



Please read  
the  
instructions  
on your  
ballot paper.

It is your responsibility to read  
a polling official for assistance before voting.  
Thank you for your participation.



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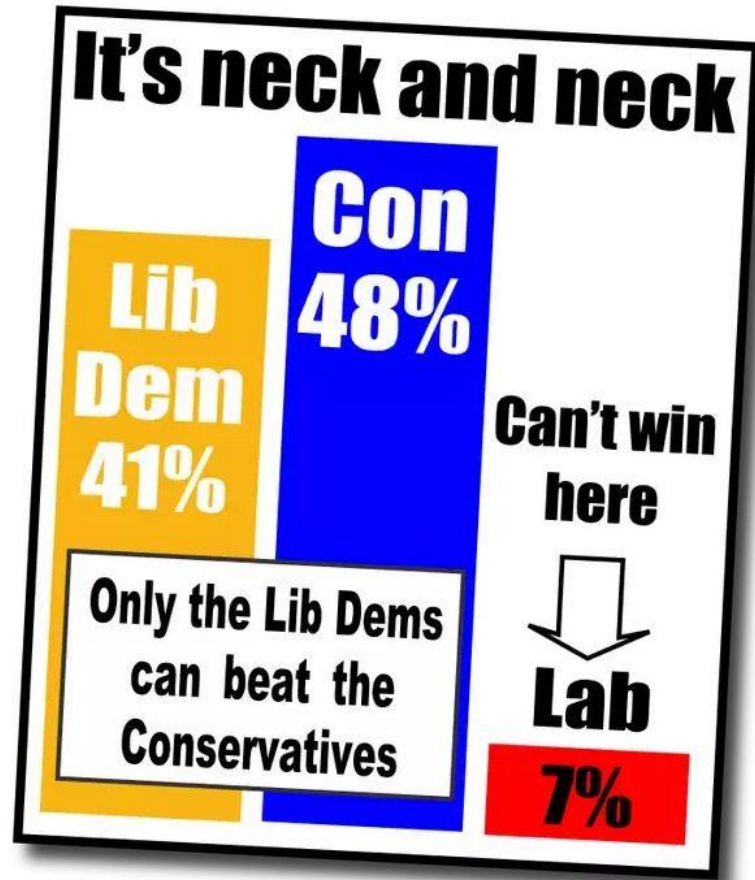


Please read  
the  
instructions  
on your  
ballot paper.


It is your responsibility to read  
a polling official for assistance before voting.  
Thank you for your participation.



# Why rank? The problem of tactical voting



# RCV in Australia – all preferences marked

  
**BALLOT PAPER**  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
NEW SOUTH WALES  
ELECTORAL DIVISION OF  
NINGALOO

***Number the  
boxes from 1 to 5  
in the order of  
your choice.***

|                          |                                 |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | SMITH, Jack<br>INDEPENDENT      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | MELBA, Ellie<br>SINGERS PARTY   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | KELLY, Ed<br>BUSH RANGERS PARTY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | WILSON, Anthea<br>PURPLE PARTY  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | SULLIVAN, Arthur<br>INDEPENDENT |

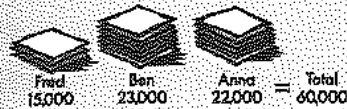
**Remember...number every box  
to make your vote count**

Australian Electoral Commission **AEC**

SAMPLE

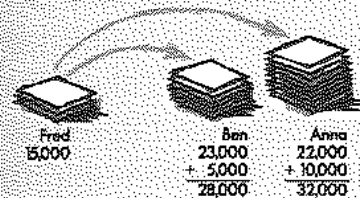
## HERE'S HOW IT WORKS

The following example will help show you how the preferential voting system works. Fred, Ben and Anna stand for election. They receive the following votes:



There is a total of 60,000 votes. To be elected a candidate needs 30,001 votes (50% plus 1 of the total formal votes).

As none of the candidates has that many first preference votes, the candidate with the fewest votes is excluded and these ballot papers are transferred to the other candidates according to where the number '2's' are marked on them. Fred's votes are transferred as follows:



Once the second preferences on Fred's ballot papers have been transferred, the votes for each candidate are totalled.

