

www.MakingSenseOfPolitics.com



# Making Sense *of* Politics



*with*

Kate Carruthers & Nancy Georges



# NEWSROOM

Things we've seen...

# Told you he was unelectable!



**Tom Studans**

@maximumwelfare.bsky.social

+ Follow

Peter Dutton has 'exclusively revealed' or launched or re-launched his 'softer side' on the following occasions:

- October 2017
- August 2018
- April 2019
- November 2021
- May 2022
- June 2023
- Early January 2025
- Late January 2025
- February 2025
- April 2025







## “Catastrophic defeat”

"The party that chose nuclear energy as its policy has exploded in a nuclear bomb set on them by the voters tonight." 7NEWS Political Editor Mark Riley analyses the Liberal Party's "catastrophic" defeat to Labor.

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/642946242071714>

# What next?



**Amante2 AmeliaBee7**

@amante2ameliabee7.bsky.social

+ Follow

Liberals are now comprised of entitled elitists, political extremists and religious zealots. No amount of feedback regarding how woefully out of touch they are matters anymore. They are ideologically and structurally incapable of reform

They're done as a major party

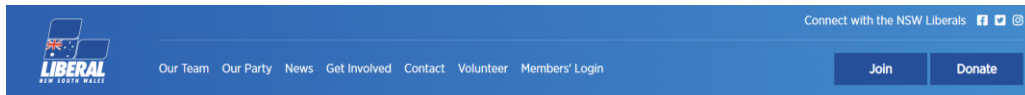


May 5, 2025 at 7:35 AM 🗯 Everybody can reply

<https://bsky.app/profile/amante2ameliabee7.bsky.social/post/3loespdqis22c>

# Didn't they listen?

The Libs did a comprehensive review of their 2022 election loss and promptly chucked it in the bin and selected Dutton as leader



## The page you were looking for wasn't found.

Please double-check the URL for possible format errors and try again. If you arrived from an external source (other websites, links in email etc.), try navigating to the desired page using the main navigation menu.

[https://cdn.liberal.org.au/2022/2022\\_election\\_review.pdf](https://cdn.liberal.org.au/2022/2022_election_review.pdf)

## Review of the 2022 Federal Election

22 December 2022

 Share this

The Federal Executive of the Liberal Party of Australia has received the final report of the Review of the 2022 Federal Election.

I would like to thank Brian Loughnane AO and Senator the Hon Jane Hume and the many people who assisted, including Liberal Party members and supporters who made over 600 submissions.

The Review is thorough and forward looking. It makes 49 recommendations relating to: the parliamentary team; Party structure; executives and memberships; pre-selections and candidates; demographics; and campaign preparedness.

While acknowledging the Party has a numbers of strengths, the Review also makes frank assessments about where we can do better.

While the election result in May was disappointing, the Liberal Party is determined to rebuild and offer Australians the strongest possible alternative at the next election.

