

I am writing to express my concern regarding a recent election mail-out which myself and my partner received via mail. A similar mail-out was also received by us at the last federal election. We live in Western Australia and will be re-voting in the Senate election for 6 seats on the 5th April, 2014.

My concern is that this mail-out sent to those on the W.A. ( or at least Perth) electoral roll from the Liberal Party of Australia ( Western Australia) has enclosed a pamphlet purportedly from the AEC which asks a number of personal questions, including a request for a secret question and answer. However, this is a modified pamphlet authorised by B. Morton for the Liberal Party of Australia. The enclosed 'Reply Paid' envelope also has a different postal address to the AEC. Presumably these returned forms are opened by Liberal Party staff and data entered for their benefit.

I have no doubt that these completed forms are then passed on to the AEC and I understand that all electoral candidates are entitled to obtain a copy of the electoral roll with contact details. However, I am concerned that there is little attempt made (unless the you read the fineprint on one of the back pages) to identify the Liberal Party as the sender of this mail-out. This creates a false belief and I'm sure the elderly, those with poor eyesight and the time-poor and less interested electors will happily request a postal vote using the enclosed form, not realising that all their information has now been transferred to a Liberal Party database. I am sure that these pamphlets contravene the Federal Government's Privacy Act and I'm surprised that no action has been taken to date to prevent political parties such as the Liberal Party from pretending to be AEC representatives.

I hae enclosed some scanned copies of the mail-out to illustrate my point and hope that this can be considered when you meet to discuss reforms to the Australian Electoral Commission and Act.

Thank you for your consideration.

Valda Rose