Candidate Anna now has more than half of the total votes cast (an absolute majority).



Anna is declared the winner

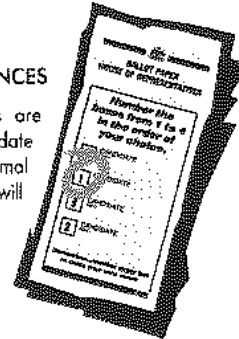
## HOW YOUR VOTE FOR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IS COUNTED

Candidates for the House of Representatives are elected using the preferential voting system. This system has been used in federal elections since 1918.

Candidates for the House of Representatives stand for a particular electoral Division. To be elected, a candidate must get more than half the formal votes cast for that electoral Division.

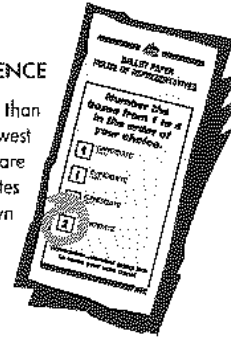
### THE FIRST PREFERENCES

First, all of the number '1' votes are counted for each candidate. If a candidate gets more than half the total of the formal first preference votes, that candidate will be elected.



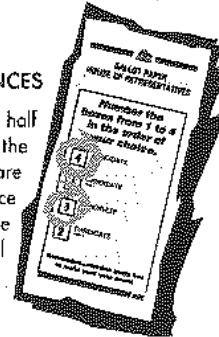
### SECOND PREFERENCE

If, however, no candidate has more than half of the votes, the candidate with the fewest votes is excluded. This candidate's votes are then transferred to the other candidates according to the second preferences shown by voters on their ballot papers.



### FURTHER PREFERENCES

If still no candidate has more than half the votes, the candidate who now has the fewest votes is excluded and the votes are transferred according to the next preference shown. This process continues until one candidate has more than half the total votes and is declared 'elected'.

