#### A WEEKLY COMMENTARY



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The Price of Freedom is Eternal Vigilance

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## The L.A. Fires, Climate Catastrophe & Other Problems By Neville Archibald

I have been witnessing the news reporting of many different incidents around the world. This of course is not something new, we have had large scale disasters and the aftermath to live through since we first created human settlements. Mankind has created, in many cases, a ripe environment for danger to himself and then had to learn the hard way, from nature, what he should have done better.

Whether we are talking fire, flood or famine, each problem we have faced has been considered and methods to avoid future occurrences have been developed. In the case of fire, the great fire of London, like the great plague, was largely caused by close settlement, combustible materials and little planning for fire extinguishing. With straw and animal feed for the horses that society relied on, as well as wooden buildings and poor refuse removal, you could say that the city of London at that time was ripe for destruction. Town planning and infrastructure development followed, with better building codes and the use of the observation of the things that helped to make it such a destructive time.

Likewise here in Australia our fire-prone country has seen the slow development of ways to minimise the impacts on our lives. Examination of reasons and preventative measures taken should have resulted in less damage being done. Not building in forest areas, clearing away overgrowth and debris regularly and having provision of water to combat an approaching fire, along with an active fire service and watchers to ensure we can stamp them out early.

Floods have also been a problem, with people building on flood plains or in areas often subject to extreme inundation at times. We have tamed mighty rivers with dams in the upper catchments and weirs or lakes to provide, not just reliable water, but also some form of flood mitigation. The ability to hold back a certain

amount of excess seasonal or unseasonable rainfall and let it go in a more controlled manner. This does not mean mother nature cannot surprise us at times, but that we are better prepared and able to cope in most cases.

Other forms of control that our society needs, like food reserves have also been largely dealt with. Since the Egyptian Pharaoh listened to the words of Joseph and stored food enough to feed his people, we have endeavoured to wipe out famine also. Our ability to share in world wide reserves and help each other in bad times has grown, as has our ability to ramp up production quickly. Famine, unless induced by war should be a thing of the past, abundance in other areas means enough can be found if need be.

When I look at the news reports and think back over the recent past, (the last twenty or so years), I see a change in the way we respond. Thorough investigation into why and how to deal with catastrophe was always the response: prevention of future occurrence, highest on the list. This seems to have taken a turn and reporting as well as reviews held later, seem less inclined to speak of any of the true reasons for it happening. The words 'Climate Change' slips off the tongue easily, more easily than responsible reporting on other potential reasons. With the recent L.A. fires, I heard Climate change, along with lack of rainfall, also Climate change, being the main culprits. That the climate induced it, is taken for granted, and the sighing about it, makes it look like this is what we are now in for if we don't do something about it (net zero). That is the over-riding message coming through. Our media has become lazy in their reporting, using pictures and soundbites to lure us to view, but no longer doing any real investigative work behind the scenes to attempt to explain why it is so bad. The 'climate change' response is so easy to trot out, and associated online statistics are so easy to reproduce. Who now goes out and looks at anything else? How bad was the build up that fed the fire? Was there less provision for fighting it? Is the area too densely settled or poorly planned? What can we do differently?

These are questions that seem to be beyond media's ability these days. Beyond political ability too, as the easy solution is to blame simply, something beyond our control, no votes to be lost or blame to be apportioned. Some attempts are made to explain the more obvious reasons, but the societal problems we face are more easily blamed on something that is too big to be able to find one scapegoat, one set of policies that might have contributed to it. No, the obvious answer is to blame society itself and our collective greed. We want too much! Besides, our policies couldn't be wrong, could they? We are an enlightened civilization!

Civilizations have come and gone over mankind's history. Each rise has been followed by prosperity, laxity and decline. The average length of many has been about the same, ten generations from rise to fall.

