

Electoral Reform Secretariat
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
PO Box 6500
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Sir or Madam

I am a recently retired teacher of building in NSW TAFE. As a full time teacher of 28 years you can do your own sums as to how many elections both state and federal that would involve. My student age group was between 16 to 20 and as a matter of interest I canvassed my students prior to each election as to whom they were going to vote for in the forth coming election. The responses were always the same BLANK a very small minority usually no more than 2 had a bit of an idea most had no idea. In fact they didn't even know any thing about the parliamentary system.

In my view to evenly remotely consider lowering the voting age is an absurd suggestion. In fact I strongly advise introducing non compulsory voting for under 25s I must emphasis non compulsory voting. 18 to 25 can still register and vote if they wish.

I sometimes asked the question "I suppose you will just vote the quickest way possible just to get out of there" the overwhelming answer was yes. Consider the implication of thousands of first time voters, voting this way no wonder candidates want to be no one on the ballet paper.

I have many times spoken to other teachers about this matter, teachers of both male and female students their findings were the same as mine. There is literally to many other things on their mind at this time in their life and I can assure you that a government election is not one of them.

I would be more than happy to participate in any discussion on this matter. You can contact me on the above address or phone me

Yours Truly

Peter Muldoon