

**Submission to the Select Committee for the
Inquiry: the Establishment of a National Integrity Commission.**

I list my reasons for why it is essential that a National Integrity Commission is established so that it will also stridently act as a Federal Independent Commission Against Corruption (Fed ICAC).

The reasons are as follows:

1. Australian citizens are dismayed and disgusted by the lack of public scrutiny on public and private processes that often can be corrupted by vested interests in Business, Politics, Bureaucracies, Churches and other organised bodies.
2. Australian citizens from various quarters of Australian society are often the oppressed, who experience disadvantage and/or denigration due to the abuse of powers of public or private bodies.
3. Many current government or government associated bodies lack the Substantial Effectiveness to meet the needs and expectations of wronged citizens or representative bodies and Australian citizens expect good governance also to mean government mechanisms that will Enforce well-founded evidence-based findings made by reputable and accountable investigations by fully endorsed commissions. The sworn testimonies of wronged parties should also be accepted as evidence in such enquiries where other forms of evidence may be lacking.
4. Australian citizens often lack the resources to bring legal actions against public, private bodies or individuals in higher power positions, so they look to the Senate Committee to incorporate provisions in the powers of the National Integrity Commission and the Federal ICAC to represent, advocate and enforce all reasonable findings made on behalf of ordinary citizens who have been wronged and short-changed by unreasonable processes in any enterprise or relationship.
5. Australian citizens expect good governance to mean that individuals or organisations who work in a contrary manner to the public interest and who also do so for their own personal, professional or political gain in monetary or any other manner, should be held fully responsible and accountable according to the gravity of the wrong-doing. The higher wrongs committed should eventuate in incarceration, heavy fines and repayment of ill-gotten gains. Lesser wrongs will eventuate in lesser versions of these, or some of these. Criminal records should apply to any fraudulent activity by any public or private official who is found to have committed wrong acts in their positions by corruption and abuse.
6. Public servants and politicians should be reminded that wrongly conducting their duties for their own interests and not the interests of all Australian citizens will result in their own disadvantage. Strong enforcement powers are essential for the National Integrity Commission and the Federal ICAC to contain, so that Public and Private Officials plus Politicians are forewarned of the gravity of wrongdoings and the gravity of the consequences when revealed. This will act as deterrence to any other such later conduct and will instil greater confidence in the Australian people that our Public Officials and Politicians plus Private Organisations are held to higher standards of conduct that does not undermine the Common Good of All Australian citizens and the Environment.

7. Private or Special Interest Political organisations should also be made aware that they have NO right to seek to influence Public Policy by buying politicians, political policies and political procedures. This will defuse the power of Political Donations which work against the Common Good. Cap Political Donations to moderate amounts or get rid of them full stop. Eradicate clandestine campaign funding mechanisms and enforce severe penalties if any exist.

8. The Australian People are fed up. They are angry about the injustices, the inequity, the unfairness exhibited by the big and powerful players. When these moguls are challenged, they muster their massive resources to mount an advertising campaign to counter any moves against them, which like that of the mining industry, will be distorted yet persuasive. For this reason also Advertising Campaigns by Big Biz interests such as Mining, Banks etc should be significantly reduced or abolished when intended to influence political outcomes. No Persuasive Propaganda will be tolerated that seeks to influence Government or ordinary people to adopt Big Biz', Banks', and other powerful Bodies' flawed self-serving goals.

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