

**From:** Dorothy Peters [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 3 January 2013 9:12 AM  
**To:** Electoral Reform  
**Subject:** Mandatory voting

I believe it is an infringement of my democratic right to be forced to vote. Pointless really, considering I have— in order to avoid a fine - frequently ticked the electoral role, only to cast a 'donkey vote'

One of the few occasions I was determined to cast a vote was for Kevin Rudd! Pointless really!

Maintaining the status quo in order to achieve 90% voter turnout smacks of "The Nanny State". Why frog march 18-year-olds and welfare recipients to the booth when many of them are totally uninformed and couldn't give a toss? Chances are they will be influenced by the party faithful at the gates handing out a "How to Vote" pamphlet.

The editorial in the Courier Mail today (3 January, 2013) should be mandatory reading for every individual who is either forced/voluntarily votes. As for Leahy's cartoon about Campbell Newman creating a dictatorship; highly amusing but ludicrous. For the records, mandatory or otherwise, I will be casting my vote for Campbell Newman when the time comes.

Optional voting would, I believe, lead to a better-informed vote and in time, a better calibre of representation.

Yours etc.

Dorothy Peters