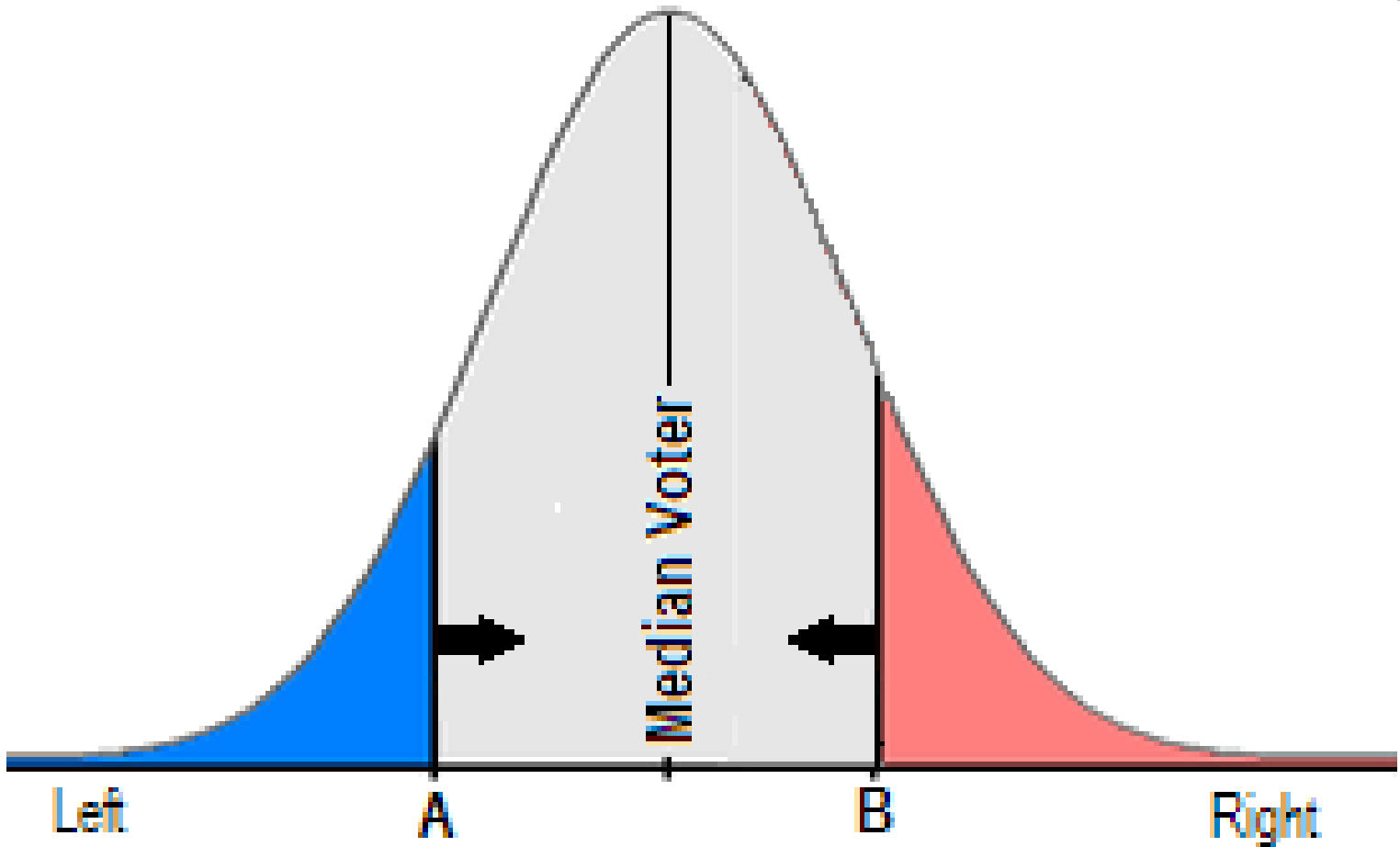




# Why RCV?

- Promoting majority victories – or at least, a majority of votes in the count;
- Nullifying ‘vote-splitting’ between aligned but competing candidates or parties;
- Providing incentives for political collaboration between aligned parties and candidates;
- Delivering potential cost savings in cases where two rounds of voting were used;
- Encouraging more consensual campaigning in some circumstances;
- Delivering more centrist outcomes, if median voter/single-peaked prefs

Some theory...



So basically, if my first choice doesn't win, my second choice gets counted as my first choice, and so on.



But since my second choice won anyway, what was the point of putting a minor party first?



### FIRSTLY,

A minor party **can** win seats if enough people vote for them. Since you lose nothing by voting "1" for whomever you like most, why wouldn't you?



### SECONDLY,

this might happen:

Looks like I won because of preferences from "Nice Party" voters... I should try to appeal to them by adopting some Nice policies.

I'll look into this... "hugs".



### THIRDLY,

if a candidate gets at least 4% of first preferences ("1" votes), they'll receive election funding for each of those votes\*, which will help their next campaign!



\*About \$2.31 in 2010.

### ANY MORE QUESTIONS, KEN THE VOTING DINGO?

Do I have to number ALL the boxes?

**YES.**



Do I have to follow a "How-To-Vote" card?

**NO.**



For more and better information, go to the source:

[www.aec.gov.au](http://www.aec.gov.au)

Get hi-res and PDF versions of this comic for printing and distribution:

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[wp.me/pAQWw-96](http://wp.me/pAQWw-96)

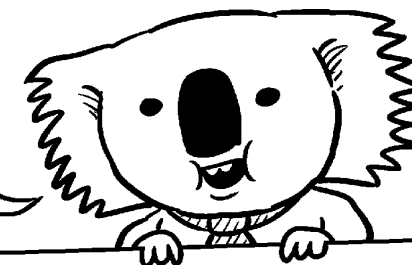


Your vote really matters. Vote thoughtfully!

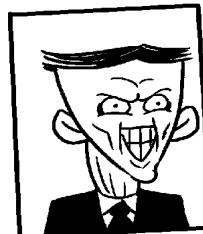
# This is AUSTRALIA, not America.

# YOU CAN'T "WASTE YOUR VOTE"!

Hello Australia. It's me, your good friend Dennis the Election Koala. It's that time again, so let's meet the candidates hoping to represent your electorate in the Federal Parliament...