Read, Sir John Glubb: *The Fate of Empires*. For a short summary and commentary.

https://alor.org/Storage/Library/PDF/Glubb\_J-The\_Fate\_of\_Empires.pdf

We, as a civilization, are really no different than those that have been before us. If we look at recent catastrophes, we see parallels across the western world, not just with fires. Has our society reached our point of decline? Are we on this downward spiral to collapse? Who will rise out of the ashes?

Sir John Glubb lists the stages of a civilization in his short work, it gives us much to ponder, a stark reminder the we, the 'space age' civilization are not immune to this cycle.

Stage 1, the age of the pioneers

- 2, the age of conquests
- 3, the age of commerce
- 4, the age of affluence
- 5, the age of intellect
- and 6, the age of decadence.

We have seen the first five and I suggest we are in that sixth one now. This last, associated with defensiveness, pessimism, materialism, frivolity, an influx of foreigners, the welfare state and a weakening of religion. He mentions also, three things that I see as more personal faults arising out of society's collapse: selfishness, love of money and the loss of a sense of duty towards our own society.

For us to believe that we are immune from collapse, is to deny the past. Other ancient builders of great things probably thought so too. The builders of the pyramids and the societies that created giant stone cities (something that we would struggle to do even today), probably thought they too were incapable of collapse. Many of the technologies we have today would struggle to recreate what they made. Oh! I don't doubt that we could duplicate them, but at the point in which we find ourselves now, we are struggling to come to terms with the distinction between male and female, let alone the effective management of our lives. We have fallen into a depressed form of achievement. We are in what Glubb calls the 'discussion' stage, where we spend endless time talking about perceived truths and trying to become 'enlightened beyond sensibility'. What we are trying to achieve by this I am unsure. Rather than focus ourselves on the real world and craft it to suit us (responsibly and sustainably), we are living in an artificial construct, navel gazing and trying to discover the infinite varieties of humans that exist. Trying to define all manner of insanities that fail to stand up to close scrutiny in the real world around us. Thus, it is in that real world and our interaction with it, that we see the greatest of disconnects

Back to that real world, the L.A. fires and the resultant tragedy that is unfolding. A city being devastated by wild fire, leaving untold misery and destruction in its wake. The disruption of millions of lives in one small area. With a population of many millions, this is not a stretch of imagination. How has it come to this?

News reports and Government comments have been fairly predictable with the 'climate' being the biggest reason; failures of individuals, while mentioned, are less

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the problem than the, 'it's your own fault for living beyond your means', problem affecting the planet.

#### What are some of the truths behind this?

The (Greater) Los Angeles <u>County</u> population in the late seventies was around 7.5 million. The water supply at that point was showing signs of being overextended. Fast forward to now, where they have a population of 9.7 million, and that same water supply has barely increased in size, in fact, green policies have seen a lot of the recent excess rains run to the sea rather than being saved for use. New dams or water diversions have been on hold or actively stopped, despite that enormous population increase. How do you account for this? Surely infrastructure improvement should follow, or better yet precede, the population rise!

Add to that the vegetation restrictions and management. This area has seen a large rise in eucalyptus and other non native 'drought tolerant' species. When I was there in the late 80s-early 90s I was amazed at the number of gums around.

Forest management, like here in Australia, has been subject to green policy that is not truly embedded in the real world. Lack of undergrowth clean up, little to no fuel reduction burnings and the expansion of fire prone species, meant that management needed to be done properly. To live within environments like these, means taking threats of fire seriously.

Fire department heads have come under some scrutiny for spending vast sums on gender equality and diversity, rather than focusing on what the job actually entails: preparedness for fighting fires! (time spent by senior management pushing hard for better water availability for one). Having no water at the cities hydrants or serious lack of pressure, makes what fighting can be done ineffective at best. There are many day to day city management problems that have been building too. Homelessness and cardboard encampments have risen and have not been seen as the danger they are. Add to that the general 'dirtiness' and lack of pride found in the city and you get rubbish in the streets and unkempt backyards (this latter is also due to lack of time and money to maintain property). In a vast, spread out city like L.A. with all its traffic problems, time and ability to respond is paramount, as is what I would call, just general housekeeping.

