

Bottom-Up Government

Leading “We The People”¹

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ABSTRACT

A report designed to address the problems associated with a top-down form of government. It concludes: Citizens Initiated Referendum, together with an Initiating Petition, is the only effective control available to a nation intent on community development rather than just being governed. It provides a unique opportunity to unlock the whole community’s intelligence, and gives clear instruction to those chosen to lead.

1) Introduction.

It is often quoted that “democracy is the worst form of government - except for all the others”. I venture that democracy is the best form of government provided it is run as the bottom-up alternative, rather than the more usual top-down form where an elite coterie govern.

The Swiss system of government is a bottom-up form of government, summarised at:²

Switzerland is a semi-direct democratic federal republic. The federal legislative power is vested in the two chambers of the Federal Assembly, the National Council and the Council of States. The Federal Council holds the executive power and is composed of seven power-sharing Federal Councillors elected by the Federal Assembly. The judicial branch is headed by the Federal Supreme Court of Switzerland, whose judges are elected by the Federal Assembly. Switzerland has a tradition of direct democracy. For any change in the constitution, a referendum is mandatory.

And:

Referenda on the most important laws have been used since the 1848 constitution.

¹ <https://bosmin.com/HOME/Bottom-UpGovernment.pdf>

² https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Politics_of_Switzerland

2) **Problem Identification.**

My interest was to explore the political processes which have led to a state of general dysfunction at all levels of Australian government. The start of my investigation focussed on the 'CO₂ pollution problem', which is symptomatic of this malaise, and summarised as follows:

When it comes to 'CO₂ pollution', we are focussing on the wrong problem! The problem is rampant Marxism permeating our society. Material evidence includes:

1. Proposed early shutting down Yallourn power station after the demonstrated negative example of early shutting and dismantling of Hazelwood. This was preceded by the blowing up of the Northern Power Station in South Australia. Having reliable cheap electricity is not the main aim. What is the aim?
2. Destroying our landscape environment with wind mills and solar panels is neither environmentally responsible or power supply effective. There is another agenda at work here.
3. Supporting these activities with major tax payer subsidised funding is irresponsible and designed to undermine our economy.
4. The recent allegedly fraudulent US presidential elections, and world governments' reaction to the 'Covid19 pandemic', are live examples of how quickly the peoples' will can be avoided, and highlights the international nature of this problem.
5. As a self funded retiree, and a diversified Australian share holder, I know there is manifest evidence of bank and other company directors avoiding investment in fossil fuel projects thereby effectively supporting a Marxist, anti Australia agenda.
6. Concentrating on 'CO₂ pollution', is now counter productive, because it diverts attention from criticism of the real Marxist infiltration program.

Other evidence includes the eleven tenants of Cultural Marxism defined during the Frankfurt School of Marxism in the early 1900s, as reported on the Sky News "Bernardi" program of April 2, 2021:

- Creation of racism offences
- Continual change to create confusion
- Teaching of sex & homosexuality to children
- Undermining of schools' & teachers' authority
- Destruction of national identity through immigration
- Promotion of mind altering and/or addictive substances
- Emptying of churches
- Unreliable legal system with bias against victims of crime
- Dependency on the state or state benefits
- Control and dumbing down of the media
- Encouraging the breakdown of the family

In further defining the problem it becomes evident that there are two distinct forms of democracy. The first and most common is the Top-Down form as practised under the Westminster System and duplicated in similar forms through many Commonwealth and several European Union countries, as well as the United States. This form of government also applies to socialist and communist enterprises who occasionally go through a very perfunctory

election process.

The second type of democracy is the Bottom-Up version which is most notably practised in Switzerland. The distinguishing feature is an active support for Citizens' Initiated Referendum, CIR.

The two different forms are illustrated in Exhibit 1:

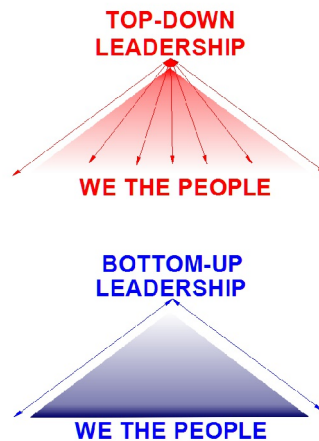


Exhibit 1.