## ~ MAJOR PARTIES ~



**BEREMY SCUMBUM**  
Total Bastards Party

- POLICIES -
- Murder infants
- Mince the poor



**PLOM MCFARTLE**  
Partial Bastards Party

- POLICIES -
- Put newborns to work!
- Chastise the poor

## ~ MINOR PARTIES ~



**WAKKUN**  
Nice Party

- POLICIES -
- Hugs
- A cup of tea
- Smash the state



**GRUNTWARD PLRFBBPTHT**  
Australia Australia Australia Party

- POLICIES -
- Guns for babies
- Mandatory incest



Aw gee, Dennis, aw heck! I want to vote for the Nice Party, but I know they won't win, so I guess I'd better vote for the Partial Bastards...

...otherwise I'm just **THROWING MY VOTE AWAY!!**

**WRONG, KEN THE VOTING DINGO!**

SLAPPO!

**VOTE!**

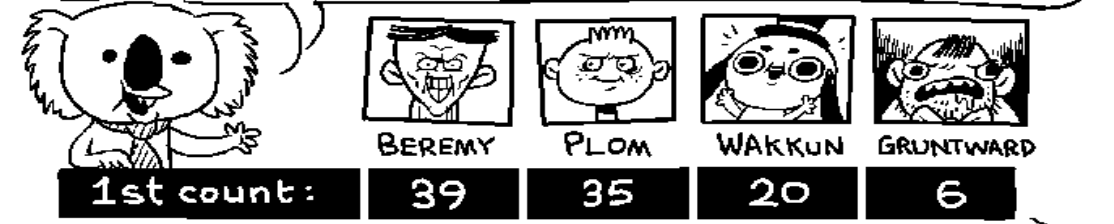
- 3 BEREMY SCUMBUM  
Total Bastards
- 2 PLOM McFARTLE  
Partial Bastards
- 1 WAKKUN  
Nice
- 4 GRUNTWARD P.  
Australia Australia  
Australia

In Australia, we have **PREFERENTIAL VOTING**. You can vote for the Partial Bastards to beat the Total Bastards, and still "VOTE 1" for a minor party!

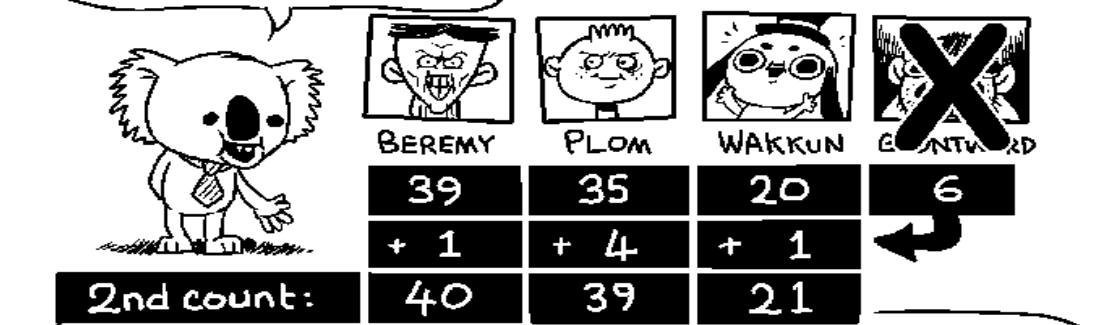
HUH? WHUH?? I don't understand!

**PREFERENTIAL VOTING EXPLAINED**

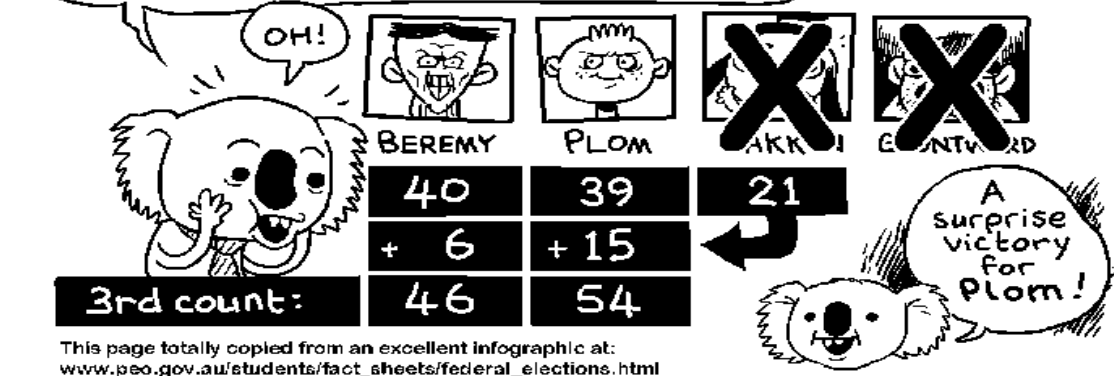
To win a seat, a candidate must end up with an **ABSOLUTE MAJORITY**—that is, over 50% of the total votes. Let's say your electorate has 100 voters: 51 votes are needed to win.



