

Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters	
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INQUIRY INTO THE CONDUCT OF THE 2001 FEDERAL ELECTION

1 STOP PREFERENTIAL VOTING SYSTEM

This system is far too complicated and most voters do not understand it.

This system does not allow the voter the freedom, to stop their vote being passed onto one of the major parties, e.g. if there are six candidates and the voter only wants to vote for the two independents, and only marks the two independent boxes their vote is not counted, as not all the boxes are marked. To have their vote counted they are forced to fill in all the boxes, and if the independents don't get enough votes their vote is given to one of the major parties against their wishes.

This is not a democratic or system

If this system was used in a third world country it would be considered undemocratic.

Would the United Nations view this as an honest voting system ?

The voting system should be fair and simple so all the voters can understand it.

I suggest the simple system of one vote only, e.g. you mark one box only for the candidate of your choice.

STOP COMPULSORY VOTING

- 2 Voting should be voluntary as a right, citizens should not be forced to vote in a democratic society.

BANN THE HANDING OUT OF HOW TO VOTE CARDS.

- 3 The handing out of how to vote cards outside polling stations should be banned.
As it is harassing to the voters, and is a terrible waste of paper and trees.

I suggest the system that is used in South Australia state elections, where they fix a how to vote card from each candidate onto the wall of each booth, and the officer in charge has some spares in case any get damaged.

*Yours faithfully
B. Joy*