

SUBMISSION NO. 29

Postal Address

P.O. Box 3093
KEW Vic 3101

Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters	
Submission No.	29
Date Received	4-10-05
Secretary	<i>[Signature]</i>

Residential Address

Unit 3,
910 Glenferrie Road
KEW Vic 3101

Phone:-
+61-[0]3-9818-2395

E-mail:
auintagx@planet.net.au

FAX:-
+61-[0]3-9818-7255

Friday, October 01, 2004

4 OCT 2004

Mr P Georgiou
695 Burke Road

HAWTHORN EAST Vic 3123

Dear Sir,

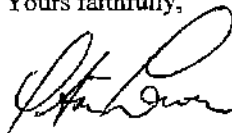
Whilst I realize that you are now in the midst of a very hectic Election Campaign I would like to draw to your attention about what I consider as a lack of privacy concerning completed Postal Voting papers.

Attached is a copy of a letter that I have sent to the Divisional Returning Officer for the Electorate of Kooyong expressing concern about the 'lack of privacy'.

It is an issue that you can pursue after you have been re-elected, as the Electoral Office would not have the resources to rectify that 'lack of privacy' in the remaining days before Voting Day.

Wishing you all the best. We will be leaving Australia on 3rd October for America, for a few days business, and then leave London for Edinburgh on 9th October. This means that we not be able to get news of the results for some time.

Yours faithfully,



Stan Lewin

ATTACHMENT A

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Divisional Returning Officer
Electorate of Kooyong
Burke Road

CAMBERWELL Vic 3124

COPY

Dear Sir,

Attached are the Postal Votes for myself and my wife.

I have not used the facility of a Reply Paid envelope as provided by Office, as I consider that there are too many personal details being made available to any-one who handles the letter from the time it is deposited in the Post Box and delivered to your Office.

Yes, they know that I will be away at the time of the Elections. What an excellent opportunity to ransack my house! They also have the opportunity to copy our signatures for their use, which is not authorized by either of us. They also have knowledge of our birth dates, which is also another means of identification.

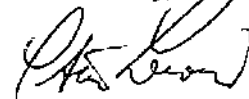
I know that there is legislation regarding "privacy" and I thought that such a situation, like Postal Votes carrying 'endorsed' Ballot Papers would be placed very high on the list.

Another plain envelope, in which to insert the signed documents, with just the address of your Office would ensure all our personal details are not known to every-one who handles the envelope.

It might be too late to rectify this fault, if it is standard practice, but steps can put into place to ensure that invasion of privacy does not happen in future elections.

I know that when I vote by Postal Elections of the Union, the signed envelopes[containing the completed Ballot Papers] are placed inside a plain envelope when being sent back to the Returning Officer.

Yours faithfully,



Stan Lewin