

210 / 462 BEAMS RD,
FITZGIBBON 4018
12th OCT. 2004.

RECEIVED

THE HON. TERESA GAMBARO M.P.
MEMBER FOR PETRIE.

Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters	
Submission No.	143
Date Received	19-4-05
Secretary	<i>[Signature]</i>

DEAR TERESA,

DURING LAST WEEK'S ELECTION CERTAIN FACTORS CAME TO MY ATTENTION WHICH I BELIEVE NEED TO BE ADDRESSED AND CORRECTED.

1. POLLING BOOTHS.

IN TWO BOOTHS IN THE "SOUTHERN" END OF PETRIE, QUEUES OF VOTERS WERE EVIDENT.

MANY OF THE VOTERS HAD TO QUEUE FOR HALF AN HOUR PLUS IN MANY CASES, DURING THE FIRST 5 HOURS OF POLLING (MANY OF WHOM WERE ELDERLY).

(a) TRIGUM STATE SCHOOL.

THIS BOOTH IS A DUAL BOOTH WITH "LILLEY" AND HAD TWO SEPARATE ROOMS, ONE FOR EACH ELECTORATE.

HOWEVER, ONLY 2 POLL CLERKS WERE OPERATING ISSUING VOTING PAPERS, AND THIS FACTOR CAUSED THE STACK OF QUEUES.

THE SAME SITUATION OCCURRED I'M TOLD IN A NUMBER OF OTHER BOOTHS IN THE ELECTORATE CAUSED NO DOUBT BY THE INCREASE IN POPULATION AND NO APPARENT INCREASE IN VOTING FACILITIES TO MEET THE SITUATION.

(b) ASPLEY STATE SCHOOL - ASPLEY WEST.

APART FROM LONG QUEUES AT TIMES HERE, THE WORST FEATURE IS THE TRAFFIC CONGESTION (DANGEROUS) AND LACK OF PARKING FACILITIES. IN THE INTERESTS OF SAFETY THIS NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED.

INFORMAL VOTES.

WHILST SCALTIMBERG AT THE ASPLEY WEST BOOTH, IT WAS QUITE OBVIOUS THAT A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER WERE VOTE [1] FOR GAMBARD, WITH NO OTHER NUMBERS PLACED IN THE OTHER SQUARES, THEREFORE MAKING THESE VOTES INFORMAL.

IT IS MY OPINION THAT THIS IS CAUSED BY TWO FACTORS: (a) OPTIONAL PREFERENTIAL VOTING IN STATE ELECTIONS. (b) THE METHOD NOW USED IN SENATE ELECTIONS.

AS WE CANNOT CHANGE THE SITUATION REGARDING STATE ELECTIONS, WE COULD MINIMISE THE SITUATION BY EXTENDING THE SENATE VOTING PROCEDURE TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES VOTING PAPER.

E. G.

- PASS, R.
- WHINCOP, W.
- BELL, T.
- 1 GAMBARD, T
- BRADY, G.

NOTE:

YOU MAY EITHER PLACE 1 IN THE SQUARE OF YOUR FAVOURED CANDIDATE AND LEAVE THE OTHER SQUARES EMPTY OR PLACE A NUMBER IN EACH SQUARE

I BELIEVE ITS TIME THE WHOLE ELECTORAL PROCEDURES WERE REVIEWED

St. M. Hothers