

00:18:14 Hayden Starr (Australia Institute): Welcome all - Hayden from the Australia Institute here! Thanks for joining us today.

00:18:59 Bev Majda: Good morning from Kurna country (Adelaide). Very much looking forward to this webinar.

00:19:49 Fred Engels: Greetings from Mandjoogoordap Country - Mandurah WA

00:20:04 Raphael Dua: Good Morning from Taralgon, Victoria

00:20:18 Gina Rizakos: Hi from Wangal Country , Inner West Sydney!

00:20:22 Robyn Thurston: Greetings from Wiradjuri country, Wagga Wagga!

00:21:26 Earth Waratah: Hello from Lindsay electorate and my first time to use Zoom. I'm a Zoomster newbie. lol

00:21:37 Lorraine Bull: Hi from Gunaikurnai country, Latrobe Valley

00:21:40 Hayden Starr (Australia Institute): Greetings all, looking forward to this very relevant discussion. Use the Q&A function to if you would like to submit questions for Senator Keneally and Bill Browne to answer!

00:22:04 Liz Boulton: Hi from Dja Dja Wurrung country, Western Victoria :-)

00:22:17 Margaret Blanch: Good morning from Warnbro WA

00:22:21 Rachana Rajan: And from Turrbal and Jagera country in Brisbane!

00:23:09 Fred Engels: Conducting totally secret court cases is no longer the domain of any definition of democracy.

00:24:21 Madeleine Laming: morning from central Victoria, Taungurong country.

00:24:53 Earth Waratah: Australia is much closer to a One Party State system than most Australians would like to admit. Secret trial. Politicians intimidating people from dissenting. Glorification of military and war. Demonising all sorts of groups for vilification. Laws which can put as in prison for dissenting against politicians mates.

00:25:10 Fred Engels: Indeed confidence - I have absolutely no confidence in the incumbents of this current government.

00:25:49 Liz Boulton: Corruption has spreader wider than Government, it is now in Universities.... businesses...

00:26:44 Raphael Dua: One has to hope in our democracy, poking the dragon, who has nuclear capability is somewhat stupid. There would be no way the US would come to our aid as they do not want a retaliation from the Dragon.

00:27:37 Ian Parker: We need laws as well as ICAC - for example Pork barrelling might be legal but clearly is a misuse of public funds.

00:28:03 Hayden Starr (Australia Institute): You can look at the Australia Institute's research in Truth in Political Advertising here: <https://australiainstitute.org.au/report/we-can-handle-the-truth-opportunities-for-truth-in-political-advertising/>

00:28:49 Sydney Kahlan: Hey Kristina Keneally,

How can you lecture us on having anti-democratic views when you want to disenfranchise people you deem to be "far-right extremists"?

00:30:10 Robert Hall: Thanks for that Hayden

00:31:39 Julia Lowe: Please can you explain your comment Sydney

00:31:51 Fred Sim: Kaya from over in Boorloo (Perth) - absolutely with political donations, Federal ICAC too!

00:32:37 Hayden Starr (Australia Institute): Here is our research into the role of the Senate that Bill is referring to: <https://australiainstitute.org.au/report/representative-still-the-role-of-the-senate-in-our-democracy/>

00:33:09 Bev Majda: I'm a big fan of the Senate too! :))

00:33:23 D Dobinson: Thanks for the links Hayden.

00:33:51 Anne Layton-Bennett: So am I Bev. We'd be a poorer country without the Senate.

00:33:58 Earth Waratah: I heard an argument that having no Senate would enable Australians to see exactly what the LNP is about, like in Queensland which sees Labor elected most of the time.

00:34:00 Sally Keir: I agree Bev, the Senate are so important to keep the government accountable

00:34:55 Rachana Rajan: Hello from unicameral Queensland....

00:35:15 Robert Hall: I agree about accountability and the senate but also I would ad the public broadcaster ABC

