

**Submission
No 68**

INQUIRY INTO ELECTORAL AND POLITICAL PARTY FUNDING

Organisation:

Name: Dr Eleanor Dawson

Telephone:

Date received: 10/02/2008

Dear Ms Simpson...

Will this inquiry have the opportunity for submissions from the public in person at any hearing? I have strong feelings about this funding issue.

That politicians are paid by the people but controlled by donors is a serious anomaly.

It is not realistic, I know, for us to hope that parliament will consist only of a group of high-minded people wishing to serve the community, the nation and the international causes of importance. Ambitious people seeking power are not all nobly motivated.

Unrestricted funding means that parliaments become infiltrated by all sorts of self-serving people with links to Big Money and then spend so much time, effort and public money, using their notable talents in their publicly funded fora for in-fighting; this to the detriment of the common man and woman and the nation.

1) The money spent by government on destruction of natural and built heritage in favour of shoddy development to feather other nests is a manifest bone of contention. Within a 1/4 mile of our home of 55 years no less than 7 well-designed, well-built, quite well-maintained family homes have been demolished and replaced by more than treble the number of residences - none of which would be affordable by those virtually dispossessed by Minister Sartor's power.

2) My own chosen profession and those who need its services suffer from power ineptly exercised. Mental health services and the imprisonment of the ill in corrective services is the most appalling aspect.

I refer to my 43 year career in Health - Clinical Medicine - Psychiatric practice - Retirement - and my Research (and action) regarding the regulation procedures for the maintenance of professional standards, where I have encountered corrupt influence among those with the ear and patronage of inept statutory bodies

I think that pre-election advertising should be strictly limited to factual statements about past performance compared with past promises and future policies. Third party election advertising is not in the public interest.

Dr Eleanor M Dawson MB BS Hons (Syd) FRANZCP