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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 28 February 2013 4:22 PM  
**To:** Electoral Reform  
**Subject:** Re: Discussion on Compulsory Voting  
**Attachments:** Voting.docx

Please find attached my submission on the above subject: I believe most strongly that compulsory voting should be retained .

Yours Sincerely

Shirley Wilkings

## Re: Compulsory Voting Versus Non-compulsory Voting

I Believe we must keep compulsory voting at all costs as it is our most valuable asset and must be protected. It is not just a right but it is our duty to vote.

You say we have a democratic vote – I say we do not. We are told we may vote for party A. B. C. or D and if we believe A B C or D to be not worthy of our vote that is just too bad and so we can make our vote informal or do not vote at all because we do not have the right to reject any one or all of the candidates and so we waste our vote. This is unjust and not democratic.

I would like to remind you of a quote from Sir Winston Churchill :

“Government of the people by the people for the people has in many states proved a mere illusion. Democracy seems ready to yield up the tangible rights hard won in rugged centuries to party organisations, to leagues and societies or to dictatorships in various forms.”

I Believe the above quote states quite eloquently why we must retain compulsory voting with the right to reject any one or all of the candidates and those who have received votes must have over 51 % of the total of eligible votes.

As for party donations this can be overcome by making it illegal to do any electioneering before 3 or 4 weeks prior to the election date

and the Government gives each candidate equal time including prime time in the media and the government pays this bill but no candidate is to receive any further money to run their campaign.

Any unsubstantiated statements made must be verified within 8 hours or the candidate become ineligible to contest the election. Any other person making unsubstantiated remarks also to be penalized by receiving a sentence of 10 years imprisonment without any parole. This should make them think twice before lying and trying to sway the vote unethically.

There must be a complete blackout of all election material 24 hours before the election date.

It is our duty to vote and it is your duty to see the electors have the right to receive fact and not fiction.