First the "1" votes are counted. But look — no-one has 51 votes or more! So the loser, Gruntward, is eliminated. But the six people who voted "1" for Gruntward now have their "2" votes (second preferences) counted and transferred to those candidates.



Still no-one has an absolute majority of 51 or more! So Wakkun is eliminated, and his votes transferred according to the next preferences.



# How it works – Corangamite 1919

| Candidates                   | First count   |                | Second count (Leaper excluded) |                | Third count (Coldham excluded) |                | Fourth and final count (Knox excluded) |                |
|------------------------------|---------------|----------------|--------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|----------------|--|----------------|
|                              |               |                |                                |                |                                |                |  |                |
| Scullin (ALP)                | 10 630        | (42.5%)        | 10 732                         | (42.9%)        | 10 767                         | (43.0%)        | 10 944                                 | (43.7%)        |
| <b>Gibson (VFU)</b>          | <b>6 604</b>  | <b>(26.4%)</b> | <b>6 814</b>                   | <b>(27.2%)</b> | <b>7 418</b>                   | <b>(29.6%)</b> | <b>14 096</b>                          | <b>(56.3%)</b> |
| Knox (Nat)                   | 5 737         | (22.9%)        | 6 208                          | (24.8%)        | 6 855                          | (27.4%)        |  |                |
| Coldham (Ind Nat)            | 1 174         | (4.7%)         | 1 286                          | (5.1%)         |                                |                |  |                |
| Leaper (RSN)                 | 895           | (3.6%)         |                                |                |                                |                |  |                |
| <b>Total</b>                 | <b>25 040</b> |                | <b>25 040</b>                  |                | <b>25 040</b>                  |                | <b>25 040</b>                          |                |
| <b><i>Gibson elected</i></b> |               |                |                                |                |                                |                |  |                |

# How it works today

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying a news article on The Guardian's website. The browser's address bar shows the URL: <https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2016/jun/12/exclusive-greens-to-preference-labor-in-over-90-of-seats-including-marginals>. The page header includes the Guardian logo, "Australia edition", and navigation links for News, Opinion, Sport, Culture, Lifestyle, and More. Below the header, there are category links: Australia, World, AU politics, Environment, Football, Indigenous Australia, Immigration, Media, Business, Science, and Tech. The main article is titled "Exclusive: Greens to preference Labor in more than 90% of seats, including marginals" and is attributed to Gareth Hutchens. The sub-headline reads: "Party will also preference Labor ahead of Coalition in every Senate seat, saying it wants to prevent a conservative government". Below the text is a photograph of Gareth Hutchens, a man in a suit and tie, talking to a group of people, some of whom are wearing green shirts with the Greens logo. To the right of the article is an advertisement for The Guardian Weekly, which says "Get 6 issues for \$6 today" and shows a cover of the magazine with the headline "Can universal basic income pay dividends?". The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows several open tabs: "RCV machine-main...j...", "australia-vote-cou...jpg", "how to vote 3.jpg", "How to Vote - Robb.jpg", "How to vote.jpg", and "A5-booklet-A4-pa...png". The system tray at the bottom right shows the date and time: "2:54 PM 31/07/2018".

