

**Submission  
No 15**

## **INQUIRY INTO ELECTORAL AND POLITICAL PARTY FUNDING**

**Organisation:**

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**Telephone:**

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Dear Ms Simpson,

I am hereby lodging a submission in relation to the Electoral and Political Party Funding Inquiry.

I am strongly opposed to political donations as they interfere with the process of democracy. They allow companies and wealthy organisations and individuals to exert undue pressure on politicians. In return for donations, politicians are expected to act based on the will of the donor, instead of representing their electorate as they were elected to do.

Furthermore, when donors are allowed to fund advertising, the election is all about who can advertise best, so that those with the most money behind them are more likely to win. This is not a democratic process.

Government funding should only be available to politicians or political parties which do not spend any non-government-provided money on their election campaign.

All politicians should reject private donations, or they can be seen as having a conflict of interest and cannot be trusted by the people they were elected to represent. Even worse, when politicians are allowed to keep details of donors and amounts secret, then their constituents cannot be certain about the motivation of any single action they take.

I support a donor-free democracy.

Keren Cox-Witton  
Petersham