Standing Against Violence

Funding Cut Widens the Gap, says Jeanie

Lead Senate candidate Jeanie Walker has challenged the SA Government to reverse a cut in funding to a successful program for Aboriginal men.

Kornar Winmil Yunti (Ngarrindjeri for ‘men working together’) engages Aboriginal men across the state with the health system. It was launched last July by SA Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation Ian Hunter.

Jeanie, who is an Aboriginal Family Violence Case Manager, says the funding cutback came only a matter of weeks after a death in the southern suburbs which resulted from domestic violence.

Kornar Winmil Yunti was providing education for men about living non-violently and respectfully in their relationships.

On May 8, Jeanie and daughter Tara attended a vigil at the Aldinga Beach home of alleged murder victim Lana Towers, a mother of two young children who was found dead at the home on May 3.

Police believed her death resulted from a domestic incident. A man is in custody and will face court in July. The vigil was organised by Southern Domestic Violence Service.

"When women are still dying as a consequence of domestic violence, it makes no sense to cut back a fledgling program like this which was already starting to have a positive effect," Jeanie said in a May 31 media statement.

"Showing how strong its outreach is, only a week ago almost 120 men met over three days to discuss issues of family violence, drugs, alcohol, grief and loss. Intervention programs which support men who perpetrate domestic violence are imperative.

"When Minister Hunter launched the program 10 months ago he commented about the importance of having a service for Aboriginal men that was culturally appropriate. What has changed? It's not too late for the government to change its mind and maintain the funding levels, which were meager to begin with.

"Government speaks about 'closing the gap'. When programs like this are cut we can be certain that the gap will be widened."

SA Executive 2013: Call For Nominations

Members are invited to nominate for any of the SA Division's five executive positions:

- President
- Vice President (Administration)
- Vice President (Political)
- Secretary
- Treasurer

The closing date for nominations is Tuesday, July 9. A postal ballot will be held, and results announced at the Annual General Meeting in August. Nominations must be in writing and mailed or delivered to the SA Secretary by 5pm on Tuesday, July 9. Any nomination by e-mail must be verifiable. Please supply a short statement (in electronic form would be helpful, maximum 250 words). Any questions, phone (08) 7070 6070 or email the secretary andrewcastrique@yahoo.com.

We also invite nominations for non-executive positions to be elected by members at the AGM. Send nominations to State Office or sadems711@internode.on.net.

- Fundraising Co-ordinator
- Membership Recording Officer
- Membership Liaison Officer
- Communications Officer
- Newsletter Editor
- Divisional Policy Co-ordinator
- IT Co-ordinator
- Constitution Review Committee Convenor

Second Position On Senate Ticket

Nominations are yet to close for the second position on the Senate ticket for the September 14 election. The lead Senate candidate is Jeanie Walker. Please send your nomination in the form of a written, signed letter to Secretary Andrew Castrique, Australian Democrats (SA Division) Inc, PO Box 573, Goodwood, SA 5034. Prospective candidates must be assessed by the Candidate Assessment Committee. Contact State Office to request a candidate assessment form.
Faction Isolated By AEC Ruling

"It became necessary to destroy the village in order to save it." So said an American major after the 1968 destruction of the Vietnamese Village Ben Tre during the Vietnam War (in Vietnam it's called "the American War").

Such oxymoronic "reasoning" is being used to justify the destruction of the Australian Democrats by the instigator of our current troubles, Melbourne lawyer John Davey, who has managed to convince some people that his group are "reformers" whose trashing of the Party is necessary in order to save it.

Those members who have been misled by Davey and his small band of followers have our sympathy and understanding. They did not, or do not, know that their innocent participation in the Davey faction's scheme is not constructive. They need to be shown that they are not helping to "reform" the Party, they are helping to destroy it.

Davey and his small circle of fellow schemers can never be forgiven, however. They deserve to be exposed, expelled and prosecuted.

Despite a resounding 34-page Australian Electoral Commission judgment on May 27, rejecting their claims to be the "National Executive", the Davey schemers are carrying on as if nothing has happened. In refusing to accept the authority of the AEC, they are blatantly acting outside the law. You will find no mention of the AEC judgment on the faction's bogus "Australian Democrats" website.

