

**#VoteSmart**

# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

It's Not A Compliment (INAC) acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land on which we work: the Boon Wurrung and Wurundjeri peoples of the Kulin Nation.

We acknowledge the Boon Wurrung and Wurundjeri peoples' connections to land, sea, and community, and pay our respects to their Elders past, present, and emerging.

# INDEX

**04**

BACKGROUND TO VOTESMART

**05**

FEDERAL ELECTIONS AND VOTING

**06**

POLITICAL PARTIES IN AUSTRALIA

**07**

OVERVIEW OF ISSUES WE'RE  
FOCUSING ON

**08**

ISSUE 1: MIGRATION AND  
REFUGEES

**11**

ISSUE 2: FIRST NATIONS JUSTICE

**14**

ISSUE 3: SEXISM, VIOLENCE AND  
MISOGYNY

**17**

ISSUE 4: ADDRESSING RACISM

**19**

ISSUE 5: ABLEISM AND DISABILITY  
RIGHTS

**21**

ISSUE 6: LGBTQIA+ COMMUNITY

**24**

ELECTION DAY CHECKLIST

**25**

USEFUL LINKS FOR A DEEP DIVE

**26**

OUR SOURCES



# BACKGROUND TO VOTESMART

Dear Australia, let's #VoteSmart.

We live in a democracy, which means we have the unique opportunity to elect our leaders at different levels of government. We deserve leaders who align with our values and leaders who prioritise our wellbeing as individuals and as communities.

The #VoteSmart campaign is here to help you be a more informed voter. We will do this by providing you with an overview of where different political parties stand on issues that are important to you as members of the INAC community.

Our goal is that come election day, you are voting for leaders who truly share your values and ideals.

# FEDERAL ELECTIONS AND VOTING

Australia is a representative democracy in which it is compulsory for all Australians over 18 years of age to enrol and vote for people to represent them.

Australians vote to elect representatives to the three levels of Australian government:

- Federal (defence, income tax, immigration, social welfare, external affairs).
- State or Territory (schools, hospitals, public transport, electricity, police and ambulance services).
- Local (rubbish collection, parks, libraries and art galleries, pet registration, and local roads).

Power is shared between the three levels. Some powers are shared and both state and federal parliaments are able to make laws for these matters.

However, if there is a conflicting law the federal law takes precedence.

## FEDERAL ELECTIONS

A full federal election is held every three years. A federal election is held so Australians can vote to decide who will represent them in the Federal Parliament.

The Federal Parliament consists of two houses:

- **House of Representatives**
  - 151 Members represent a geographic area - also known as electorates, or seats - made up of roughly 100,000 voters each.
  - Represented by the colour green.
- **Senate**
  - 76 Senators represent their state or territory.
  - Represented by the colour red.

# POLITICAL PARTIES IN AUSTRALIA

There are four major political parties in Australia:

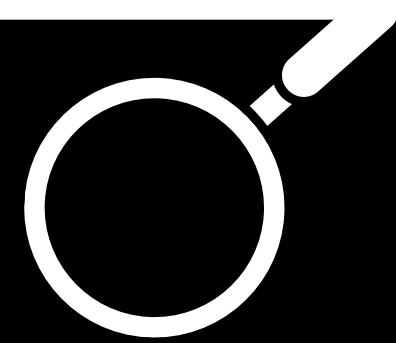


While there are several political parties in Australia, we are focusing on the four major political parties who get the highest percentage of votes.

Some of the other minor parties include:

- One Nation
- Animal Justice Party
- Liberal Democrats
- Socialist Alliance
- United Australia Party
- Australian Conservatives
- Centre Alliance

Find out more about all the political parties in Australia [here](#).



## **OVERVIEW OF ISSUES WE'RE FOCUSING ON**

Our mission is to achieve street justice for all. In line with the above, for this federal election we are highlighting where the four major political parties stand in respect to issues that are important to our organisation and community.