Instead of managing the environment for people to live in it, the prevailing thought now seems to be that we are the problem and we no longer deserve to be here. We have intellectualised the thought that the 'planet' is more entitled to exist in its natural state (whatever that looks like) than we are to live with it. A complete disconnect from the reality of how we are to live. Little to no alternative provision for human settlement is discussed in these green policies, just nature being left alone.

So I see these fires as little more than result of policy. Policy that fails humans each time. Are they elsewhere in the world? Yes! We saw flooding in Australia in 2022 that was the direct result of overfull dams in the catchments and poor management. The inquiry into it, focused on how to clean up better next time, I kid you not! Fires here are also subject to poor forest management and ill prepared lead

up into the 'fire season'. Each time the issues are raised and pointed out, the Climate change charge is trotted out. Mismanagement or policy failure is washed away by, essentially a 'prepare for more' scenario. 'We are helpless unless we meet net zero'. As if that will magically halt all destruction by nature.

These catastrophes waiting to happen are indicators of where we are at this point in time. We spend a lot of time and energy on the frivolous, we concentrate on selfish concerns like being easily offended by words and wanting legislation to ban them, on the pursuit of monetary gain and little on any form of service to the society that we live in.

In a more important vein, if we are in this descent into decadence, can we recognise it and turn it around? Can we halt the rise of greed and selfishness by the few who push it hardest? Are we too enmeshed in the framework of this decadence to pull ourselves out and insist on once again thinking of societal benefit and our future, rather than our own immediate needs? Can we replace the self serving leadership/dictators with those who are willing to bring this civilization back on track to advance further, rather than fall back into decline.

I give you three quotes from Glubb, near the end of his twenty six pages:

'In a wider national sphere, the survival of the nation depends basically on the loyalty and self-sacrifice of the citizens. The impression that the situation can be saved by mental cleverness, without unselfishness or human self-dedication, can only lead to collapse.'

'Indeed it often appears in individuals, that the head and the heart are natural rivals. The brilliant but cynical intellectual appears at the opposite end of the spectrum from the emotional self-sacrifice of the hero or the martyr. Yet there are times when the perhaps unsophisticated self-dedication of the hero is more essential than the sarcasms of the clever.'

### This last quote to me says it all:

'Men are interminably different, and intellectual arguments rarely lead to agreement. Thus public affairs drift from bad to worse, amid an unceasing cacophony of argument. But this constant dedication to discussion seems to destroy the power of action. Amid a Babel of talk, the ship drifts on to the rocks.'

Sir John Glubb: *The Fate of Empires*.

#### https://alor.org/Storage/Library/PDF/Glubb\_J-The\_Fate\_of\_Empires.pdf

God is a trinity, a relational structure. Every work of the devil is to divide us into warring camps - Trump vs Harris, Ukraine vs Russia, Israel vs Palestine, Sport team A vs Sport team B, Liberal vs Labor, Democrat vs Republican, Husband vs Wife, Young vs Old. Resolution is to be found in upholding this relational structure, of community, of discussion, love if you like.

### The Benefit of Hindsight By Arnis Luks

The wildfires in California reflect the level of destruction that wrong policy, and/ or inadequate planning and thinking, can achieve. I recently travelled along the east coast of Australia, south to north and back again, and there were homes in forested areas that had been equipped with a sprinkler system around the perimeter of the roof, supplied from buried water tanks, and a remote started, independently powered, pump. There was also the clearing of grounds and a lawned area around the home perimeter to ensure a low fuel load. This type of remote and autonomous firefighting system can be operated from the other side of the world via the internet if it is fully automated. While this system guarantees nothing, it's functionality at the critical time could prove decisive. Construction materials used for the home is also another decisive factor to consider when planning to minimise the effects of a firestorm.

