

# OBJECTION

The Federal Redistribution 2009  
NSW



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Objection Number **123**

by

**Gulraj Chhugani, Editor, Gujarat Times**

**1 Pages**

**From:** Gujarat Times [editor@gujarattimes.com.au]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 2 September 2009 7:45 PM  
**To:** NSW Redistribution  
**Subject:** Abolishing of Reid Electorate



Australian Electoral Commission,  
Level 3, Roden Cutler House,  
24 Campbell Street,  
Haymarket, NSW 2000

Dear Committee Members,

Granville, Auburn and the surrounding areas could be described as the Bermuda triangle. An amalgamation of ethnic groups with one factor in common, low income.

Most people in our area have at least one of the following problems in their household. Welfare dependant, unemployed or partially employed. Refugees, overseas students, new immigrants. People who are not literate enough or familiar to our system to advocate for themselves are heavily reliant on Laurie Ferguson our local Member of Parliament to represent them and guide them through their problems. Work injuries and work related problems are also frequent in a working class community.

Laurie Ferguson, is also in many difficult cases for the residents, their last resort. Representatives from other electorates rely on his vast experience when dealing with difficult cases.

The people of this area live in harmony despite the cultural differences and all the other problems related to a low income society because our local political figure has played an important role in this respect. However, none can claim a better understanding of their specific problems, than Laurie Ferguson.

When the electorate of Reid is redistributed to other electorates, the problematic community will seem not to exist because the votes will be disbursed to other electorates. In reality though, it will be inconspicuously exist. On the outskirts of three electorate boundaries, will be formed, a category of low income people of various first generation ethnic migrants and all the baggage of the combination.

Abolishing Reid electorate generates a serious social problem. It complicates an overview for particular needs of the existing multicultural Australian citizens and non-citizens segregated in Granville, Auburn, Merrylands and bordering surrounding suburbs.

Adding insult to the injury for the residents of Reid, is not only to have an electorate of enormous historical significance abolished, but to also deprive an electorate to a political figure Laurie Ferguson, who is considered by the people of our area their most significant political representative for his understanding of their specific needs. The most demeaning of all, for the population of our area, is to have their local history ignored. Reid electorate is named after the late Prime Minister reminding and inspiring the people of this electorate his accomplishments. He is honored by the people by maintaining his name and this honor should not be eliminated.

*Gulraj Chhugani*

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