1. Migration and Refugees
2. First Nations Justice
3. Sexism, Violence and Misogyny
4. Addressing Racism
5. Ableism and Disability Rights
6. LGBTQIA+ Rights

# ISSUE 1: MIGRATION AND REFUGEES

	Greens	Labor	Liberal	National
Ending offshore detention	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Ending temporary visas	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Ending indefinite detention	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Simplifying citizenship and visa pathways	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Ending economic exploitation of migrants	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

## ENDING INDEFINITE DETENTION

- The Greens have committed to ending indefinite detention and reducing the days in onshore detention to seven days.
- Labor has committed to ending indefinite detention and reducing processing times to a maximum of ninety days.
- The Liberals have not published a policy on indefinite detention.
- The Nationals have not published a policy on indefinite detention.

## ENDING OFFSHORE DETENTION CENTERS

- The Greens have committed to close offshore detention and bring those in camps to Australia.
- Labor “will maintain an architecture of... offshore places.”
- The Liberals will not end offshore detention. They have committed to the continued funding of offshore detention programs.
- The Nationals will not end offshore detention, as under the coalition government funding has been maintained for the program.



## **INCREASING HUMANITARIAN PLACES**

- The Greens have committed to increase Australia's humanitarian intake to 50,000 per year.
- Labor has committed to increase places to 27,000 per year from 20,000.
- The Liberals have not published policies on increasing humanitarian places.
- The Nationals have no published policy on increasing humanitarian places.

## **LIMITING LENGTH OF ONSHORE DETENTION**

- The Greens have committed to introduce a seven day limit for onshore detention.
- Labor has committed to limiting onshore detention to ninety days, with a "preference for community-based assessments."
- The Liberals have mentioned some reform of the assessment process.
- The Nationals have not mentioned reform in their published policies.

## **ENDING TEMPORARY PROTECTION VISAS**

- The Greens have committed to ending

Temporary Protection Visas and reintroducing Permanent Protection Visas.

- Labor has committed to ending temporary visas and reintroducing permanent protection visas.
- The Liberals promote the Temporary Protection Visas as one of the policy achievements.
- The Nationals have no published policy on ending Temporary Protection Visas.

## **ASSESSMENT OF CLAIMS**

- The Greens have committed to reducing wait times for the assessment of claims.
- Labor has committed to establishing a Refugee Review Tribunal - which allows for timely and fair processes.
- The Liberals have committed investing to reduce the backlog of cases within the Migration and Refugee Division of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal.
- The Nationals have not mentioned assessment of refugee claims in their published policy.

## **PARTICIPATION IN DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS, WORK AND SOCIETY**

- The Greens have highlighted the importance of migration in enriching Australian society and committed to developing immigration which is non-discriminatory.
- Labor has committed to support and encourage participation of culturally and linguistically diverse Australians in democratic institutions. They have also committed to removing barriers to participation in employment and society.
- This was not mentioned in the Liberal policy.
- The Nationals have not mentioned this in their policy.

## **ECONOMIC EXPLOITATION**

- The Greens have committed to ensuring that temporary migrants are entitled to the same working rights as citizens. Additionally, they have also committed to educational material to be provided to all migrants in their first language on workplace rights, strengthening migrant worker rights, and finally increasing funding to the Fair Work Ombudsman to address migrant worker exploitation.

- Labor has committed to ensuring that migrants are not exploited and that they have access to workplace rights and protections.
- The Liberals have not mentioned migrant exploitation in their published policies.
- The Nationals have not mentioned migrant exploitation in their published policies.

## **ACCESS TO CITIZENSHIP**

- The Greens have committed to a program which prioritises family reunion and humanitarian entrants. They have also committed to more accessible pathways for skilled workers.
- Labor has committed to keeping migration policies non-discriminatory and simplifying visa and citizenship pathways.
- The Liberals have not mentioned access to citizenship in their published policy.
- The Nationals have not mentioned access to citizenship in their published policy.

# ISSUE 2: FIRST NATIONS JUSTICE

	Greens	Labor	Liberal	National
Justice system reforms	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Constitutional reform	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Closing the gap	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
Stolen Generations reparations and reconciliation	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

## TREATY

- The Greens have committed to a Truth and Justice commission that would lay the foundations for Treaty or treaties.
- Labor supports all elements of the Uluru Statement from the Heart, including a national commission and a constitutionally enshrined voice to parliament. They have also shown support for treaties.
- The Liberal party has no policy published on Treaty or treaties.
- The Nationals have no published policy on Treaty or treaties.

