

8<sup>th</sup> December, 2010.

The Joint Standing Committee  
On Electoral Matters,  
Australian Parliament House,  
CANBERRA. 2600 ACT.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN;

During the last Federal Election held on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2020. I received the Official Guide, setting out the procedures (on page 2) regarding polling places, time of opening and closing etc., and part of the sentence (page 3) which states “you can vote at any polling place”. At the polling place (page 6) there are four steps to receiving your ballot papers –

“Step 1. An official will ask for your full name and address, ask if you have voted before and then marks your name off the electoral roll”.

ALL of the above without asking for Proof of Identity.

Why, you might ask is proof of identity so important?

This is the reason. I was told of a family in which the senior members (husband and wife) always voted Liberal and the son-in-law and his wife always voted Labor.

When the senior members went to the local polling station and voted, the son-in-law and spouse then went to every other polling station in the electorate, gave their in-laws names and address and voted for their party. If there were say 20 polling stations in the electorate then the senior couple would vote once each (2 votes) and the young couple would cast their votes (38 votes).

After the Electoral Office had done the final tally it would appear that the senior couple had each voted 20 times and cast 40 votes. A letter of enquiry and possible Court attendance would be requested and there could be no rational explanation from the senior couple. What penalty would they incur in ~~the~~ innocence?

THEIR

I therefore request the Joint Standing Committee to look at the requirement for subsequent elections, to produce some evidence of identity – driver’s licence, medicare card, pension card etc., to the polling official before being given ballot papers, so as to avoid an embarrassing situation of innocent victims.

I await your written advice,

Yours faithfully,

Mr. P. Williams

