

LAI UPON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE
THE CLERK OF THE PARLIAMENT

Renee Giskes

14/6/06

From: webmaster@parliament.qld.gov.au
Sent: Friday, 12 May 2006 2:02 PM
To: LCARC
Subject: Online Submission - Voices & Votes Response Form



SUBMISSION FROM

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SUBMISSION

What could the ECQ do better or differently to get its message across to young people?
Awareness at university campuses, provide incentives

How could the ECQ make it easier for young people to enrol and become registered to vote?
Online enrollments, send enrolments out to high schools for year 12 students at the end of the year

How could the ECQ make it easier for young people to cast their vote?
Locate polling station at shopping, university campuses, and later hours

Do you think more young people would vote if they could do so at any time in the week leading up to an election, without having to meet any special conditions to do so?
Yes, most definitely!

Do you think young people could be disadvantaged if there was no opportunity to enrol after an election is called?
I think that 5-7 days after election is long enough to enrol to register a vote.

Do you think improved civics education is a worthwhile reason for government to consider a change to fixed term elections?
No, I don't believe it would be of too much overall use

Do you think young people would be more likely to vote if the voting system was changed so that candidates running on certain issues of particular interest to young people were more likely to get elected and have a voice in parliament?
Yes, young people may not be so interested in 'parties' for the election but in people

Should the voting age be lowered to 17 or 16 years? Why or why not? If the voting age is lowered, should voting at the lowered age be compulsory?
No - at the age of 17 or younger you do not have any real understanding of what you are voting for, and are likely just to follow your friends or family's votes.

FOR STUDENTS : What worked well and what did you enjoy when you learnt about or experienced democracy in your school? What more could schools do to encourage you to value democracy and prepare you so that you are well informed and confident about engaging in democracy? OR FOR TEACHERS : How does your school approach civics education and practice democracy? How could students be better prepared to engage in democracy?
I did not feel I learned very much about democracy. We did one real unit on it in year 10 that I remember, and I did not learn anything new that I didn't already know

How can political parties encourage young people's engagement in democracy?
Discuss their party policies in ways we can understand, and ways which relate to us

How can politicians themselves restore the faith of young people in democracy?
Show through their actions that they are willing to listen to what young people have to say

Have you used any of the government opportunities to voice your opinions about issues? How effective was it?
No I haven't heard of any opportunities

How do you think government should involve young people in the decisions it makes? What methods work best for you - face-to-face, web based/online methods or written?
face-to-face and online methods work well for most young people of university age

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Which of the following activities have you carried out, or would you like to carry out?

Volunteering - Have done
 Initiating or participating in a local youth project - Would like to
 Initiating or signing a petition - Have done
 Attending a rally or protest -
 Taking part in a strike -
 Being a member of a political party - Would like to
 Being a member of a trade union -
 Being a member of a student union -
 Being a member of a non-government organisation which lobbies government (e.g. The Wilderness Society, Amnesty International, Greenpeace) - Have done
 Contacting a politician or local government councillor -
 Participating in a Youth Parliament - Would like to
 Being involved in a Youth Council - Would like to
 Being involved in an organisation which seeks to represent the views of young people (e.g. Young Australian Rural Network) -

What assistance or encouragement do you need from government to take action about the issues you feel passionate about?

To be told about opportunities to do so

What role can families and friends play in getting young people active and involved with democracy?

Discuss why they vote the way that they do - how they made their decision about who they will support

What role can non-government foundations or community organisations play in getting young people active and involved with democracy?

provide simple and interactive information