You can download the full AEC decision here [http://tinyurl.com/AEC-decision](http://tinyurl.com/AEC-decision) to confirm what the SA Division, and active members in other states, have been saying since last year: the Davey group's unprincipled and dishonest claims to have won control of the Party have no constitutional basis.

'Expulsions' Not Valid, But Faction Persists

The AEC found that the group, and its claimed "National Executive", did not have the right or power to declare National President Darren Churchill, and Acting National Secretary Roger Howe, to have "resigned" or been "expelled". It affirms the legitimacy of the actual National Executive, and Mr Churchill and Mr Howe as office holders.

What Branch Do I Belong To?

It's that time of the year when branch AGMs occur, so the inevitable question arises "What branch do I belong to?" and perhaps another question, "Why does it matter anyway?"

As part of the democratic structure of the party, we are constitutionally required to have branches. And each branch is entitled to representation on the State Management Committee (SMC), which is responsible for the day-to-day running of the party in South Australia.

Branches also play a crucial role in supporting local candidates at election time, by it organising the letterboxing of leaflets, putting up posters or handing out how-to-vote cards.

The BAS branch can have up to three reps on SMC, North-West Metro two reps, and Hills-Fleurieu one. So which one do you belong to?

It’s mostly a matter of enrolment in a Federal electorate. If you live in Boothby, Adelaide or Sturt electorate you will be in the BAS Branch; if Hindmarsh, Port Adelaide or Makin is your electorate then you will be in North-West Metro Branch, and the Hills-Fleurieu Branch is yours if you live in Mayo or Kingston.

That means that some of you are not in a branch, particularly those in country areas, because there are not enough members (minimum eight) for you to have a branch, but you can always recruit! You are not necessarily bound by geography to any one branch. If you want to be in a different one, just let us know.

In the next few weeks you will be receiving advice about your Branch AGM, and we encourage you to put up your hand to be a branch representative and play a vital role in the party's democracy.

Saturday July 20: All Members Welcome

Policy Co-ordinator Hayden Patterson is hosting a meeting at his Goodwood home on Saturday, July 20, at 3pm.

Come along and join the discussion on state policy. It also will be a general meeting of SA members, when any issue can be discussed. Though not essential, it would assist Hayden to know in advance if you plan to attend. Contact Hayden on 0408 361 360 or haydenp1976@gmail.com.
It also confirms that the so-called "expulsion" of retired former MLC Sandra Kanck, announced by Davey on December 11 last year, was baseless and is invalid.

As stated previously by other members, **this faction's methods are bullying and ruthless**. Its members have never presented any concerns, plans or ideas to any open member forum, including when nominating for office. They have rejected the choices of the membership in genuine ballots and refused to accept nominations of members opposed to their methods. They continue to disregard the party's Constitution & Regulations, and they refuse mediation (recommended by the AEC).

The Davey faction's website - significantly not registered to the Party, but to a member of the faction - is soliciting donations from the public with the claim that amounts up to $1500 a year are tax-deductible. But the money is not going to the Party, it is going to the Davey faction, which refuses to account for its fate. **The faction is not registered as a political party, and to solicit donations in such a way is illegal.**

**You may have been told that this is a dispute between two factions, but please consider the following facts:**

Since Davey and his fellow schemers launched their assault on the Party last year, $22,762.11 has been removed illegally, emptying the Party's national bank account. The Banking Ombudsman is investigating this. The Davey faction refuses to say where the money has gone, whether it has been spent, and if so, on what it has been spent. There has been absolutely no accountability.

In NSW, the executor of the NSW Division's bank account, Mayo Materazzo, a long-standing member and the Party's NSW registered officer, was removed as a bank signatory without her consent. The faction had aimed similarly to gain control of division accounts in Victoria and SA, but was thwarted by our legal status as incorporated entities. The SA division can assure members that your funds are safe from misuse and will only be used in the Party's best interests.

**Deception, Stealth And No Accountability**

It should be noted that **John Davey, who had himself appointed "National Treasurer" by his fake "National Executive", is a man with an interesting record regarding other people's money.** Following a series of court judgments against him over a loan on which he defaulted (unrelated to Democrat matters), he owes hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Using documents manufactured by the Davey faction, a website domain registry was persuaded to hand over access to the Australian Democrats website, which included the national membership database. **The theft of these vital Party assets sabotaged work on a new, pre-election website.** All we have left is a crippled work on a new, pre-election website.

