



Objection 227

Amy Duncan

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Dear Sir/Madam,

As a representative of a community group where many of us in our seventies and eighties have been meeting for several years in the federal seat of Hotham. Many of us although in Hotham come from places such as Dingley, Clarinda, Clayton, Highett, Springvale and Springvale South but we are all within a short distance by car or public transport to be able to meet on a regular basis. This get together is very important to all of us as we have known each other for many, many years.

We lobbied for the local swimming pool that was going to be demolished as a community we were concerned at the time there was a big drug problem amongst our young people in the Clayton/Springvale area. We were able to be successful with the swimming pool, as well as a gymnasium also a centre for young people where they could seek help with many medical and personal problems. This centre has grown and we even now have a theatre where many of us attend plays and also a library which is used to the hilt by most of our community. Another issue that we have also dealt with and lobbied for is to make sure that the local garbage tip was not going to create a health problem for our local community. In this we lobbied the council in our areas, and eventually were able to keep our environment reasonably healthy. The other issue is the retention of green wedges within Springvale, Dingley, and Dandenong. These have become the lungs for our community and something we feel very proud of. Now with the proposed distribution, we are going to lose many people who will be located outside of Hotham. We have become a very close family and share and support each other with personal family issues and many other social issues on a regular basis. Should these changes to the boundary be confirmed for Hotham, it will cause great dislocation in our community due to lose of contact with each other and also several members of our local council, Parliament and other representative bodies for advocacy. At the moment we are able to seek help and support from the aforementioned and this has given us great confidence.

We thank you for the opportunity to explain our situation and hope you will consider our submission.

Yours Faithfully,

Amy Duncan