00:35:40 Margaret Blanch: I would also add the ABC  
00:35:41 Rudolf Blums: My opinion on the Senate has changed to where it is "very important". Checks & balances should be accountable, no matter which party is in government.  
00:36:14 Anne Layton-Bennett: Ditto re adding the ABC  
00:37:01 Fred Sim: "discretionary fund"  
00:37:12 Fred Sim: with vague oversight  
00:38:39 Liz Boulton: OMG...  
00:39:04 Bev Majda: Ditto Liz!  
00:39:10 Earth Waratah: The first time I heard someone express utter disenchantment with Australia's news medias, was a retired journalist who was a neighbour.  
00:39:14 Anne Layton-Bennett: That is corruption on steroids IMO by this ghastly government.  
00:39:24 Andrew Holliday: Democracy isn't just a mechanism, it's a set of values. It's the only form of social control that isn't authoritarian. All others are different brands of authoritarianism. Democratic values need to be embedded in our culture for democracy to work. That isn't the case. Legislation and legislated investigative bodies aren't enough, and will only work in a culture that reflects and reinforces those values. They're only part of a much broader project. I don't see democratic values embedded in our culture. There are a few levels of government that apply a handful of democratic mechanisms – every few years – but our cultural norms, those we apply every day in our lives, are hierarchical, authoritarian (anybody here elected their CEO recently? Why not?), submissive and largely compliant. We're not Winston Smith. We're proles.  
00:40:05 Ili Bone: Kristina for PM!  
00:41:31 Brendan Mahony: Any thoughts on the roles of the terms "public money" and "taxpayer money"?  
00:41:50 Cate Cooper: Put that in the Q&A brendan  
00:41:54 Hayden Starr (Australia Institute): Brendan, good question. Please put it in the Q&A!  
00:42:04 Jayne Crowley: Agree, Kristina for PM, to clean up our govt and make it for all the people of our nation just not the privileged few.  
00:43:15 Bev Majda: How can there be a 26 year contract ???  
00:43:20 L Sarmal: Another Scotty from Marketing special.  
00:43:25 Liz Boulton: KK for PM  
00:43:35 Anne Layton-Bennett: You beat me to it Bev - that was my question as well!  
00:43:36 James Robert LEONARD: This stacking of appointments is primarily because of the need to provide sinecure to liberal party has beens.  
00:43:45 Fred Sim: How is this even not out there? Even if they were qualified, how is it "just"??  
00:44:11 Anne Layton-Bennett: Fred - suggest Murdoch Press could form part of the answer . . .  
00:44:17 Raphael Dua: I wonder where kevin Andrews will finish up job wise  
00:44:38 Fred Sim: It sounds like we are heading down the American Supreme Court appointment path....  
00:45:01 Bev Majda: The well publicised stacking of the AAT is mind boggling  
00:46:57 Madeleine Laming: Stacking govt jobs with political appointments is a way of continuing the shift in values when they eventually get voted out. It's like stacking the Supreme Court.  
00:47:12 Philip Craig: an ICAC with mandatory jail time for guilty politicians  
00:47:15 Earth Waratah: Just a personal point of view; ALP women in Parliament is the leadership the ALP and Australia needs. Men(I say this as a man) need to step back.  
00:48:07 D G: Self interest trumps public interest. What makes anyone think that the issues raised here have any impact on the electorate in general. Look at the UK, blatant government corruption is leading to an increased popularity of their government.  
00:48:19 Fiona Navilly: Just like to hark back to Andrew Holiday's comment and thank him for it... Democracy is not just a mechanism but a set of values that should appear embedded in our culture...  
00:48:19 Hayden Starr (Australia Institute): The Australia Institute's research into the Commonwealth Integrity Commission, National Integrity Committee response to CIC Bill Exposure Draft:

<https://australiainstitute.org.au/report/commonwealth-integrity-commission-cic-consultation-submission-on-the-cic-bill-exposure-draft/>

00:48:19 Robynne Burchell: The only skill this government has perfected is the funnelling of taxpayer funds to donors and cronies.  
00:49:25 Andrew Holliday: Tasmanians campaigned for a State Integrity Commission. They eventually got one – with very little funding – and legislation specifically drafted to prevent them being able to do anything about corruption! Let's hope that's not the template the Commonwealth uses...

00:52:12 Earth Waratah: What this nation needs is an in-depth reform of media ownership laws.  
00:55:31 Graeme Tychsen: Coeee from a guest of sovereign Awabakal nation.  
00:55:34 Margaret Blanch: Yes these webinars are very accessible and educational for the general public  
00:57:47 Robynne Burchell: Just lost the claytons internet connection  
00:58:02 Fred Sim: What can the Auditor General do though apart from release the information??  
00:58:31 Earth Waratah: Robynn - NoBloodyNetwork lol  
00:58:32 Fred Sim: Something with teeth  
00:59:39 Graeme Tychsen: The topic is very interesting considering Australian democracy is characterised by ruling sectional interests since 1788; for an enormously multicultural nation, UK/Irish names are preponderant; not to mention so few women, like wise across the board. Royal Commission findings are dutifully filed and become a source for a 'revelatory' PhD a century later. English culture is not the strongest foundation for democracy and freedom, it erroneously connotes.  
00:59:53 Patricia Saunders: So far. all questions put to Senator Keneally have been asked by men. Can we have some gender equality here please?  
01:00:16 Gina Rizakos: I have asked a question at 11.29  
01:00:30 Karen Jones: Good call Patricia  
01:00:43 Sally Keir: Patricia, My question was asked.... I am female.  
01:00:59 Peter Johnstone: I think it's a fair observation that the ALP at times seems less than eager for a truly independent properly funded ICAC protected from political interference? I'm glad that the ALP is challenging the present govt on their 'Claytons' Integrity Commission but will they be as keen in govt?  
01:01:56 Rudolf Blums: Vote ALP into government & find out.  
01:02:28 Linda Roylance: This is what Aust democracy needs:

<https://www.thedanishparliament.dk/en/news/2018/02/citizens-initiative>.

