

Comments on the 2019 Federal Election

1. There should be a limit per candidate on the number of posters/corflutes at each polling place. In my electorate (Warringah) this was out of hand. The amount of materials, the space they occupied, the danger to traffic and pedestrians caused by them, the covering up of street signs (is that legal?) were all problematic.
2. Candidates should not be allowed to use false, misleading and dishonest advertising materials. I wrote to the AEC about the advertising materials for the former member for Warringah, which were factually wrong and therefore misleading. False advertising in any other context is illegal, but not in elections. – how can that be?
3. I think three weeks is too long for pre-polling. Two weeks is adequate.
4. Pre-polling is a great idea and should not be removed.
5. The size of upper house voting papers needs consideration. In my experience as a polling place worker, many people simply give up and do not bother voting correctly. Why not offer voters a choice of above the line and below the line voting papers? An above the line voting paper would be small (and the majority of voters would want this from comments they made to me), while a below the line voting paper would remain as the present voting paper is. This change would give an easier way of voting, save on paper, and aid the counting process. It's not that difficult, is it?