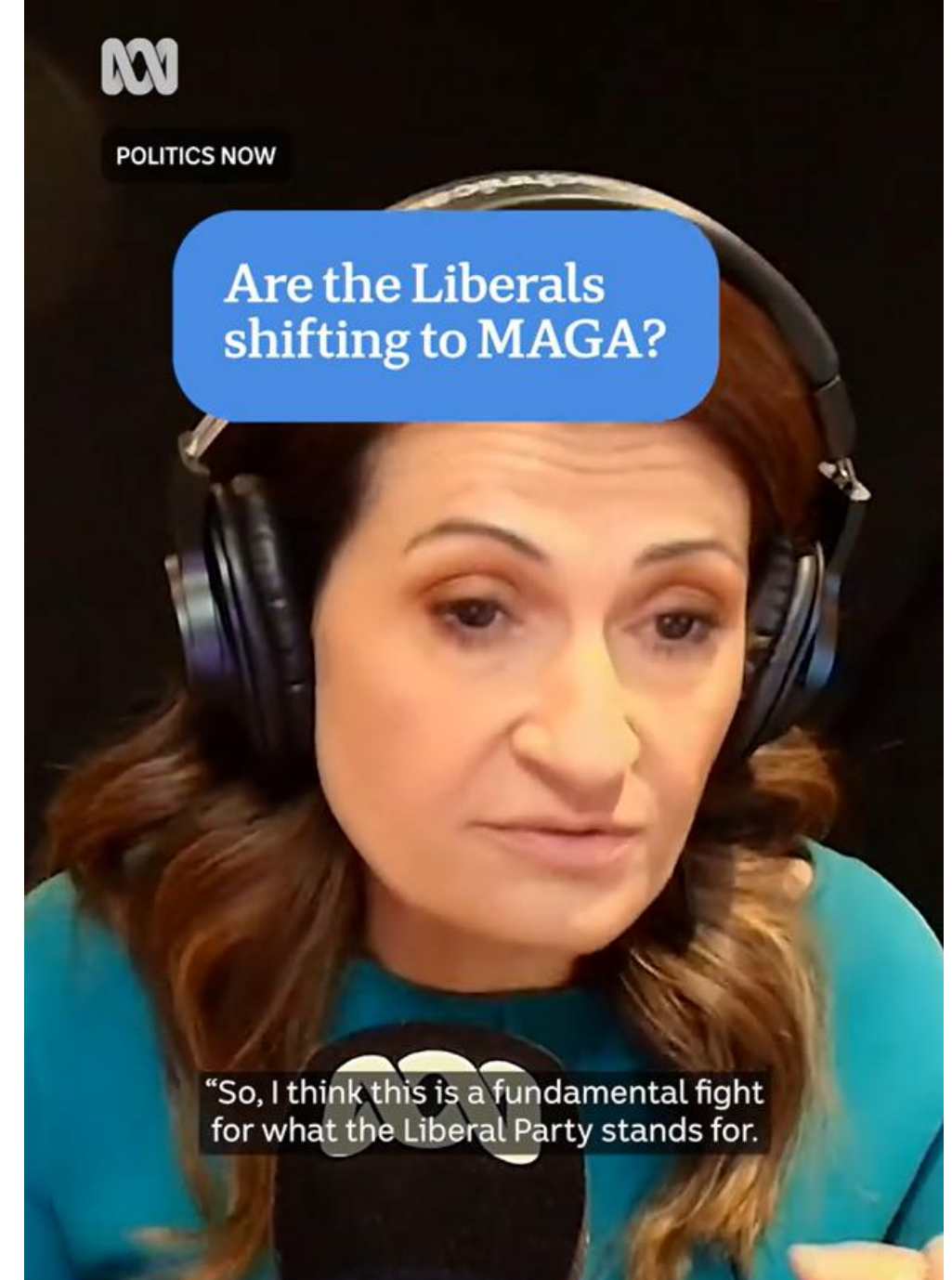


# Libs = MAGA?

“In a shock move, Senator Jacinta Nampijinpa Price has defected from the Nationals, to sit in the Liberal party room.

Speculation is whirring she will run as Deputy Liberal leader, on a ticket with Angus Taylor — it comes as Sussan Ley confirms she'll throw her hat in the leadership ring, while Dan Tehan rules himself out.”

<https://www.abc.net.au/listen/programs/politics-now/-why-the-liberals-could-shift-to-maga/105269070>



# A new dawn for the Liberals?



<https://geo.dailymotion.com/player.html?video=x9jaqa8>





# Are the Greens dead?

Perhaps in the lower house

The Greens won 6 Senate seats in the 2025 Australian federal election, bringing their total number of senators to 11

