

**A submission To The Senate Select Committee on the Reform of the Australian Federation, Parliament House, Canberra. 20<sup>th</sup> August 2010.**

What does 'Reform of the Australian Federation really mean? How far is it intended to go and how will these reforms interfere with other areas?

1. Does it mean changing the relationship between the Federal, State and Local Governments? If it does, many changes are needed to implement this? Who will ultimately decide on these changes?

We consider that rather than '**Change**', each should remain 'as is' and adhere to it's original responsibilities, laws and needs which it is most able to comply with, to the advantage of the particular constituents. i.e.

Federal ... Defence, Foreign Policy, Immigration and Commerce.

State .....Education, Justice and Transport.

Local .....Roads, Sanitation, Water and Health.

2. Or does it imply interference with the present powers and responsibilities of one or more of them? That would involve changing the Constitutions both Federal and State.

We consider that a very retrograde step. Our Constitution has stood the test of time and is one of the finest in the world. The three tiers of government, and ministers involved, (whatever party) should be concentrating on adhering to and implementing policies that are favourable to the Citizens of Australia. In doing that you should consider pulling out of the United Nations, and refusing to sign their many treaties which are detrimental to our country and the people.

3. Or does it subtly mean a change to a republic?

We consider this step would continue the trend of transferring more and more power from the people to the government and becoming a 'soviet' style government which, we believe most Australian citizens do NOT want.

4. Finally we feel that reforming the Federation would, or certainly could be a completely unnecessary step. Let us retain the 'staus quo' **BUT ADHERE TO IT!!!**