

**Submission
No 20**

INQUIRY INTO ELECTORAL AND POLITICAL PARTY FUNDING

Organisation:

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Political donations

Why do people give large sums of money to political parties?

- Out of the kindness of their hearts, because they want to support that particular party in its election campaigns, without any hope of personal benefit?
- Because they assume that – if the party is returned to government – they will be granted contracts or be given other rewards?

It would be nice to think that the first of these was always the basis for giving financial support to a political organisation, but clearly it is not.

And, by the way, does the ATO check on the validity of tax deductions, to ensure that people are not claiming deductibility for politically-motivated gifts?

A formal Enquiry, please!

Dr Ruth Bright,
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