This gives them balance of power in the upper house

# Greens not dead yet

**Greens vote share, 1993 - 2025**

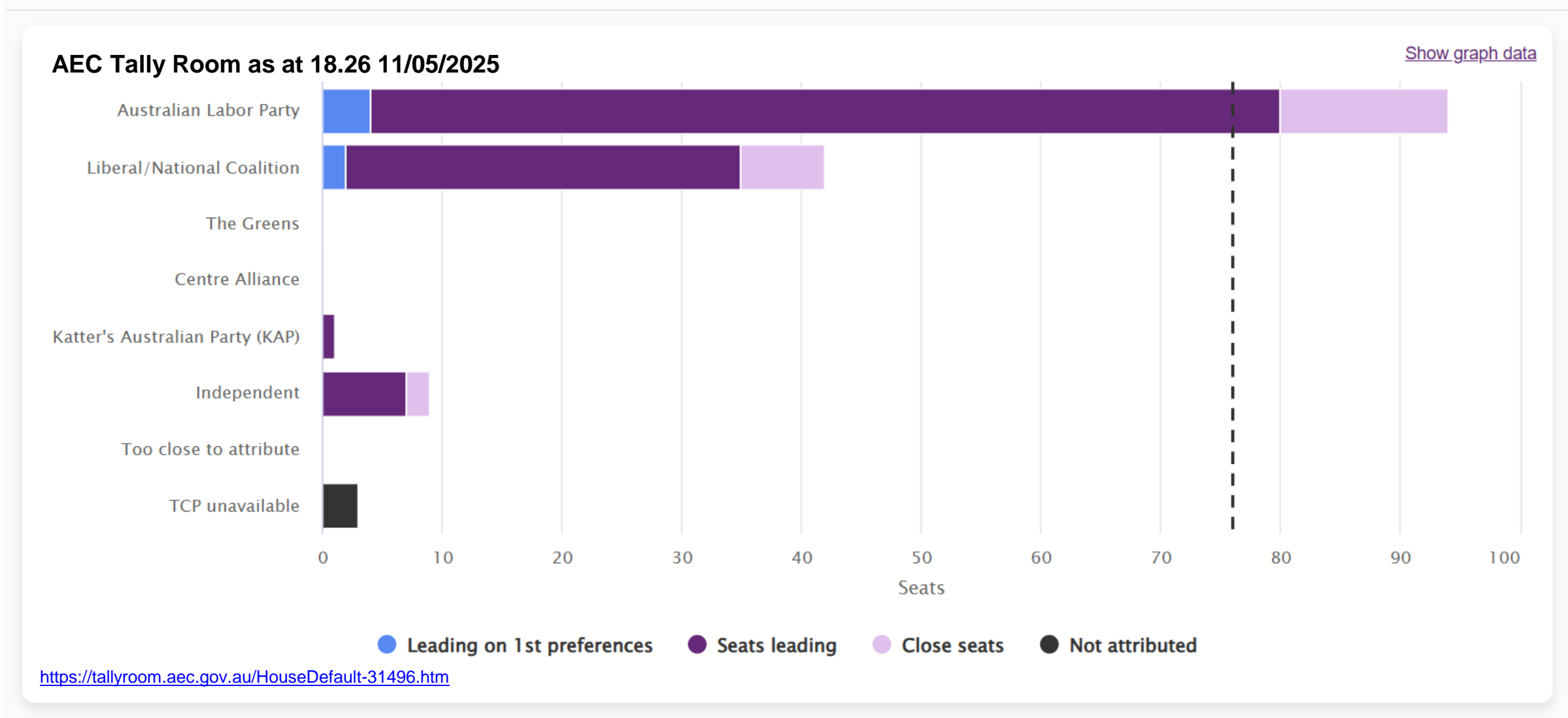


Created with Datawrapper

aec.gov.au, CC BY

<https://theconversation.com/greens-election-hubris-how-the-minor-party-lost-its-way-and-now-its-leader-255954>

# Labor wins – House of Representatives





# Dutton loses his seat

“While Ms France said disability issues will always be a focus, being her authentic self in serving the people of Dickson is her number one priority.

She said being the local member is a chance to repay her community for their support privately and at the ballot box.”