When the firestorm went through the Adelaide Hills in 1980, some 45 years ago, I was several miles away from the front at my home observing the pathway of carnage, including a fuel depot going up. Across several years, I travelled through the affected areas and observed the regrowth, and the rebuild. Houses were retrofitted with independent water supplies and a sprinkler system for firefighting. This was SOP to achieve construction-permits and home-insurance.

#### **Preparedness and Planning**

Just before each fire season before the beginning of summer, I ensure the fire water tank is full, prime the fire pump and hose with water, check oils and fuels on the motor, and run the system for an hour recirculating back to the fire water tank (once the system is thoroughly flushed). I also draw the firehose out to its extremity, to check the range of coverage in the event of a real fire. I have clothes especially suited to cover my full body for protection. Goggles are also important, as the smoke can certainly limit your ability to function under duress. This does several important things as part of the preparation of summer. Firstly, it reinforces SOP Standard Operating Procedure for using the fire protection system. It also ensures the equipment is serviceable for use, and, is available almost at a moment's notice.

While I have trained with professional members of the fire department across many years as part of my training within the oil and gas industry, I still need to reassess the plan and strategies with changes in my own circumstances. Electrical isolation requirements for instance, change with the introduction of solar, batteries and even wind power.

A mud map of the important electrical isolation points has been placed within the main electrical switch board which the fire department would be keenly interested in, had they a need to address a fire within my home. In the kitchen, it is good practice to have access to a fire blanket, or woollen blanket, for smothering oil-fires. Evacuation and abandonment, for me, is not the only part of my plan. Preparedness beforehand is.

When I first joined the RAN Royal Australian Navy 1970, wildfires were

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occurring on the greater outskirts of Sydney, not far from where I was based. I was sent as part of an inexperienced team to support the CFS Country Fire Service.

At one point I stood several hundred metres from the boundaries of a forest while the fire storm approached. The flames, to my mind went at least 100m into the air. The heat and smoke, even from several hundred metres away, was intense. The noise, the angry cracks and fury of the firestorm, swirling surges of the increasingly aggressive wind patterns, all added to the terror of the situation.

How could you possibly consider holding your ground under circumstances like that? That is a valid question of which each man and woman must answer for themselves

### **Artificial Intelligence Induced Jobs Carnage**

I have come across several articles on driverless tractors and other automated machinery for modern farming. These facilities (of satellite positioning, sensors to control the processes, and driverless control) can be retro-fitted to some modern tractors. Modern technology is doing away with labour. Paddocks could be fenced, ploughed, seeded, sprayed and harvested, by driverless, automated machinery. This is not a thing of the future, it is happening now. Advanced control machinery can be set and then almost forgotten (monitored for standard tolerances).

Heavy machinery operating within mine sites are also becoming increasingly driverless. Virtual doctors are attending patients, as could teachers and preachers. Lawyers, no doubt, are, or will soon be doing the same.

If we only narrowly focus on the diminishing distribution of wages through reduced employment opportunities; to consider this affect only, we will miss this golden opportunity to take a significant cultural and civilisational step forward. This is the neo-Liberal and Libertarian focus, of increased profits and reduced costs/wages by the replacement of human labour with AI/Robotics and automation. The producer/manufacturer may also achieve a reduced market share as the available spending power in the community will be reduced by less employment opportunities. Whyalla, with the closed-down shipyard and power generation, and now with the significantly reduced steel production, is a ready example. With all those industries going elsewhere, and now with total wages significantly reduced for the townsfolk, this has a flow on affect to many, many other businesses in the greater surrounding area, without further employment opportunities with new projects.

But what happens with those who lose their employment, or never achieve a job at all? What of them? They have done nothing to deserve destitution, but that will be their fate. We should be looking very carefully at this moment in time, as we could miss the wood for the trees, a golden opportunity to reset the financial system, to make it an equitable system of distribution that could reconcile 'prices' at the marketplace without incurring debt. For Whyalla folk, which is close to home and still current, this question has 'gone begging for considered thinking' for 50 years. The Luddites responded by smashing machinery to maintain a viable income.

