



**Sean Armistead**



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I'm getting a little tired of seeing internal Party matters aired publicly. These are cheap grubby tactics Labor employ, there is no place for this in our Party.



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**Meanwhile, in Victoria**

Turnbull and Andrews and Andrews

**Liberal Party is no place for cheap grubby tactics against members.**

Abalinx 18 February 2019 Peter Adamis

It is not often that I would agree with those who throw stones at glass houses, yet a social media comment by Sean Armistead on April 2016 described exactly my thoughts on the current civil war that has erupted within the Victorian Division of the Liberal Party.

I have been privy over the years to witnessing inappropriate behaviour, dirty tactics, violence, character assassinations, marriage breakups, separations, deals, alliances and gutter communication by individuals who should have known better. It all came down to winning power, being influential, money, greed and the need to be wanted and needed. Not god examples at all and yet they all occurred behind closed doors and not in the open.

Today with the introduction and development of

social media platforms, ail of the above has now become public domain. Nothing is sacred, nothing is private and certainly the standards once observed are no longer relevant amongst the current generation. To add weight to the above, I am providing a few examples of poor behaviour below. They are in no chronological order:

**Example 1 – Civil War.** A war of words has erupted on social media between warring factions within the Liberal Party. The language used and the thrust of the attacks are abysmal to say the least. There are no winners in this form of communication and certainly no place for it within a civilised society.

**Example 2 - Leaks to the media.** It is alleged that a senior Vice President leaked and contrived an internal and highly confidential report to John Ferguson (Journalist) at the Australian, prior to its distribution to the members of the Federal Standing Committee. This leaking and undermining of senior members of the Liberal party was allegedly confirmed by Matthew Guy the former leader of the opposition at a recent meeting of the party faithful. Additional detail to be revealed in due course. Click link to view the article: [Liberal party in no rush to Federal Elections](#)

**Example 3 – Bullying and intimidation of Young Liberals.** It is alleged that that three members of the Liberal Party have in one format or another used tactics to intimidate young Liberals to achieve their desired outcomes. It is ironic for these three have in that past accused two Vice presidents who have since stepped down from their roles and from the administrative Committee. Is this a classic example of calling the kettle black or is it simply a case of these three seeking revenge. The Young Liberals are now fighting back, incensed at being made scapegoats and taken for granted. Maybe just maybe we are seeing the rise of a new generation in the wake of an election loss. One can only hope that a generational change occurs sooner rather than later.

**Example 4 – Drunk and disorderly Liberal Parliamentarian.** It has been brought to my attention that a senior Liberal parliamentarian was found drunk and disorderly wandering around disorientated and creating a nuisance. It has been alleged that once in the vehicle the senior member began spewking about what he thought of other Liberal colleagues, what he would do to them and in general being unaware that the Good Samaritan was also a Liberal party member. Inferences to this incident have appeared on social media outlets and it is a great pity that such matters be aired in public.

**Example 5 – Witch hunts and Investigations.** The current Administrative Committee in their wisdom have seen it fit to bend to the pressure from left wing socialist progressive Liberals to conduct an investigation against members of the party. It is alleged that one member was being investigated by Ian Quick for being a member of another party and having campaigned against the Liberal party. This pseudo investigation by Ian Quick is nothing short of a sham because his main target is Ivan Stratov. The pseudo investigation is to be used as a precedent to remove and strip Ivan Stratov from holding any position and finally to expel him from the party.

**Example 6 - Exceeding responsibilities.** It alleged that at an Electorate Annual General Meeting, a senior member of the Administrative Committee exceeded their responsibilities by questioning the election result and demanded a recount at a time when no one questioned it. It appeared that the preferred and losing candidate was not up to the job and failed to obtain the necessary support. The senior member who requested a recount was later forced to acknowledge that the successful candidate did indeed win the election.

**Example 7 - Umbrella of fear.** It appears that an umbrella of fear has descended upon Liberal party members who voiced their concerns or were identified as distributing material found in the public domain. Members who have received letters of intimidation to cease and desist have described their fear of losing their jobs and afraid for their safety. Such tactics have no place in the Liberal Party and members found guilty should be chastised, ostracised or expelled for behaviour unbecoming of the office they hold.

**Example 8 – Vote manipulation.** It has been alleged that in some electorates where they are perceived to be on the “right side” or in the “accepted faction”, vote manipulation occurs. In other words, the votes are inappropriately checked and changed if the desired outcome is not as expected. Once the votes have been manipulated, the alleged closed envelope is posted to Liberal Party Headquarters for confirmation. For such a matter to occur means collusion between the Returning Officer and others involved in the vote manipulation.

Members will have their opportunity to voice their opinion, vote accordingly at the next State Council which is believed to be scheduled in March. Whatever the outcome of that State Council, one thing is for sure and that is that it is important that the Liberal party acknowledge that any further demonstrations of poor behaviour and displays of disloyalty will no longer be tolerated. The witch hunts and investigations must cease and a new, balanced and vibrant Administrative Committee that reflects and represent the members are elected. If not then the Liberal party will forever more be a party of divisive factions that will never win the hearts and minds of Victorians.

The above article is an opinion based on my own research, observations of the past and the present political environment in Victoria. If this article offends anyone, their objections will be duly noted and published in due course. However please remember, not to shoot the messenger for we as individuals, will always have political differences and I don't expect everyone to agree with my comments.



**Peter Adamis is a Journalist/Social Media Commentator and writer.** He is a retired Australian military serviceman and an Industry organisational & Occupational (OHS) & Training Consultant whose interests are within the parameters of domestic and international political spectrum. He is an avid blogger and contributes to domestic and international community news media outlets as well as to local and Ethnic News. He holds a Bachelor of Adult Learning & Development (Monash), Grad Dip Occupational Health & Safety, (Monash), and Dip. Training & Assessment, Dip Public Administration, and Dip Frontline Management. Website: [abalinx.com](http://abalinx.com) Contact via Email: [abalinx@gmail.com](mailto:abalinx@gmail.com)