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**Australian Greens**

## Exclusive: Greens to preference Labor in more than 90% of seats, including marginals

Party will also preference Labor ahead of Coalition in every Senate seat, saying it wants to prevent a conservative government

**Gareth Hutchens**  
@grhutchens Email  
Mon 13 Jun 2016 06:00 AEST

3,266 491

This article is over 2 years old

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Get 6 issues for \$6 today

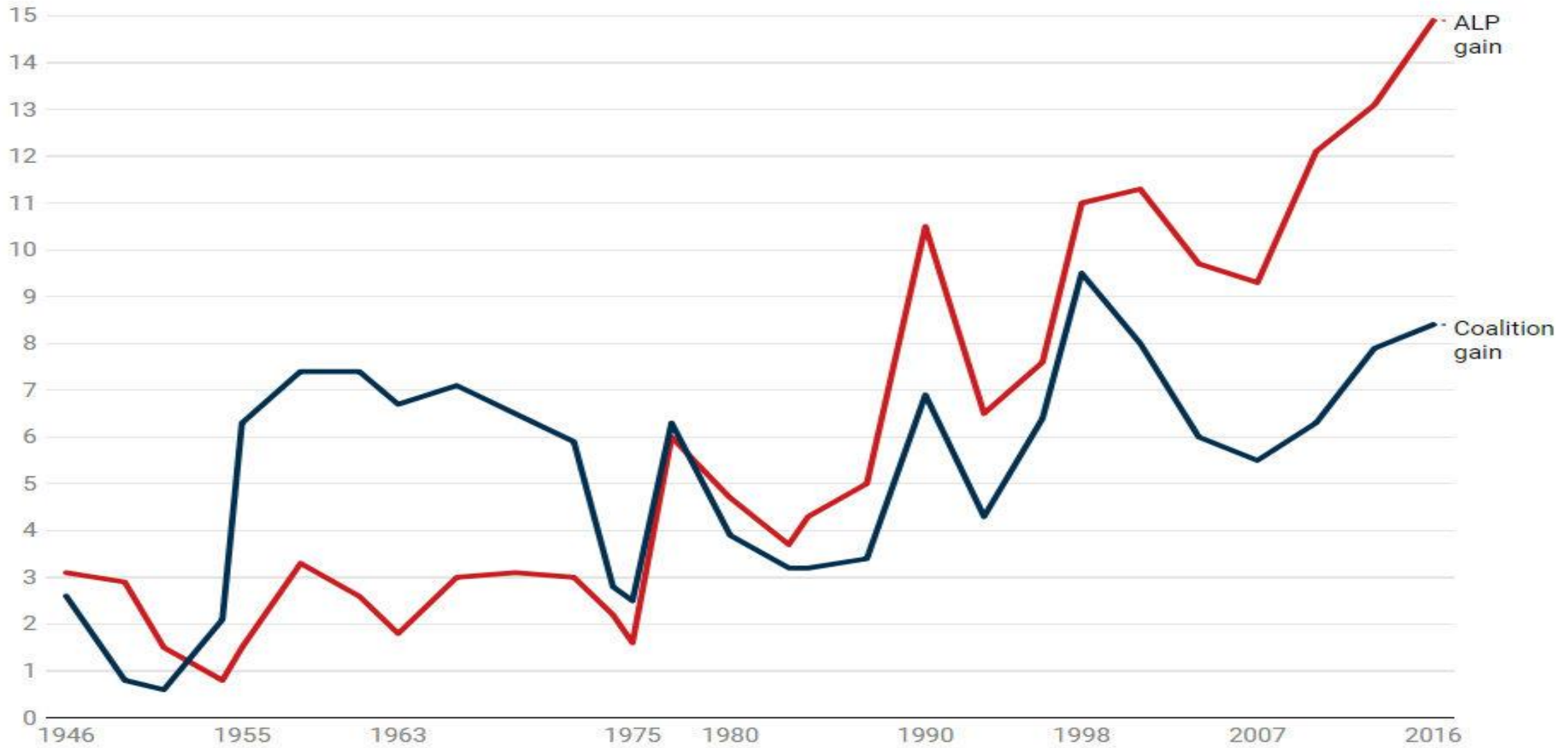
The Guardian Weekly

Can universal basic income pay dividends?

https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2016/jun/12/exclusive-greens-to-preference-labor-in-over-90-of-seats-including-marginals#img-1

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# Major parties' gains from preferences at federal elections (%) 1946–2016



# Benefits and pitfalls

## Benefits

- Winners can claim a genuine **majority mandate**, and need to govern accordingly.
- In most cases, preferences are used to **aggregate** common interests to achieve such a majority.
- RCV facilitates **coalition arrangements** such as that between the Liberal and National parties, and works to the advantage of **centre** candidates and parties.
- This has the effect of encouraging **moderate policy positions** and a **search for the middle ground** of any policy space.

