



Working with broad coalitions of community organisations to defend clients' rights

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Overview

- Voter ID laws campaign (Emily)
- Queensland criminal justice reforms (James)
- Traditional freedoms (Rachel)
- Campaign planning workshop

About voter ID laws



Queensland's voter ID journey

Voter ID laws announced (July 2013)



Bill released/Parliamentary scrutiny (Dec/Jan)

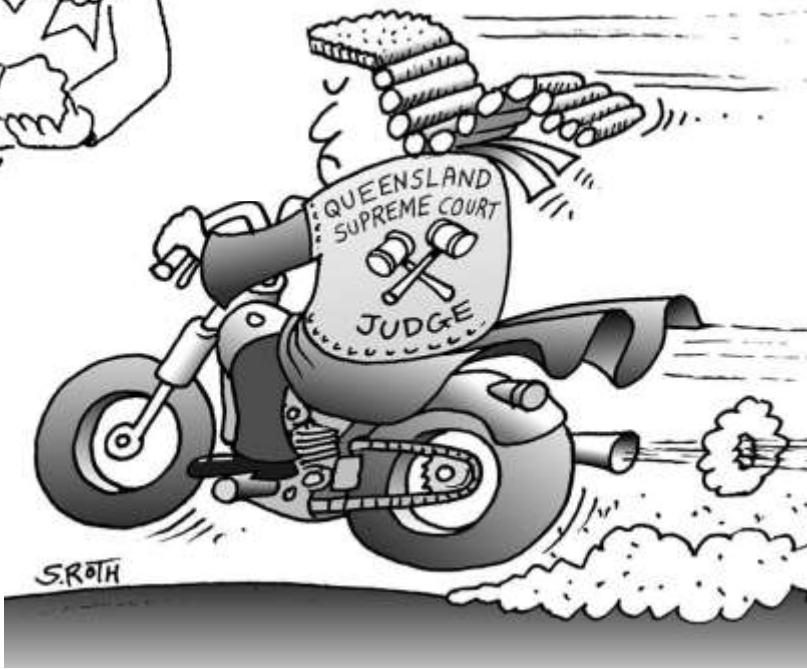


Voter ID laws passed (May 2014)

Impact

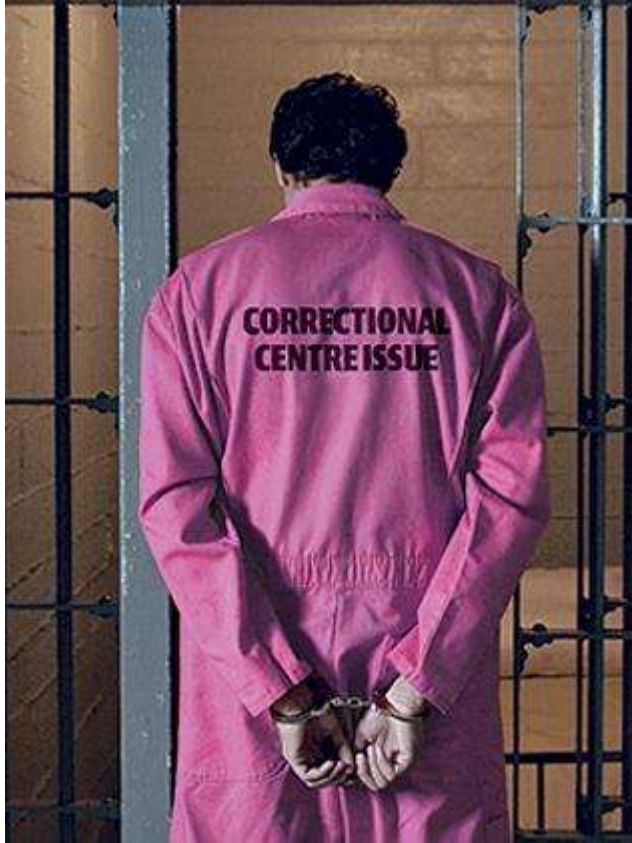


HARSH SENTENCES
FOR MINOR
OFFENCES ARE
WHAT THIS
COUNTRY WAS
BUILT ON!



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Criminal law reforms

- VLAD
- Anti-bikies legislation
- Dangerous sex offenders
- Party powers
- Mandatory sentencing
- ‘Separation of powers??’