In the most common Top-Down form, an elite leadership group is elected by the people when an election is called. Several political parties offer policies by which they intend to govern during the next term. However, there is no accountability associated with these promises/policies.

The lack of accountability extends to how these policies are introduced or if at all, and the population is subjected to continuing series of ad hoc decisions, as graphically illustrated by the one way arrow indicators in upper Exhibit 1. This can be accurately described as 'jerk the population around'.

Defence of this system is commonly along the lines "we were elected to govern, if you don't like it, vote for someone else next time". The result is general suspicion of anything a politician promises, and several politicians in turn develop a job sinecure attitude.

The Swiss Bottom-Up system includes regular referendums which provide 'marching orders' to the leadership, who then comply - on pain of losing their job.

The question is what options do we in Australia have for combatting our declining political leadership standards?

3) **Problem Solutions.**

The Australian and International nature of the Marxist insurgency problem is evident, and highlights the formal nature of attacks described as “The Rules of The Game”.

We are not dealing with a conspiracy theory here. The problem is manifest. It is a real activity which requires careful thought followed by an active response. Speaking on behalf of the Australian side which is probably applicable to large parts of the International scene as well, my thoughts include:

Taxation.

Taxation is a major source of irritation in most democracies for a wide range of reasons, but usually because of excessive government spending issues rather than the collection aspect. Public spending requires some clear thinking and a ‘living within our means’ approach. Excessive government spending is unaccounted, and eventually only limited by the budgetary requirement to cover the interest cost on the accumulating loan.

Multiculturalism.

Given the escalating conflict in Gaza, it is timely to consider the implications for Australia. It seems to me the main difference between the Muslim and Jew is the treatment of financial borrowings.

Muslims don’t subscribe to the idea of interest on loans, whereas the Jews (and Christians) believe in the time value of money. So, a Muslim borrower effectively sees the lender as a partner in their business venture, whereas the Jew sees the investment as a business deal only. Both systems work when the investment is a successful one, but if the business fails, the Muslim sees the loss as an unfortunate consequence of fate. Whereas the alternative is to pursue the original loan through whatever legal/illegal means are available.

The historical consequence of this difference are reflected in Kristallnacht and the Crusade wars.

During periods of high inflation, the difference between the two systems becomes more extreme. For this reason, in Australia it is important to have only one recognised culture.

Referenda.

In Australia we have federal as well as several state and local government constitutions which usually include a referendum provision that is not generally effective or used. The constitutions are all deficient in not including an Initiating Petition (IP) Federally, we have The Australian Constitution.³ Section 128 allows the government to initiate a referendum which *glaringly* excludes ‘*we the people*’ from the initiating process, as well as provision for an IP.

³ https://www.aph.gov.au/about_parliament/senate/powers_practice_n_procedures/constitution

Unless the general population can demand a referendum on specific issues, government 'mandates' go unchecked indefinitely. Examples of unquestioned government intrusion or responses include:

- aboriginal affairs
- anthropogenic global warming
- Covid19
- defence
- energy reservation
- euthanasia
- immigration
- national parks
- national service
- school curricula
- United Nations and subsidiaries
- uranium mining and use
- water harvesting and distribution

4) Citizens Initiated Referendum (CIR).

Aspects to these issues may be decided by introducing a form of Citizen's Initiated Referendum, and most importantly, existing regulations and government policy can be subsequently reversed by 'we the people'.

CIR can be introduced in Australia by altering Section 128 to include the provision detailed in the Australian Constitution - Section 128 Modification:⁴

The proposed law for the alteration, initiated by a group of Australian Citizens not less than 1% of the Australian population at Territory, State, or Commonwealth levels as applicable signing an Initiating Petition (IP) within a five-month period, and the proposed law shall be submitted in each Territory, State, or Commonwealth as applicable to the electors qualified to vote for a simple majority, within a contiguous period of less than six months.

This provision is designed to be effective at Federal as well as Territory, State, and Municipal levels.

5) Electronic Voting (EV).