## Pitfalls

- How-to-vote cards from parties – most voters follow these
- Compulsory preference marking -- adds complexity, forces voters to express choices they don't have
- Ticket voting in Senate – parties rather than voters choose where preferences are allocated



# HOW TO VOTE

# Labor

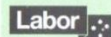


## STEP 1

NUMBER EVERY SQUARE AS SHOWN BELOW.  
SMALL GREEN BALLOT PAPER

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ELECTORAL DIVISION OF GOLDSTEIN

- 2** Hercus, Cheryl
- 5** Bishop, Trevor
- 3** Chellappah, Naren
- 4** Kavanagh, Lee
- 6** Wilson, Tim
- 1** **Coote, Matthew Ross**  
AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY



Remember... number every box to make your vote count.

## STEP 2

PLACE THE NUMBER **1**  
IN 'Group D'  
AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY

THEN PLACE:

- 2** in 'Group AL' Australian Sex Party
- 3** in 'Group A' Derryn Hinch's Justice Party
- 4** in 'Group M' Renewable Energy Party
- 5** in 'Group AK' The Greens
- 6** in 'Group E' Science Party/  
Australian Cyclists Party

**LARGE WHITE BALLOT PAPER**

**SENATE**

**D**

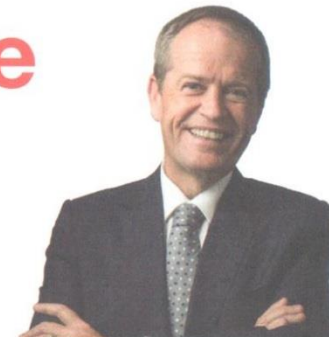
**1**

**AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY**

**REMEMBER: YOU MUST NUMBER AT LEAST 6 BOXES ABOVE THE LINE**



## Matthew Coote & Bill Shorten



## WE'LL PUT PEOPLE FIRST



Authorised by N Carroll for the ALP, 438 Docklands Drive, Docklands.  
Printed by Kosdown Printing, 10 Rocklea Drive, Port Melbourne.



PLEASE RETURN THIS HOW TO VOTE FOR REUSE

# How to Vote Liberal in Goldstein

Stand up for families.  
Stand up for real action.



**Andrew Robb**  
Member for Goldstein

START HERE  
AND NUMBER  
EVERY BOX

## House of Representatives *(green ballot paper)*

*On the green ballot paper,  
you must number every box.*

Electoral Division of  
**GOLDSTEIN**

- 4 EDEN, N
- 2 FORSTER, A
- 1 **ROBB, Andrew**  
Liberal
- 3 PILLING, N

## Senate

*(white ballot paper)*

*Simply place a number 1 in the  
box "above the line" as shown.*

PLACE THE  
NUMBER 1  
IN BOX "O"

O

1

LIBERAL/  
THE NATIONALS

*No need to complete the  
"below the line" section.*

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# How to Vote Dr **Bill** **Glassson** *for* **Griffith**



Remember,  
you must  
number  
every box  
to make your  
vote count.

Start here  
and number  
every box

## Division of **GRIFFITH**

- 11** LAWRENCE, Timothy
- 10** EBBS, Geoff
- 9** WILLIAMS, Christopher David
- 8** BOELE, Karel
- 7** ACKROYD, Anthony
- 6** REID, Anne
- 5** BUTLER, Terri
- 4** THOMAS, Melanie Rose
- 3** WINDSOR, Travis James
- 2** SAWYER, Ray
- 1** **GLASSON, Bill**  
Liberal National Party of Queensland

