

**Submission
No 13**

INQUIRY INTO ELECTORAL AND POLITICAL PARTY FUNDING

Organisation:

Name: Mr Arthur Bruce Grime

Telephone:

Date received: 28/01/2008

Political donations corrupt democracy - politicians are paid by the people, controlled by donors.

This is an email that was sent to me and forwarded by me with the points from the original email with which I agree.

Political donations show voters that Members of Parliament and political parties can be "bought" by those with enough money, to do what donors want.

We want a donor-free democracy.

Corporations, businesses, wealthy individuals and professionals expect a large financial return on any donations they make to political parties or politicians.

The voters pay politicians who are in fact controlled by donors, just as medieval monarchs were controlled by their financiers who enabled them to fight wars and gain their crowns.

Donor-funded advertising and PR corrupts the election process by ensuring the election of those who can advertise best, rather than those who can govern best. The result is hopeless government services such as health, crime protection, road safety, child protection, court systems, planning, drugs, alcohol abuse, gambling and many more.

Government funding should only be available to politicians or political parties which can exhibit a specified minimum support per electorate in which candidates are being presented.

Politicians should make public all private and political party donations. If they don't, then penalties should accrue which could be a multiple of the donations received, rejected from parliament with a bi-election called, and not being allowed to stand at either this by-election or the subsequent following main election time.

I believe that Politicians in the pay of private interests cannot be trusted by the people to execute properly or adequately their job of representing the people.

Politicians who back secret entities which enable their political parties to hide donors names and amounts should incur similar penalties to those for not making donations public as above.

Political donors should be banned from any contact with politicians and any money or advantage they gain from government should be deemed to flow from their donation and be payable into a public fund.

The incompetence, neglect and lack of care seen in government administration of hospitals, mental health, schools, public housing, public transport, road safety, crime, planning, domestic violence, child abuse and the court system are all the result of politicians and political parties being controlled by political donors and diverted to doing their bidding instead of the bidding of voters and taxpayers who elect and pay them.

Politicians are paid by the people but controlled by donors.

We need a system that shows that any financial support given to members of our parliaments is clear, open, above board, and accountable. This may very well create trust in our politicians that is currently not there.

Sincerely,

Arthur Bruce Grime,

Turrumurra.