**Marian Wilkinson, Former Executive Producer, Four Corners**

Four Corners did what every national security reporter should be doing since the Bondi attack: examining the facts around the ISIS cell operating in Sydney and any links it had to the Akrams. It was absolutely valid for the program to interview a former ASIO informant, Marcus, who had inside knowledge of ISIS in Australia and who knew Naveed Akram for years. The program presented also circumstantial evidence supporting some of the ASIO informant's claims. ASIO may well have a justifiable argument that their old informant is now disgruntled and that he was inaccurate in some of his recollections. And Four Corners should have been more explicit about Marcus' issues as a witness and where it lacked independent verification for his claims. But the bottom line is that the Akrams went on to commit the worst terrorist act in Australia's history while claiming an allegiance to ISIS. It is arguably Australia's greatest ever intelligence failure. Because of Four Corners we can now hope the Akrams' links to IS and what was known about them by all the police and security agencies will be tested at the Royal Commission. Let's hope it is done in public.