

# CLIMATE CHANGE & SOCIAL JUSTICE SENATE VOTING GUIDE

Don't let the names fool you – the long list of parties standing for the Senate are not always as they seem. The buffet of political offerings ranges from far left Trotskyites to far-right extreme Nazis and just about everything in between. There are so many choices that most of us just wing our vote above the line and go get a coffee. But a careless choice could see your little vote end up in unexpected and alarming places. And, yes, it does matter. Unlike in the lower house, the Senate is a place where smaller parties such as The Greens or \*gulp\* One Nation can hold the balance of power, having a big say over the direction Australia takes over the next three years. To help you navigate these treacherous waters, *The Echo* has written our own, unashamedly biased, cheat sheet for NSW voters (interstate there are some different parties on offer). Good luck one and all!

Group	Party name	The gist of it	Good/bad
A	Rise Up Australia Party	Islamophobes	BAD
B	Help End Marijuana Prohibition (HEMP) Party	Harmless hippies who like pot	GOOD
C	Health Australia Party	Battling against big pharma, pro-choice	GOOD
D	Liberal & National	Neoliberals, capitalists and corporate sycophants	BAD
E	Pirate Party	Civil libertarian progressives; for digital privacy	GOOD
F	Affordable Housing Party	Progressives with a narrow focus on housing	GOOD
G	The Greens	Lots of excellent policies for a better future	GOOD
H	Shooters, Fishers and Farmers	Gun totin' rednecks and friends	BAD
I	Australian People's Party	Tinkering with the tax system, feels distinctly iffy	BAD
J	Labor/Country Labor	Lesser of two evils if you like your politics binary	GOOD
K	Socialist Alliance	Let's topple the imperial capitalist elites, comrades!	GOOD
L	The Together Party	A bit like the Greens only funnier	GOOD
M	Australian Conservatives	Far-right neoliberal bigots	BAD
N	The Great Australian Party	Fascist disruptors	BAD
O	Fraser Anning's Conservative National Party	Nazi goreng	BAD
P	Christian Democratic Party (Fred Nile Group)	Christian fundamentalist zealots	BAD
Q	Independents For Climate Action Now	Climate emergency action is the only issue	GOOD
R	Liberal Democrats	Neoliberal and not very democratic	BAD
S	Pauline Hanson's One Nation	Standing up for racists since 1996	BAD
T	The Women's Party	Parliament certainly needs more women	GOOD
U	Seniors United Party of Australia	Baby boomers who want a bigger slice of the pie	BAD
V	Socialist Equality Party	Socialist utopians	GOOD
W	Australian Workers Party	Progressives primarily for workers' rights	GOOD
X	Australian Better Families	Family-friendly social justice crusaders	GOOD
Y	Involuntary Medication Objectors (Vaccination/Fluoride) Party	Anti-vaxxers	HMMM...
Z	United Australia Party	Clive Palmer's vanity project	BAD
AA	Democratic Labour Party	Catholic overtones	BAD
AB	Climate Action! Immigration Action! Accountable Politicians!	Direct democracy populist disruptors	HMMM...
AC	Animal Justice Party	Vegans	GOOD
AD	VOTEFLUX.ORG   Upgrade Democracy!	Direct democracy 2.0	HMMM...
AE	Science Party	Making a better society using the scientific method	GOOD
AF	Citizens Electoral Council	All kinds of crazy ideas, climate change deniers	BAD
AG	Sustainable Australia	Blaming immigration for all of our problems	BAD
AH	Australian Democrats	Not quite keeping the bastards honest since 1977	HMMM...
AI	The Small Business Party	Business lobbyists	BAD
UG	Ungrouped	Go ahead and throw your vote away	HMMM...