## HEALTHCARE

- The Greens' policy outlines an expansion to Gold Card access to First Nations elders aged sixty and above. They have also promised to invest further in community-led First Nations health services.
- Labor is committed to addressing gaps in healthcare for First Nations people through an approach which focuses on "cultural wellbeing, connection to land, education, environmental health, employment and

and training opportunities.”

- The Liberals have not published policy on First Nations healthcare.
- The Nationals have no policies published on First Nations healthcare.

## **CLOSING THE GAP**

- The Greens' policy focuses on the need to close the gap in healthcare.
- Labor acknowledges that colonisation has caused ongoing harm to First Nations people and commits to closing the gap in life expectancy, employment, justice, health and education. Their policy highlights that self-determination is key to closing the gap.
- The Liberals have not published policy on closing the gap.
- The Nationals have not published a policy on closing the gap.

## **STOLEN GENERATION**

- The Greens have committed to establishing a compensation scheme and provide a range of services to support survivors and their families.
- Labor has committed to partner with Stolen

Generation members and families and respond to their needs.

- The Liberals have not published policies on Stolen Generation members.
- The Nationals have not published policies on Stolen Generation members.

## **CONNECTION TO COUNTRY**

- The Greens have committed to “strong laws to protect First Nations cultural heritage.” They have also committed to the expansion of First Nations ranger programs and Indigenous protected areas.
- Labor is committed to land rights and Native Title as property rights, and will work to accelerate outstanding claims. They have also committed to providing essential services to remote communities and supporting initiatives which strengthen connection to culture.
- The Liberals have not published a policy on Connection to Country.
- The Nationals have not published a policy on Connection to Country.

## **JUSTICE SYSTEM REFORMS**

- The Greens have committed to raise the age of legal responsibility to fourteen years. They have also committed to increase funding to legal assistance programs, including legal defense funding so communities can access advice on protecting heritage. Further, they have committed to build an independent police and prison “oversight mechanism.” Finally, they will implement recommendations from key reports on First Nations incarceration and deaths in custody.
- Labor has committed to support justice reinvestment and provide federal leadership to “prevent and ensure accountability for deaths in custody.”
- The Liberals have not published policy on justice system reforms.
- The Nationals have not published policy on justice system reforms.

# ISSUE 3: SEXISM, VIOLENCE AND MISOGYNY

	Greens	Labor	Liberal	National
Commitment to ending gender-based violence	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
Committed to an intersectional approach	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Addressing the wage gap and increasing access to work	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
Policy on primary prevention and addressing rape culture	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

## GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

- The Greens have committed to a national plan to end violence against women and a standalone plan for First Nations women’s safety. They have committed to grants for survivors escaping violence and increased funding to women’s legal services and family violence prevention services.
- Labor has committed to policy which prevents gender based violence, and supports affected women and children through improving justice systems, social security, and housing. Further, they are committed to an intersectional gender based violence policy which acknowledges the needs of marginalised communities.
- The Morrison Liberal government has funded programs that respond to violence against women, which provide more emergency accommodation, financial support, legal assistance, and counselling. There has also been funding for specialised services for First Nations women, women with disabilities, and migrant women. However, the funding provided has been criticised as not sufficient.

- The Nationals have no published policy on family violence.

## **WITHIN PARLIAMENT**

- The Greens have committed to implement all recommendations from the "Set the Standard Report", develop new independent processes for bullying and complaints, ensure that MPs undertake regular training, and develop an enforceable code of conduct.
- Labor "will promote and support women's leadership in Australia's parliaments, governments, senior levels in the public and private sectors and in communities."
- The Liberals have not mentioned sexism within parliament.
- The Nationals have not mentioned sexism within parliament.

## **PRIMARY PREVENTION AND CHALLENGING RAPE CULTURE**

- The Greens have committed to fund a national roll out of Our Watch's successful Respectful Relationships program in all public schools and fund a national primary prevention plan.