An integral aspect of modern CIR is the introduction of electronic voting together with rigorous registration and verification procedures.

While voting is compulsory in Australia, the 2020 US presidential elections show how non compulsory voting, lax voter ID, and registration procedures can be abused when applied haphazardly.

⁴ <https://bosmin.com/Section128.pdf>

Secure internet facility to provide topical access to EV as demonstrated by the wide use of the web for banking transactions, and can compliment postal voting, as required in some regions. EV could be made available through the myGov website,⁵ or other secure facilities.

The existing Australian voting system is open to abuse mainly because of multiple voting and poor voter registration procedures. These issues are explored in “Vote Early & Vote Often Analysis - Federal Elections 2007 and 2010”.⁶ Voter registration should be a Post Office responsibility, as they are the first point of call when people move house, and they can easily determine if an address is legitimate.

Recent information shows that electronic voting is not safe as there is a “back door” access into most operating systems⁷. This precludes the use of safe electronic voting for all but mundane voting issues, such as local area networks for marking off purposes.

Safe voting is;

- **on the day,**
- **written voting records,**
- **first past the post result,**
- **postal service verification of voting rolls,**
- **and minimal absentee voting.**

However, EV should be kept in mind as an effective voting option, given the speed of development in this science, and rapid advances in fraud prevention.

6) Introducing Australian CIR.

Swiss experts could be invited to comment on proposed changes to our political system. Introducing CIR, and an associated IP, to Australia requires support from one or more political parties. Several parties include a CIR provision in their policy platforms, but do not promote it as a major election issue.

A common criticism of CIR is; ‘Some fringe groups may "organise" bucket loads of "supporters" to sign petitions.’ This highlights exactly why we need CIR, it is one thing to sign a petition, but entirely another thing to win a referendum where you have to get past *'the quiet Australian'*. Everybody also votes in the ensuing referendum after hearing both sides of a formally stated argument (Initiating Petition). This ensures that the whole population is invested in the result of the referendum, which can only be changed by another referendum after a period of five years.

7) CIR Political Benefits.

CIR is an initiative political parties seeking to increase their public appeal, should urgently consider. The voting public can be advised of a party’s active support for CIR by including the

⁵ <https://my.gov.au/mygov>

⁶ <http://www.bosmin.com/ICS/FederalElections07-10.pdf>

⁷ <https://bosmin.com/ICS/KevinLoughreyEmailApril2023.pdf>

statement on all their election hoarding material: "**We actively support CIR.**" This statement is designed to beg the question; what is CIR? which opens a pre-election opportunity to discuss Bottom Up government.

CIR can be expected to reduce the current level of public dissatisfaction with political parties, and it provides an effective outlet for *'the quiet Australian'* to combat activist group pressure. It also ensures community commitment to the national purpose, which is sadly lacking under our present system of democracy.

A major resistance point in past attempts to introduce CIR has been the reaction from political leaders who assume they are elected to 'govern' and should therefore be given unrestricted control over the levers of power. While this can work if the leader has strong empathy for *'we the people'*, it also provides an opportunity for those who view election to politics as a personal accomplishment, or as a sinecure. There are many examples of unscrupulous types who have abused the privileges of public office, or when employed in positions of inherent political influence.

The recall provisions in CIR democracy ensures that representatives who fail to follow the instructions of their voters can be excluded from the political process, midterm.

8) Conclusions.

1. CIR with an associated IP, is the only effective control available to a nation intent on community development, rather than being governed at the whims of an elite class.
2. CIR provides a unique opportunity to unlock a community's combined intelligence, and provides means for clear instruction to those appointed to lead.
3. Importantly, CIR closes the gap between the "spenders" and the "payers".
4. The only way to beat the pernicious creeping approach of Marxism is to unlock the inherent power of the general population on an issue by issue basis.
5. Modern electronic communication makes this approach technically feasible, provided fraud can be identified and controlled.

9) Keywords:

Citizens Initiated Referendum, CIR, Initiating Petition, IP, Top Down Government, Bottom Up Government, direct democracy, CO₂ pollution, Marxism, Yallourn, Hazelwood, Northern Power Station, Covid19, universal wage, Section 128, We actively support CIR