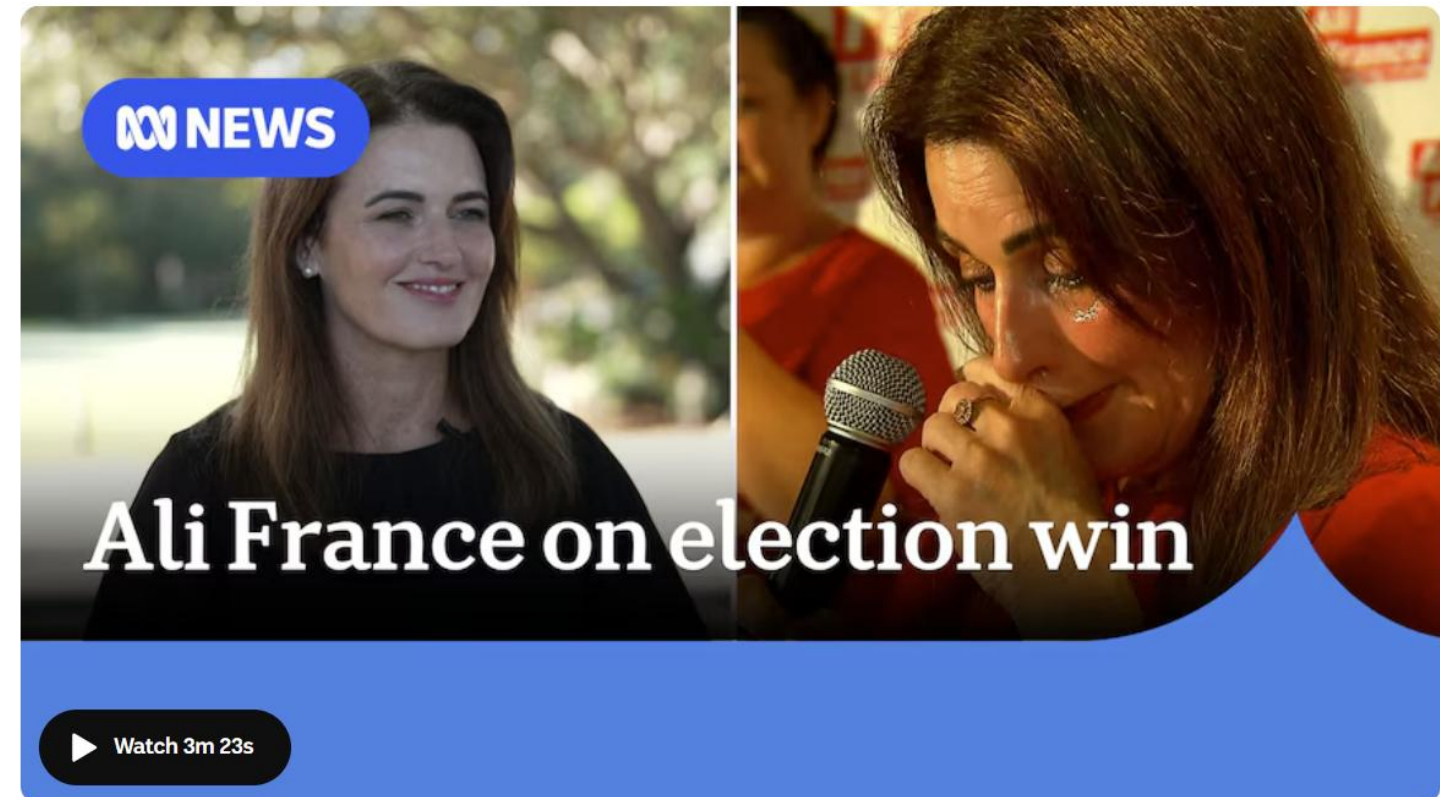
<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-05-11/ali-france-peter-dutton-dickson-disability-analysis/105257586>

## Ali France's election isn't just a boon for Labor — it's big for the disability community too

By national disability affairs reporter Nas Campanella

Government and Politics

13h ago



National disability affairs reporter Nas Campanella asks Ali France if she won the seat of Dickson, or if Peter Dutton lost it.

# Labor win then start immediate factional fight

## Labor MP Ed Husic calls deputy PM 'factional assassin' after removal from frontbench

The former industry minister also suggested his speaking out on the war in Gaza was a "factor" in his demotion.