- Labor has mentioned primary prevention in their broader gender based violence strategy.
- The Liberals have not mentioned primary prevention in their policy.
- The Nationals have not mentioned primary prevention in their policy.

## **IN THE WORKPLACE**

- The Greens have committed to increasing employer obligations to take action on sex discrimination. Further, they will legislate to allow class actions based on sex discrimination, fund Women's Working Centres, and implement strategies to make the workforce more diverse.
- Labor has committed ensuring that employers take greater action to eliminate sex discrimination, sexual harassment, and victimisation.
- The Liberals have committed some funding to women's workforce participation and economic security.
- Not mentioned in Nationals published policy.

## **ENDING THE GENDER PAY GAP**

- The Greens have committed to “lifting the minimum wage, removing pay gag clauses, increasing reporting on gender pay gaps, and making employers take action to close the gap in their workplace.”
- Labor has committed to eliminate pay secrecy clauses and legislate so that companies with more than 250 employees have to report their gender pay gap. They have also committed to address the wage gap in the Australian public service and give the Fair Work Commission greater power to order wage increases in low-paid, female dominated industries.
- The Liberals state that the wage gap has fallen while they have been in government.
- The Nationals have not mentioned the pay gap in their published policy.



# ISSUE 4: ADDRESSING RACISM

	Greens	Labor	Liberal	National
Anti-racist	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Committed to policy change, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a racism commission</li> <li>• making hate speech illegal</li> <li>• and an anti-racism strategy</li> </ul>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

## ANTI-RACIST COMMITMENT

- The Greens' policy reflects an anti-racist approach.
- Labor has committed to combating racism “with a zero-tolerance approach.”
- The Liberals have not mentioned anti-racism in published policy.
- The Nationals have not mentioned anti-racism in their published policy.

## ANTI-RACIST STRATEGY

- The Greens have committed to funding a national anti-racist strategy, which includes plans to tackle far-right extremism. The strategy includes making hate speech illegal and establishing a federal multicultural commission.
- Labor has not mentioned an anti-racist strategy in published policy.
- The Liberals have not mentioned an anti-racist strategy in published policy.
- The Nationals have not mentioned an anti-racist strategy in their published policy.

## **MAKING HATE SPEECH ILLEGAL**

- The Greens have committed to making hate speech illegal by adding it to the Criminal Code and to strengthen existing protections.
- Labor has not mentioned hate speech in their published policy, however is committed to strengthening anti-discrimination laws and developing laws that recognise intersectionality in discrimination.
- Hate speech is not mentioned in the published Liberal Party Policy.
- Hate Speech is not mentioned in the published National Party Policy.

## **FEDERAL MULTICULTURALISM COMMISSION**

- The Greens have committed to funding a federal multiculturalism commission and amending laws so that dual citizens can run for federal parliament.
- Labor has not mentioned a multiculturalism commission in their published policy.
- The Liberals have not mentioned a multiculturalism commission in their published policy.

- The Nationals have not mentioned a multiculturalism commission in their published policy.

# ISSUE 5: ABLEISM AND DISABILITY RIGHTS

	Greens	Labor	Liberal	National
Fully funded and resourced NDIS	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Accessible work and education	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Addressing disability discrimination	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

## NDIS

- The Greens have committed to fully resourcing the NDIS.
- Labor has committed to act on the NDIS priority areas.
- The Liberals have not mentioned the NDIS in their published policies.
- The Nationals have not mentioned the NDIS in their published policies.

## ACCESS TO EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

- The Greens have committed to establishing a 20% quota for disabled employee representation in the Australian public service. They are also committed to accessibility through funding an Accessible Infrastructure Fund, creating more accessible housing and healthcare.
- Labor believes that “governments should help remove barriers” so that people with disabilities can fully participate in society and “exercise control over their lives.”
- The Liberals have not mentioned access to education in their policy.
- The Nationals have not mentioned

accessibility in their published policies.