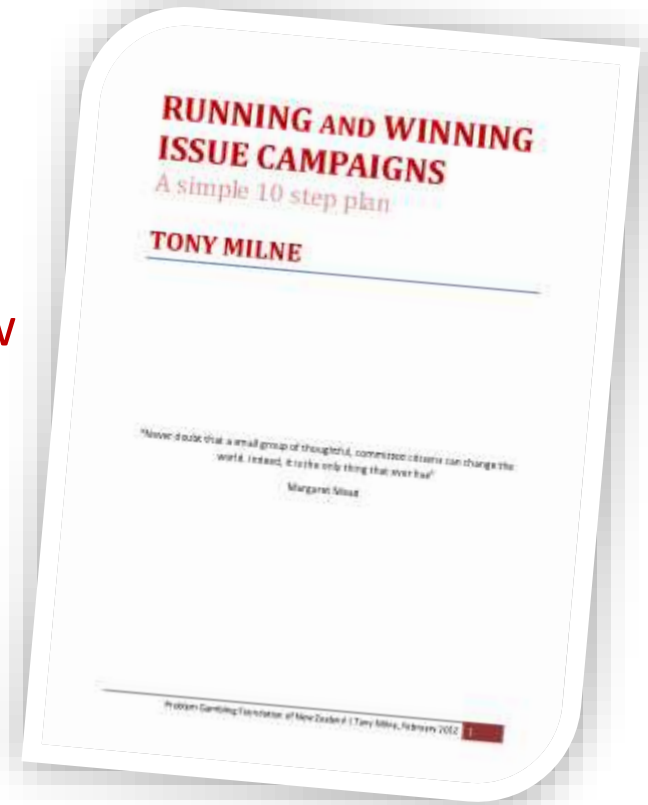
Youth justice changes

- Boot camps
- Breach of bail
- Changes to the Childrens Court
- Publication of Childrens Court matters
 - Media
 - Criminal records
- ~~Detention as a last resort~~
- Appeals against sentences → District Court
- Transfer of 17yos to adult prisons

Balanced Justice



1. Form a campaign team – a small but committed group
2. Understanding the timing and context is crucial
3. Gather intelligence: identify allies and know your opponents
4. Define the goals – what does victory look like?
5. Identify what resources you have and what resources you'll need
6. Understand the decision makers and how you will influence them
7. Frame the debate - develop your theme, message and slogan
8. Tell stories - include personal stories and consumer stories
9. Choose the right tools that fit your resource
10. Evaluate and review



Form a campaign team

a small but committed group



A graphic consisting of an orange rectangular background with a white rectangular label in the center. The label has the word "STEP" written vertically on the left and the number "02" in a large, bold font on the right. The label has a slight shadow and a pointed right edge, giving it a 3D effect.

STEP

02

Understanding the
timing and context
is crucial

Step 3:



Gather intelligence

Identify allies and know your opponents



Define the goals





What resources do we have?

What resources do we need?

**Who is the
decision
maker?**

**how do you influence
Them?**



Step 6



Frame

the debate

**Tell
stories**





Step 10:

Evaluation and monitoring



Traditional Freedoms

- Good: traditional freedoms are “protection from the abuse of power by government against individuals”.
- Bad: traditional freedoms undermine modern human rights protections by entrenching existing power relationships.
- Ludicrous: inconvenient freedoms.

GEORGE BRANDIS, the ABBOTT GOVT and

FREE SPEECH

RESTRICT the speech of:

- **ACADEMICS**

(funding cut if Abbott Govt deems their work "ridiculous")

- **ENVIRONMENTALISTS**

(plans to remove right to secondary boycotts)

- **PM PUBLIC SERVANTS**

(can't discuss politics on social media and must dob in colleagues that do)

- **PALESTINE SUPPORTERS**

(funding cut for even expressing support for BDS)

- **ASYLUM SEEKERS**

(a million ways)

- **JOURNALISTS**

(journos shouldn't run stories that don't side with the "home team")

- **REFUGEES**

("Code of Behaviour" limits their ability to attend protests... or cuss in public)

- **FACEBOOK USERS**

(Immigration Dept threatened an Australian woman for criticising a Dept worker on her own FB wall)

- **WEST PAPUA INDEPENDENCE SUPPORTERS**

(Abbott promised Indonesia that he would "do everything that we possibly can to discourage" them)

- **COMMUNITY LAWYER**

(no longer allowed to freely speak on law reform)

FREE the speech of:

- **RACISTS**



Risks and opportunities

- Risk: human rights are side-lined
- Opportunity: holding Government to its promise
 - ALRC inquiry
 - Tim Wilson's freedom tour
 - stand-alone advocacy and campaigns