Former industry minister Ed Husic has criticised deputy prime minister Richard Marles. Source: AAP / Lukas Coch / Mick Tsikas

<https://www.sbs.com.au/news/article/labor-mp-ed-husic-calls-deputy-pm-factional-assassin-after-removal-from-frontbench/mppptda56>

# Senate Libs and Greens still matter

ABC Senate Results as at 18.22 11/05/2025

“**40** of the **76**  
Senate seats will be  
filled at the  
election. 36 senators  
continue in office.”

Party

Total seats

Labor Party

28



12 continuing, 14 won, 2 likely

Liberal / National Coalition

26



14 continuing, 12 won, 0 likely

The Greens

11



5 continuing, 6 won, 0 likely

One Nation

1



1 continuing, 0 won, 0 likely

[https://www.abc.net.au/news/elections/federal/2025/results/senate?utm\\_campaign=abc\\_news\\_web&utm\\_content=link&utm\\_medium=content\\_shared&utm\\_source=abc\\_news\\_web](https://www.abc.net.au/news/elections/federal/2025/results/senate?utm_campaign=abc_news_web&utm_content=link&utm_medium=content_shared&utm_source=abc_news_web)



# Trumpet of irrelevancy?

The Trumpet of Patriots party got **1.87%** of the national vote in the HoR, but did not win any seats.

In the Senate, the party got **2.55%** of the national vote but also failed to secure a seat.

Despite significant campaign spending, the party's support remained limited, and it did not achieve parliamentary representation.

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2025/may/02/trumpet-of-patriots-spam-text-messages-are-they-legal-federal-election>



# Trumpet of irrelevancy?

“Despite spending millions, flooding phones with spam texts, and borrowing the word 'Trump' for branding, Clive Palmer's Trumpet of Patriots (ToP) party has failed to win a single seat in the federal election.”

## 'A footnote': Trumpet of Patriots spent millions on the election and didn't win a single seat

Despite spending millions of dollars on the election campaign, Clive Palmer's party has failed to secure a single House of Representatives spot.



<https://www.sbs.com.au/news/article/trumpet-of-patriots-spent-millions-on-the-election-it-hasnt-won-a-single-seat/oub3du23x>

# Bad actors interfering in our democracy



“Advance isn’t grassroots – it’s gasroots.” – Zali Steggall, MP

<https://theaimn.net/how-advance-australia-hijacked-democracy/>



# Impact of Gaza on the election

# The future...

“For the 133 cardinals in Rome, it’s time to go home. But in Australia, the conclaves continue, writes Annabell Crabb.

Not just for the Liberal Party, but among the National Party and the Greens too. Never before have these three political groupings suffered — simultaneously, and as a result of the same electoral event — such an extinction event of leadership.

Forget all the pre-election talk of deals and minority government, which Anthony Albanese effectively downplayed during the campaign.

Forget the Teals.

Forget all the Labor blokes jockeying for front-bench spots on the House of Representatives’ green leather.

Forget, even — honestly, you can afford to, because they are going to be a hot mess for quite some time — who becomes Liberal leader.

Whoever it is will almost certainly be a placeholder.

This is the story of real power, and where it lands.”