#### Citizens Initiative

In January 2018, a new website called borgerforslag.dk was launched, giving Danish citizens the opportunity to send political proposals to the Danish Parliament.

01:04:32 Graeme Tychsen: The ABC concept is fundamental to a supposedly people's egalitarian truly free democracy for its brings to account the public and private sectors. The breadth of attack on the ABC today shows how far from the supposed principles of Australian democracy despite the warning shot across the bows with penal transportation a breach of the UK's citizens' and the First Nations' peoples of this land. Not a harbinger for healthy democratic freedom.

01:04:36 Fred Sim: Aren't whistleblowers also a great safeguard within a democracy? When internal processes to raise issues of accountability fail (eg with the ATO whistleblower, with Witness K & Bernard C etc) - they become our last line of defense.

01:04:37 Rudolf Blums: Hear Hear. We "all" need the ABC

01:05:11 Graeme Tychsen: Fred, whistleblowers are essential to freedom. No wonder they get such a hard time here.

01:05:16 Margaret Blanch: The ABC is vital to accountability

01:05:52 Mark Tipping: StarLink is coming so you can get off NBN soon

01:05:55 Philip Craig: The turnBULL legacy, to the node strikes again

01:06:10 Bev Majda: Love KK's laugh

01:06:23 Laura Butler: Good to know that connection issues are everywhere!

01:07:03 Fred Sim: How is it enforceable is the ultimate question- same goes for when Executives get let go and get a huge payout.

01:07:27 Earth Waratah: My NBN is fairly good but it is part of the Rudd Government's gold class roll. This area beat the LNP attacks on infrastructure.

01:07:33 Mark Tipping: Perceived conflict of interest is just as harmful to trust as actual conflict of interest

01:07:59 Graeme Tychsen: No no Ms Keneally ministerial conduct and consequences are fully at home in this lord of the flies country.

01:08:24 Fred Engels: And we have Scomo's mate - the NSW police commissioner ... Just saying!!!

01:08:26 Earth Waratah: Lord of the Flies. .. That is an excellent description of Australia.

01:08:58 Philip Craig: The #lnp raison d'etre is to gain access to the public purse for themselves and their grubby little neo con and capo mates ..

01:10:53 Kerry Silcock: To outsource all decision-making and responsibility to someone else - then lie

about it. Look at how this gov. wants to undermine the recommendations of the Samuels' report on the EPBC Act. as an example.

01:11:27 Graeme Tychsen: But Philip they have earned it. I love the unaware class flavour of so many in parliament; Scott Morrison fawning before the monarch of Australia with his ggs book and then his power running over people who clearly do not count but he is meant to serve. Yes Kerry..

01:12:26 Earth Waratah: Has Australia's collectivist spirit lost out to American styled self-interest?

01:12:40 Graeme Tychsen: Ms Keneally a review by the wilfully incurious Scott Morrison...

01:13:08 John Baptiste: Of course if you filter your Q&A through the woman panelist, you get all the gender questions and none of the ones that are actually difficult to answer.

01:13:15 Graeme Tychsen: Earth, yes that is very likely to be the case.

01:14:29 Hayden Starr (Australia Institute): Thanks to all for joining us today and for participating in the discussion! For details about upcoming webinars and to book head to

[https://nb.tai.org.au/webinar\\_series](https://nb.tai.org.au/webinar_series)

01:14:34 Liz Boulton: thank you

01:14:35 Andrew Holliday: I'd say the collectivist spirit is still there (think pandemic response) but is almost never encouraged...or tapped into.

01:14:36 L Sarmal: Recognizing the fact that the Murdochs/News Corp have succeeded in framing the political debate. How to reframe the narrative?

01:14:43 Narelle Morley: Thanks Everyone

01:14:43 Margaret Blanch: Thank you Kristina

01:14:45 Linda Roylance: Thanks

01:14:46 Fred Sim: Thanks Senator Keneally, Ebony and Bill

01:14:48 Fred Engels: Thank You All

01:14:50 Erin Molloy: Thank you all so much!

01:14:52 D Dobinson: Thanks to panelists and attendees with great comments and questions.

01:14:55 Robynne Burchell: Thank you for this excellent session

01:14:58 Linda Roylance: Go citizen juries

01:15:02 L Sarmal: Insightful and informative discussion. Thank you.

01:15:04 Bev Majda: Thanks and bye everyone!

01:15:09 Norman Jackson: Thank you all!

01:15:10 Sally Keir: Thanks

01:15:16 Laura Butler: thanks!!

01:15:18 Cate Cooper: thanks you xx

01:15:20 Erin Molloy: Shows how important it is