There was little considered thinking at that First Industrial Revolution. Only the short-term goal of increased profits, as is the same today by the Liberals and Libertarians alike. Promises of 'smaller government' by the Liberals, is code for ready access for exploitation - looting, at the expense of the disenfranchised voting public. The voting public are feeling the hot-flame of ever-increasing taxes to make up the shortfall from a diminishing tax base as jobs disappear. Look at Victoria.

Nuclear power generation is also promoting monopoly, at the expense of our abundant coal reserves and thousands upon thousands of ancillary jobs from the smaller workshops and service providers that support that primary industry.

NewHope chairman Robert Millner says Australia must cut red and green tape!

New Hope will ramp up its New Acland coal mine after striking a legal deal around water use, ending more than a decade of litigation

Peter Dutton speaks from confused thinking, or maybe a forked tongue. He and the coalition represent the mega-wealthy's interests only. He is following the same policy as Malcolm Fraser did in 1975, but under a different name. Eventually, but not before the next election, this policy will drive his voter base towards the welfare/socialist monopoly of the Labor party, just as the Labor Party policy (welfare and taxes) is deliberately driving their voter base towards less government (which never equates to less taxes for the average voter). Victorian tax rates have eroded confidence with their socialist government, and they cannot identify any alternative, let alone a legitimate option of less (smaller) government AND less (smaller) taxes.

However, there has been considered thinking with the work of CH Douglas as to the ramifications of this Fourth Industrial Revolution – AI and Robotics with little or no labour requirements. It's no longer a question of manufacturing. We can set the machines to work and produce all the goods that is necessary. It's now a question of an equitable <u>distribution</u> system that balances 'prices' with 'available spending'.

Wages, salaries and dividends are insufficient to purchase what we make. The custodians of the fraudulent financial system have been progressively garnishing this cultural inheritance from the industrial arts, which rightfully belongs to us all, unto themselves since the first industrial revolution. This cultural inheritance needs to be distributed equitably, so that the community can buy what machines and robotics can produce. We can't stop this wave of progress, and nor should we. We must accommodate it and serve every individual in this accommodation. This requires a financial dispensation – to all, equally, so we can purchase from the economy what the economy can produce, and without incurring debt - both held in equilibrium.

This policy of decentralised purchasing power, just as voting (theoretically) offers decentralised political power. There will still be those who are able to game the system to their advantage, no doubt, but if everyone is assured of adequate food on the table, living in a home of their own, while being debt free and devoid of exploitive taxes, who cares!

Peter Dutton is warning Australia may never recover if Labor is re-elected at this year's federal election. Peter Dutton says the election of a Coalition government this year will be the 'last chance' to reverse the economic and social decline of Australia, as he begins his campaigning in 2025 in the Melbourne seat of Chisholm.

The Douglas proposal of a National Dividend distributed equally to every member of society, is designed to make up the chronic shortfall of spending power, to purchase what is produced, and, without incurring further debt - irredeemable.

The Douglas proposal of a Consumer Price Subsidy ensures that inflationary pressures are held in abeyance, (as was done during WWII), so the value of the currency is stabilised - permanently.

The Douglas proposal - of the establishment of a National Credit Authority, (being separate from the permanent bureaucracy and government), would be constituted by Letters Patent, or a Royal Commission or Royal Warrant.

Acting autonomously from bureaucratic and government interference, a National Credit Authority performing a regular assessment of the available spending power to the public (from wages, salaries and dividends), compared to a regular assessment of all prices at the market place (produced goods from the economic system), would enable the National Credit Authority to set the value of the National Dividend based on this shortfall of spending power. If the nation chooses to de-industrialise, the National Dividend would be reduced accordingly. If the nation chooses to reindustrialise, the National Dividend would be increased accordingly, to compensate for the increase in production of available goods – reflected in total 'prices'.

