

**Submission
No 75**

INQUIRY INTO ELECTORAL AND POLITICAL PARTY FUNDING

Organisation:

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To -- LEGASLATIVE COUNCIL SELECT COMMITTEE ON ELECTORAL AND POLITICAL PARTY FUNDING.

Without being too cynical -- Why would ANYONE give money to an Organisation, Group or Individual, unless it is with the intention of influencing or helping that entity ?

The reason most often given, is that it is to encourage and support our Democratic form of Government. Particularly when donations are given in equal or varying amounts to several political parties, The majority of the public remain sceptical about this explanation.

Please recommend the end this unbalanced system of donations to political parties. **Let justice be SEEN as well as ACTUALLY to be done. Freedom of Information (FOI) should apply in all cases at all times. Not in retrospect as at present**

IDEAS and POLICIES should be the currency for 'selling' a political party, not how much money it has to advertise over and above rivals

Once in government a political party should not feel any obligation toward substantial donors.

It is unlikely that these donors are so pure in intent that they do not in some way seek to influence the receiver.

A bipartisan and fair system should be developed where political parties receive public monies for electoral purposes. **The same model for distribution could be used for the pooling of political** donations (wether from business, union or individuals) who still want to contribute to a democratic form of government .

Perhaps in due course they will be persuaded that donations cannot influence outcomes, and redirect the money for the benefit of their own members, employees and organisations.

From – **Jacqueline M Norton**