

D.E. & R.A. ANNEAR
5 TEAGUE CLOSE
BULLCREEK 6149
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

DATE
5/7/02

To. The Secretary
Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters.
Parliament House
Canberra. A.C.T. 2600.

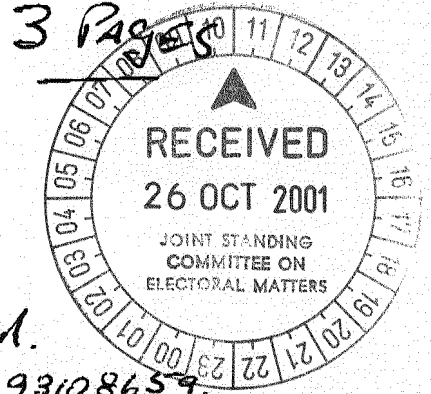
From. Don Annear. AS ABOVE.

Re... THE LETTER THAT I WROTE SOME TIME AGO TO THE
COMMITTEE EXPRESSING MY DISAPPOINTMENT AND
VIEW OF OUR ELECTORAL BLUNDERING.

Yes! AS FAR AS I AM CONCERNED YOU CAN USE
MY LETTER IN YOUR INQUIRY IF IT WILL HAVE
ANY USEFUL EFFECT.

I WILL ALSO POINT OUT THAT THE MEDIA COPIES OF
THE LETTER I SENT TO YOUR COMMITTEE HAVE NOT
EVEN BEEN ACKNOWLEDGED, SO I REALLY DO NOT
HOLD MUCH HOPE OF ANY ACTION, HOWEVER THANK
YOU FOR ^{AT} LEAST REPLYING.

Yours,
Don Annear



FAX FROM DON ANNEAR

5 TEAGUE CH

BULLCASEEK . W.A.

FAX 93108639 PHONE 93108659.

TO. THE SECRETARY OF THE JOINT STANDING
COMMITTEE FOR ELECTORAL MATTERS.
PARLIAMENT HOUSE
CANBERRA.

PLEASE FORGIVE THE FACT THAT THIS IS HAND
WRITTEN & NOT CORRECTLY TYPE UP ETC.

COPY TO MR TONY BARRAS
POLITICAL EDITOR
WEST AUSTRALIAN.

COPY TO MELISSA JENSEN
PRODUCER FOR PAUL MURPHY
SIX P.R.

FOR THE FIRST TIME I HAVE ACTUALLY ACTED NOT JUST
TALKED ABOUT IT. NAME NOT FOR PUBLICATION.

Don Annear

To THE SECRETARY / JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE FOR ELECTORAL MATTERS.
Parliament House
Canberra.

At the present time it is my understanding that, as the system is now, because of the two party preferential system of counting our votes, the Lib' or Lab' in almost all seats in the lower house must end up with the votes no matter what the intention of the voter. I would like to suggest for consideration, a very simple solution to this gerrymander. I realize that Lab' & Lib' would positively hate this suggestion, as it could seriously affect the no. of seats that they would end up with in parliament.

My suggestion is simply this, in a constituency that has for example 6 nominations, then the voters vote the same way as usual - "But" the counting is done by giving preference a "true" value ~~not~~ not a gerrymandered value. The voters 1st vote gets 6 values the 2nd gets 5 values - 3rd gets 4 - 4th gets 3 - 5 gets 2 - and last gets 1.

This would mean that the voter would have to think about who they vote for and in order of preference because it would be their choice that truly elects the representative for the constituency. Or! they could simply go a simpler and trust the party line.

My reasons for this communication is that at the last election I voted what I thought would be against the John Howard / Costello G.S.T. package, I did this by voting for every other party before LIB' but I still put LAB' last because I just couldn't vote LAB' in front of LIB'. I have spoken to a number of other people about this and discovered that a lot of people did similarly. However because of our two party preferred system I have been assured that my vote went to LIB' (John Howard & Costello), even though they were second last and LAB' last.

John Howard then stood up and said the electorate had given him a "clear mandate" to bring in the G.S.T. This in despite of his primary vote dropping from approx 52% of the primary vote at the previous election to approx 34%* at this election, the only thing that got him back in my opinion was the general ordering of the preferential vote count.

By adopting a more truly honest way of counting the vote and preferences without changing the voting system would be as I suggested

I wonder just how many seats LAB' & LIB' would have got by counting more honestly as I suggest.

* THE 52% & 34% ARE MY RECOLLECTIONS AND I MAY NOT BE ABSOLUTELY CORRECT