## ► ANALYSIS

**Australia's political  
conclave theatrics feel  
blokey, but the future  
is female**



Image: Reuters/Kevin Mohatt, ABC News/Ian Cutmore, AAP Image/Lukas Coch

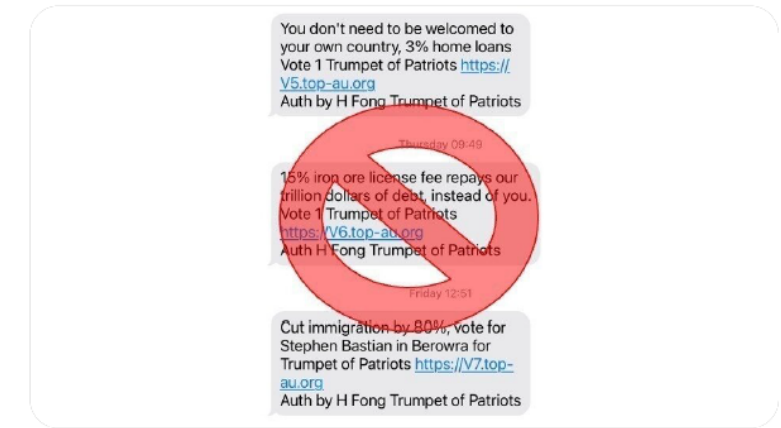
<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-05-09/conclave-australian-politics-liberals-greens-labor-party/105267614>





Join our campaign to stop this kind of intrusive advertising during election campaigns without user consent

<https://www.change.org/stop-political-sms>



**STOP INTRUSIVE  
POLITICAL TEXTS DURING  
ELECTION CAMPAIGNS**



change.org



# OUR MEDIA RECOMMENDATIONS

Media Literacy

# Our media recommendations

The Sunday Shot

<https://www.youtube.com/@TheSundayShot>

“The Sunday Shot streams at 9am AEST each Sunday. The Shot's Jo Dyer and Dave Milner are joined each week by a roster of Australia's best independent journalists and thinkers to discuss what's been happening this week in politics.”



# Our media recommendations

The Klaxon

<https://theklaxon.com.au/>

“The Klaxon is a completely independent Australian news outlet delivering top-quality news for our community. We shine a light on the systemic and structural improprieties currently flourishing within the collective blindspots of much of the general media.

The Klaxon is 100% owned and operated by multi-award winning investigative journalist Anthony Klan, whose work has sparked numerous inquiries and law reforms.”

# Our media recommendations

It's not a Race - Dan Ilic

<https://its-not-a-race.raisely.com/>

“This election may be the last chance we have to turn this climate around. So we're going to do what we know how: make subversive content and spread it around the internet. We need to hire writers, producers and editors to make more of this between now and the election. We will then buy strategic ads to put it where it will make a difference: on billboards, in display ads, in people's social media feeds. This election is heating up, and so are our hot takes.”



# GOOD NEWS

Balance is Important!

# Valerie the dachshund found 'fit and well' after 529 days on Kangaroo Island



By Charmayne Allison



By Olivia Mason

Animals

Sat 26 Apr

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-04-26/valerie-the-dachshund-found-safe-after-529-days-lost/105176940>

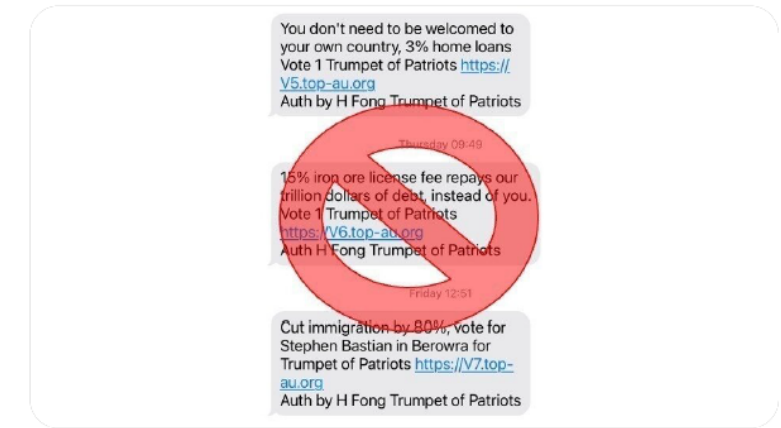


Miniature dachshund Valerie rescued after 529 days on Kangaroo Island.



# Join our campaign to stop this kind of intrusive advertising during election campaigns without user consent

<https://www.change.org/stop-political-sms>



**STOP INTRUSIVE  
POLITICAL TEXTS DURING  
ELECTION CAMPAIGNS**



change.org

# Find us online

<https://linktr.ee/makingsenseofpolitics>

<https://makingsenseofpolitics.com/>