



Political rainbow 2022

30 April 2022

With less than a month to go, Australians again are called upon to vote for political figures that will form government either on their own or within a coalition of sorts. Will it be the red mob, the green or the blue, that is the question that is cascading through the minds of

those who are unsure.

What to do, does one vote with their feet, others out of pure loyalty, those who don't care, or like myself vote what is in the best interest of Australia. I used to believe until very recently that I was a right-wing conservative whose values are steeped in the economic security of the nation followed by family and an equality for all. I find that after some 60 years of voting for a Liberal government, I am not a right conservative at all but rather a traditionalist.

I guess the tag traditionalist is more to my liking because it encompasses everything that I believe in. A strong and deterrent defence force, security, family, equality, moral values, freedom of expression, free of religious persecution, food on the table, contributing to the nation's welfare, abiding by its institutions, and change for the sake of being competitive for the good of the nation.

Traditionalist may be found in all political parties and I am of the belief that in today's society there is very little between the two major parties the Red and the blue. In the early years when I first became interested in politics, I would always vote for the political party that was against communism, fascism, and extreme left- and right-wing politics. In all the years of voting, I have always vote for a Liberal Government at the State and Federal levels.

Today, society is no longer influenced as much as it was in the past by radio, television and the news print media. Society today is vastly different not only in its outlook but also inwards and will vote according to what is best for the individual and how policies will affect them. Whether its employment, health, freedom, standard of living, freedom of expression, family, homes, utilities, petrol prices, rents, equal opportunities, gender issues, life styles, travel, or anything else that may directly affect the individual.

The internet and social media have replaced all of the above communication mediums and as such, society just plugs into any social media socket and is automatically connected to the latest news, forums, broadcasts, opinions, meetings, and millions of blogs all expressing their own opinion.

To demonstrate my long-term loyalties with the Liberal party its important to begin at the start. The following timeline is an outline of my love affair with the Liberal party. It is not hard to see that early influences of my father steered me towards the Liberal Party.

Date	Government	Comments
9 December 1961	Robert Menzies Liberal/Country	Aged 11 growing up in the suburbs and fighting bullies, I learnt about Communism from my father who fought in the Greek Civil War against the Communists and as such I began an interest in politics.

30 November 1963	Robert Menzies Liberal/Country	Aged 13 making friends and fighting bullies. I am interested in reading and have a hunger for knowledge.
26 November 1966	Robert Menzies Liberal/Country	Aged 16 and learning to street fight to survive. Last year of school. Not the best of students.
25 October 1969	Robert Menzies Liberal/Country	Street fighter, apprentice, enlisted in the Citizens Military Forces to prepare for the Regular Army.. Voted Liberals.
2 December 1972	Govt. Defeated	Enlisted in the Regular Army the year prior, posted to Townsville. FNQLD. Deployed overseas. Voted Liberals.
18 May 1974	Govt. Re-elected	Returned from overseas deployment and greatly disappointed to hear that Labor had won. Not happy that I missed out on a posting to Vietnam. End of National service. Posted to Brisbane. Voted Liberals.
13 December 1975	Govt. Dismissed 11/11 Caretaker Govt. Elected	Married and very pleased to hear that Whitlam was dismissed. Voted Liberals.
10 December 1977	Govt. Re-elected	Not happy with cuts in Defence. Married with two kids. Voted Liberals.
18 October 1980	Govt. Re-elected	Deployed overseas. Losing confidence in government. Posted to Victoria. Voted Liberals.
5 March 1983	Govt. Defeated	Posted to West Australia. Married with four kids. Voted Liberals.
1 December 1984	Govt. Re-elected	Posted to Victoria, Separated and divorced. Voted Liberals.
11 July 1987	Govt. Re-elected	Posted to Geelong, and Ballarat. Joint custody of children. Travelling 400 kilometres in total to see children. Won custody of four children. Difficult years raising children. I liked Hawke but voted Liberals.
24 March 1990	Govt. Re-elected	Posted to Melbourne. Difficult years raising children. Joined the Liberal party. Lost respect for Hawke. Voted Liberals. Active within the Liberal party.
13 March 1993	Govt. Re-elected	Deployed overseas, Raising for boys. Reposted within Melbourne. Active within the Liberal party. Disliked but respected Keating. Voted Liberals.
2 March 1996	Govt. Defeated	Reposted within Melbourne. Raising for boys. Not sure about Howard, respected Peter Costello and voted Liberals.
3 October 1998	Govt. Re-elected	Raising for boys. Separated from Regular Army and transferred to Army reserves. Began to respect Howard and more respect for Peter Costello. Voted Liberals.
10 November 2001	Govt. Re-elected	Married, Raising for boys. Active within the Liberal party. Applied to go to East Timor the year before, turned down as too old. Great respect for Howard and Peter Costello. Voted Liberals.
9 October 2004	Govt. Re-elected	Active within the Liberal party. Respected Howard but began to lose interest in Peter Costello. Voted Liberals.
24 November 2007	Govt. Defeated	Disliked Rudd. Active within the Liberal party. Voted Liberals.
21 August 2010	Govt. Re-elected (Minority)	Disliked Gillard. Voted Liberals. Active within the Liberal party. Voted Liberals.
7 September 2013	Govt. Defeated	Respected Abbott but cautious. Voted Liberals. Active within the Liberal party. Voted Liberals.
2 July 2016	Govt. Re-elected	Dislike Turnbull, Battling cancer. Voted Liberals. Active within the Liberal party. Voted Liberals.
18 May 2019	Govt. Re-elected	Battling cancer. Respected and liked Morrison. I was overseas did not vote. Active within the Liberal party.

It is of interest to note from the above table that the only item that is of a continuous nature is that I supported and voted for the Liberal Party as soon as I was of voting age. Now with the Federal Election that is soon upon us, I am still of the belief that the Liberal National Coalition will retain government.

Labor has not fared well and has not won the hearts and minds of the majority of Australians. Labor still is in there with a chance, but they will have to lift their game if they wish to remain politically competitive and demonstrate that their policies are better than those of the current government.

In closing, I would like to state that I have expressed my opinion, right or wrong, and therefore I am on the record for a Liberal/Coalition government with a slim majority. The alternative is a Labor government that unfortunately is not endowed with the political assets and arsenal at this point in time to capture the hill upon which stands Parliament house. However, politics is a fickle and seductive master that anything is possible even up to the last day of the election campaign.

As always, be of good cheer, I have faith in the Australian people to make the right choice and not waste their vote needlessly. Stay strong, remain vigilant, fight the good fight and never give up.

Peter

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