Despite this sabotage, the National Executive has restored the national membership system, and appointed Robin Davis (Victoria) as National Membership Officer. Please **renew your membership** with Robin, or SA Membership Officer Hayden Patterson (haydenp1976@gmail.com).

**We urge you to disregard any email or other correspondence you receive from Stuart Horrex, Drew Simmons, John Davey, Hayden Ostrom Brown, Michael Pilling or Paul Cole regarding membership or other Party matters.**

If you receive a renewal reminder, but had been misled recently into renewing your membership with the faction, please email the details to National Membership Officer Robin Davis, membership@australian-democrats.org.au or phone (03) 9735 1168. Your payment will be honoured.

The fake website continues to state it is run by the "National Executive" and "National Secretary". All of these claims are bogus.

**Support Lottery And Help Fund Campaign**

More $2 tickets available! We have an extra consignment of tickets for the People's Choice Community Lottery 2013. This fundraiser gives 100% of proceeds back to the SA Division of the Australian Democrats!

**Fundraising Coordinator Marie Nicholls** has books of 10 x $2 lottery tickets to sell. **Contact Marie** today. With great prizes to be won, tickets make excellent gifts. First prize is a Hyundai vehicle valued at $41,254, and 2nd is a $35,000 shopping spree. See https://tinyurl.com/6wb8oe3 for a full list.

**Contact Marie on 0416 067 970.** Thanks to everyone who has bought/sold tickets in the lottery, which closes on July 31. We greatly appreciate and welcome your support. (**AFTER** you've sold or bought the books, please return completed ticket bufs with front page and payment to SA Democrats, PO Box 573, Goodwood SA 5034).

Last year with your help we raised in excess of $7000 from our SA fundraising events. Let's raise even more in 2013, and **help Jeanie Walker's Senate election campaign.**

**SA Division Contacts**

- **Vice President (Administration)**
  - Bruce Hogben 0419 199 666 bhogben@internode.on.net

- **Vice President (Political)**
  - Greg Croke 0419 824 773 greg.croke@yahoo.com.au

- **Secretary**
  - Andrew Castrique 0421 653 501 andrewcastrique@yahoo.com

- **Acting Treasurer**
  - Ragnhild Duske sadems711@internode.on.net

- **Membership Officer**
  - Hayden Patterson 0408 361 360 haydenp1976@gmail.com

- **Communications Officer**
  - Jeanie Walker 0414 534 917 gojump@chariot.net.au

- **Fundraising Coordinator**
  - Marie Nicholls 0416 067 970 marie@myacn.net.au
The faction is running online "elections" for a new "National Executive". These also are illegitimate. The REAL National Executive has not provided for electronic voting systems, nor do they (yet) exist under the National Constitution or Standing Orders. Please disregard their emails requesting you vote in an electronic ballot, as participating will only lead to entrenched division and legal challenges.

Nominations for the REAL National Executive ballot, as recommended by the AEC (Rejection of applications to change the registered officer and secretary of the Australian Democrats, 27 May 2013, #127), closed on June 17.

Soon, you will soon receive the official ballot, in the authorised manner, through the authorised National Journal that lists Darren Churchill as National President. Beware of confusing this with an unauthorised journal that the faction is likely to send to you. And, for the sake of the Party, please carefully consider the statements of the candidates before you vote.

- SA Vice President (Administration) Bruce Hogben

Donate Before End Of Financial Year

The financial year ends in only a few days. Did you know that you are eligible for tax deductibility on up to $1500 a year in donations to a political party?

Mail cheque or credit card authority to Australian Democrats (SA Division) Inc, PO Box 573, Goodwood, SA 5034. Please do not donate online, as any online donation may be diverted to the John Davey faction.

Need A Membership Form? Contact Hayden

Online readers, click here for the latest SA Division membership form. Paper version readers, please contact SA Division Membership Officer Hayden Patterson on 0408 361 360 or email haydenp1976@gmail.com.

How To Contact State Office

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