## **DISCRIMINATION**

- The Greens have committed to strengthening “the Disability Discrimination Act and [enhancing] the powers of the Australian Human Rights Commission.” The Greens have also committed to putting people with disabilities at the centre of decision making through the funding of disability-led advocacy organisations.
- Labor has committed to an independent Disability Discrimination Commissioner.
- The Liberals have not mentioned disability discrimination in their published policy.
- The Nationals have not mentioned disability discrimination in their published policies.

# ISSUE 6: LGBTQIA+ RIGHTS

	Greens	Labor	Liberal	National
Creating safe schools for LGBTQIA+ youth	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Affirming policy for transgender people	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Anti-conversion therapy	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

## HEALTHCARE

- The Greens have committed to removing cost barriers to accessing gender affirming healthcare.
- Labor have committed to expanding “integrated advice, health and support services available to LGBTIQ Australians.”
- The Liberals have not mentioned LGBTQIA+ healthcare in their published policy.
- The Nationals have not mentioned LGBTQIA+ healthcare in their published policy.

## MAKING SCHOOLS SAFE

- The Greens have committed to removing exemptions from anti-discrimination laws, funding inclusion training for teachers, scrapping funding for school chaplains, and investing in school counsellors and anti-bullying initiatives. They also have a policy that commits to providing age-appropriate information to students on respectful relationships and diversity of sexuality, gender identity, and family structures.
- Labor will support initiatives that “promote understanding, inclusion and respect for every student.”

- The Liberals have not mentioned LGBTQIA+ youth safety in schools in their published policy.
- The Nationals have not mentioned LGBTQIA+ youth safety in schools in their published policy.

## **STATEMENT ON CONVERSION THERAPIES**

- The Greens have committed to a ban on reparative, sexual orientation and gender identity conversion therapies.
- Labor opposes "reparative" or "gay conversion" therapies, and will work to ensure that these practices are prohibited and will promote justice for those harmed.
- The Liberals have no published policy on conversion therapy.
- The Nationals have no published policy on conversion therapy.

## **DISCRIMINATION AND EQUALITY**

- The Greens will enact anti-discrimination laws for people with diverse sexualities, gender identities and intersex variations.

- Labor has committed to "strengthen laws and expand initiatives against discrimination, vilification and harassment on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity or sex characteristics."
- The Liberals have no published policy on discrimination and equality.
- The Nationals have no published policy on discrimination and equality.

## **INTERSEX RIGHTS**

- The Greens affirm the rights of intersex people to bodily autonomy, the right to give consent to invasive medical procedures, and appropriate support services for intersex people and their families.
- Labor "support intersex-led organisations to provide support to intersex persons and their families, and advocate on intersex issues."
- The Liberals have no published policy.
- The Nationals have no published policy.

## **TRANSGENDER RIGHTS**

- The Greens advocate for affirming medical care access with federal funding. They have

also committed to advocate for transgender and gender diverse people to alter their sex or gender on documentation without affirmation surgery or hormonal therapy, and to allow transgender people to ammend their identity documents to not reveal their past sex or gender identity.

- Labor has committed to review documentation requirements, including the use of passports and birth certificates.
- The Liberals have no published policy.
- The Nationals have no published policy.

# ELECTION DAY CHECKLIST

1

## CHECK YOUR ENROLMENT

- Check your enrolment [here](#).

2

## WHERE CAN YOU GO TO VOTE

- Find your electoral division [here](#).

3

## RESEARCH ON CANDIDATES

- For information on candidates by electorate, click [here](#).

4

## VOTING

- If voting before election day, see [here](#).
- If voting on election day, see [here](#).
- Make your vote [count](#).



# USEFUL LINKS FOR A DEEP DIVE

How MPs vote on different issues:

[theyvoteforyou.org.au](https://theyvoteforyou.org.au)

The Tally Room for comprehensive coverage of each seat's history, geography, political situation and results of the 2019 election:

[tallyroom.com.au/](https://tallyroom.com.au/)

Australian Election Commission for:

- A register of political parties
- Enrolling to vote
- Finding your electoral division
- Ways to vote

<https://www.aec.gov.au/>

How compatible are your views with those of candidates:

[votecompass.abc.net.au/](https://votecompass.abc.net.au/)