## Universal Basic Income is No Option At All - Just Bigger Government

The spurious proposal of a Universal Basic Income UBI, is a tax-based redistribution of existing spending power. This does not make up the shortfall of total spending power available to the community, to ensure future and accrued debts (from manufacturing and services) are reconciled. All new money coming into existence into the economic system is 'borrowings' from central banks. No new money is issued by Treasury to offset this lack of spending power to purchase what is produced. Proposing that governments issue a UBI is not a decentralising policy, but rather a capitalist/socialist duopoly - cradle to grave bureaucratic interference with the economy and the public - called socialism.

If some consideration is directed towards these Douglas proposals, and more detailed thoughts arrive, there is an animated-video-series - 'Douglas Social Credit' available on the Rumble video service here: https://rumble.com/c/c-1018734, that goes some length to explain these concepts in a more detailed fashion. These short-animated-lessons build progressively to develop the thinking of the willing student. The several ALOR online libraries also provide an abundance of written and well researched analysis of the Douglas' proposals, to consolidate knowledge of this novel science of the 'Social Credit'.

There is also the weekly 'thecross-roads.org' Broadcast and Podcast available from the front page of 'alor.org', along with the most current issues of the journals *On Target* and *New Times Survey*.

To compliment all these digital services is the online bookshop *VeritasBooks.org* which carries many important and difficult to obtain printed titles. The truth is: there is an embarrassment of affordable resources available for the willing student.

Poilievre and Dutton are taking a stand for pragmatic working-class conservatism

— (yea right says Arnie Luks!!)

https://www.afr.com/politics/federal/poilievre-and-dutton-are-taking-a-stand-for-pragmatic-working-class-conservatism-20250110-p5l3cn

Both opposition leaders in Canada and Australia have little concern for the progressive agendas and opinions of affluent elites, writes Matthew Doman for the Australian Financial Review.

The opposition leader Peter Dutton is currently marketing himself (and the Liberal party) to the Australian electorate as the only viable alternative to the Labor socialists. Truth be known, he is also promoting monopoly, just as/were the Liberal predecessors Scott Morrison, Malcolm Turnbull, Tony Abbott, and John Howard. Even Robert Menzies described himself as a practical socialist. Neo-Liberalism and Libertarianism offer monopoly in another form, but monopoly none the less.

The average Joe or Mary does not stand to inherit the earth, but, is promised a spot in the park, or on the sidewalk, as they scramble for any type of existence sleeping in the streets, while the robots and AI produce all the goods and services necessary – increasing profits for the monopolists. Liberals provide no resolution nor considered thinking to the AI/Robotic phenomena (approaching as a runaway steam-train to all types of jobs across the world). The Lima Declaration was short-sighted, and thoroughly promoted and advanced by the Liberal PM Malcolm Fraser (John Howard as Treasurer) and every other Liberal leader since 1975. Labor has promoted the policies of the Socialist International, the UN as world government, and Fabián Socialism ever since the Hawke era. Both parties promoting monopolies, at the expense of the public – the average Joe and Mary and their families.

### **Fixed Term Parliaments Not Any Better**

With Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announcing his conditional-resignation as leader of their (socialist-ed) Liberal party and also proroguing the Canadian Parliament while the entire membership of their Liberal Party goes through the selection process of the new leader, the Canadian government is placed in caretaker mode for several months, possibly till the fixed 4 year term election falls due in October. In Australia the unpopular Federal Labor government appears to be limping slowly to an election due no later than May 2025, four months away. Australia, as does Canada, needs a federal election sooner rather than later.

Joe Biden was absent from the USA Presidential Election Campaign.

British Prime Minister Keir Starmer was elected July last year, achieving only 33.7% of the popular vote (the lowest on record), and has become a huge liability

for the Labor party as he was the Director of Public Prosecutions, and Head of the Crown Prosecution Service which failed to prosecute the Asian paedophile grooming gangs who violated thousands of young girls and boys across Rotherham, South Yorkshire, Northern England, from the late 1980s until 2013. Being a fixed term Parliament as is USA and Canada, a national election in Britain is not due until August 2029, 4<sup>1</sup>/, years away. They also need an election now.