Your strong local voice *for* **Griffith**



# Simpler is better...

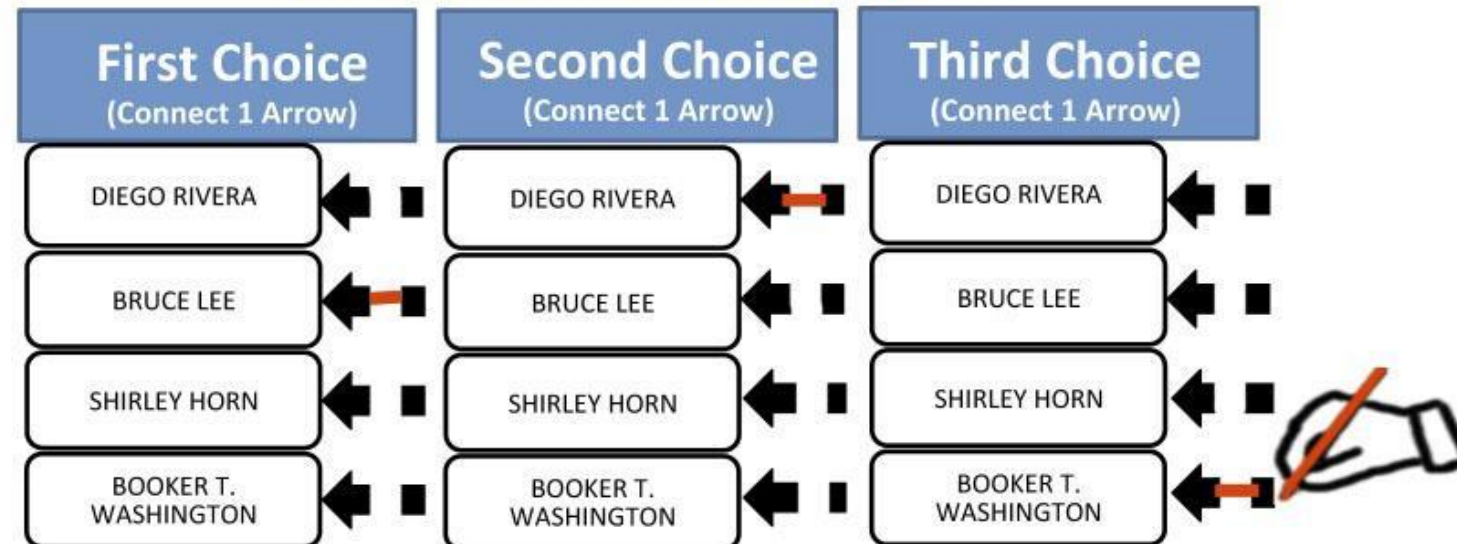
| PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION 2016 <i>ELECCIÓN PRESIDENCIAL 2016</i>                                    |                                       |                                       |                                       |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Rank candidates in order of choice.<br><i>Selecciona los candidatos en orden de preferencia</i> | <b>1st</b><br>Choice<br><i>Opción</i> | <b>2nd</b><br>Choice<br><i>Opción</i> | <b>3rd</b><br>Choice<br><i>Opción</i> | <b>4th</b><br>Choice<br><i>Opción</i> |
| <b>CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIE DOUGH</b>  | <input type="radio"/>                 | <input type="radio"/>                 | <input type="radio"/>                 | <input type="radio"/>                 |
| <b>RASPBERRY LEMON SORBET</b>   | <input type="radio"/>                 | <input type="radio"/>                 | <input type="radio"/>                 | <input type="radio"/>                 |
| <b>CHERRY ALMOND CHUNK</b>  | <input type="radio"/>                 | <input type="radio"/>                 | <input type="radio"/>                 | <input type="radio"/>                 |
| <hr/> <i>Write-In Candidate / Candidato Autonominado</i>  | <input type="radio"/>                 | <input type="radio"/>                 | <input type="radio"/>                 | <input type="radio"/>                 |

# Ballot design matters ...

## San Francisco Elections: Nov. 6, 2012

How to fill out your Ranked Choice (RCV) Ballot: Mark a *Different* candidate for Each Choice

**NOTE: Connect only 1 Arrow for each Column**



- **How to Vote:** Rank your favorite 1st choice, then your 'compromise' 2nd & 3rd choices. Ranking 2nd & 3rd choices does NOT hurt your 1st choice. Ranking candidates twice does NOT help them.
- **How Count Works:** If no candidate has a 1st count majority, a series of rounds eliminates last-place finishers. In each round, your vote counts only for your most preferred candidate still in the running.

# Counting the votes: man vs machine