Australian Youth Climate Coalition's Young People's Guide to Election 2022:

[aycc.org.au/election\\_zine](https://aycc.org.au/election_zine)

Youth Affairs Council Victoria's Election Navigator:

[yacvic.org.au/resources/election/](https://yacvic.org.au/resources/election/)

## OUR SOURCES

Australian Broadcasting Corporation, 2022. Federal Election 2022 - Australia Votes [WWW Document]. URL <https://www.abc.net.au/news/elections/federal-election-2022/>

Australian Electoral Commission, 2022a. Australian Electoral Commission [WWW Document]. Australian Electoral Commission. URL <https://aec.gov.au/www.aec.gov.au>

Australian Electoral Commission, 2022b. Three Levels of Government, "Our Vote Can Help Shape Our Mobs Future."

Australian Greens, 2022. Greens Election Policy Platform 2022 [WWW Document]. Australian Greens. URL <https://greens.org.au/platform>

Australian Greens, n.d. Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Intersex [WWW Document]. Australian Greens. URL <https://greens.org.au/policies/sexual-orientation-gender-identity-and-intersex>

Australian Labor Party, 2021. ALP National Platform.

Gordon, S., 2017. Government's rejection of Uluru Statement indefensible. ABC News.

Karp, P., 2022. The Coalition promised in 2018 to protect LGBTQ+ children in schools. What's taking so long? The Guardian.

Karp, P., 2019. Coalition takes tougher line on gay conversion therapy after Labor promises ban. The Guardian.

Liberal Party of Australia, 2022. Our Plan [WWW Document]. Liberal Party of Australia. URL <https://www.liberal.org.au/our-plan>

McGowan, M., 2018. Scott Morrison sends his children to private school to avoid 'skin curling' sexuality discussions. The Guardian.

Murphy, K., 2020. Coalition plan on NDIS assessments has echoes of "aged care debacle", Liberal MP says. The Guardian.

Museum of Australian Democracy, Unkonwn. Prime Facts: The Australian Prime Minister Centre.

Parliament of Australia, 2022a. Parliament of Australia [WWW Document]. URL <https://www.aph.gov.au/>

Parliament of Australia, 2022b. Work of the Parliament [WWW Document]. URL [https://www.aph.gov.au/About\\_Parliament/Work\\_of\\_the\\_Parliament](https://www.aph.gov.au/About_Parliament/Work_of_the_Parliament)

Parliament of Victoria, 2022. Parliament of Victoria [WWW Document]. URL <https://parliament.vic.gov.au/>

Parliament of Victoria, 2021. Parliament of Victoria - Three Levels of Government [WWW Document]. URL <https://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/about/the-parliamentary-system/three-level-of-government>

Parliament of Victoria, 2014. Parliament of Victoria Interactive Guides: Teacher's Guide.

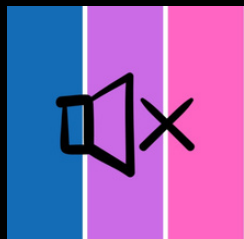
Refugee Council, 2021. The Federal Budget: What it means for refugees - Refugee Council [WWW Document]. URL <https://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/federal-budget-what-it-means-for-refugees-and-people-seeking-humanitarian-protection/>

The National Party of Australia, 2022. Our Plan [WWW Document]. The Nationals. URL <https://nationals.org.au/our-plan-2/>

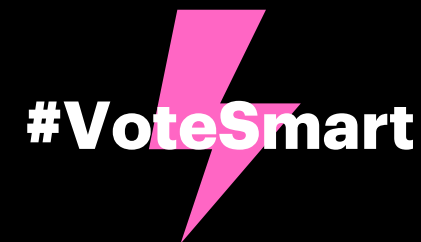


**Dear Australia, this federal election let's #VoteSmart.  
Because if not you, then who?**





# It's Not A Compliment



itsnotacomplimentmelbourne@gmail.com

[itsnotacompliment.org](http://itsnotacompliment.org)



@itsnotacompliment



@itsnotacomplimentmelb



@its not a compliment

I can be changed by what happens to me.  
But I refuse to be reduced by it.

– Maya Angelou