

**From:** [Peter and Anne Bennie](#)  
**To:** [Committee, EM \(REPS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Submission to Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters  
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I would like to make this submission to the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters.

My experience within the 2013 Federal Election have resulting in my making this submission to suggest changes to the electronic media blackout rules for federal elections. I ask that you consider that the blackout apply to other advertising mediums such as telephone and internet sites (pop-up ad's on news sites and Facebook etc) in additional to the traditional media channels?

Thursday evening (5<sup>th</sup> Sept 2013) I received an automated phone call from the Liberal party and the eve of the election (6<sup>th</sup> Sept 2013 ) I received an automated phone call from the Palmer United party. Internet and Facebook advertising was also still occurring as I conducted my necessary business and entertainment through the internet – no different to TV as a medium. Given the rise of other advertising and marketing channels, these rules need to be reviewed to address all forms of marketing by electoral parties including telephone (phone calls and text messages) and internet advertising.

Surely the aim of the media blackout can't be met if parties can still use these mediums to continue to push their message during the blackout period ?

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Anne Bennie