#### A National Recovery Program

No political party is promoting Australian independence, nor re-industrialisation, resourcefulness, self-reliance, nor is promoting any policy that would produce real jobs. No political party is even discussing amelioration of the irredeemable debts (due to the fraudulent financial system), just accepting that debts across multiple generations is the new norm - including national debts of just a trillion dollars or so.

Is any party advocating withdrawal from the political and economic powerbases of the UN and the TPP; not law, but, rules-based-order? These are the very questions and considerations towards policies for a National Recovery Program that will never be placed on the table for the public to legitimately decide at any election.

The problems are obvious and many, but the presented solutions offered up by the mainstream media while pressuring all political parties, never legitimately provides relief from, and resolves, these issues. We, the ordinary public, must provide our own alternative solutions to the many and varied problems (now correctly stated).

#### **Lines Of Defence**

The first line of defence for 'the money power versus the people', is political parties. They are captured by the money power and only present policy that is fed to them by the monopolised mainstream media.

The second line of defence for 'the money power versus the people' is the cartelised and monopolised industry, generally with headquarters located overseas and supporting manufacturing policy of 'interdependence' across all nations.

The third line of defence for 'the money power versus the people' is central banking, again located overseas, and if they get their way: all new credits will be provided exclusively by them for every nation, every industry, every retailer and every person, and only issued as a communist rewards-and-punishment system.

The core, the heart, the centre of this worldly-power, in 'the money power versus the people', are the families of 300, who rule the world. This centre of power is Luciferian and Occult - hidden.

Knowing this to be so, is only half an answer. We, the voting public, must provide countermeasures for each point of contact. Consistently regaining some effective influence from our current elected representative is only the first step, the first cab at the rank that needs to be successfully navigated over to get to the core. We, the voting public, must identify and implement a lasting mechanism, perhaps CIR in combination with open and public meetings, identify policies that result in effective solutions experienced on the ground. No small task for the days ahead. \*\*\*

#### **Constitutional Clarion on YouTube**

Prof Anne Twomey, University of Sydney, is producing regular videos on her YouTube channel about constitutional matters which I find relevant and of interest. While the work of former Australian High Court judge and Labor Attorney General HV Evatt have been part of my previous research, Prof Anne Twomey sets herself apart with more thoroughly researched titles, and a deeper consideration and appreciation of the subject matter, even compared to HV Evatt as former high court judge. The titles and subject matter she has researched and produced are not cheap, one being over \$150, which is a small price to pay in comparison to the pain experienced in the public arena or the courts if you're not thoroughly prepared.

The more I watch and listen, the more I read from her three titles, the more I am convinced she is much closer to the truths-of-constitutional-law that I am keenly interested in and drawn towards.

The first title '*The Chameleon Crown*' elaborated on the accommodating and changing nature, and descriptor of our monarchy.

The second title 'The Veiled Sceptre' is a mammoth work of some 860 pages which I am only halfway through, dealing with the reserve powers of Heads of State in the Westminster system. Prof Twomey has not limited her research to nations within the Commonwealth, but includes many examples of other nations whose legal framework of constitutional government is similar to the Westminster system.

The third title 'The Australia Acts 1986' - Australia's Statutes of Independence, is still to come. My understanding of these Acts has come from works by other noted writers on constitutional law. I am fortunate to also have access to an extended library, which carries constitutional law and legal theory back several hundred years. Should sufficient time allow, this is where I will go as the needs arise.

If you only have a little time watch the videos. If you share increasing interest in the subject and wish to know more, read the books. She has spent a good part of her lifetime researching, advising, debating across the bar, teaching at university level, and now informing the public on constitutional and legal matters of historical importance. She has set herself apart as a significant authority. I find, that on this compelling subject, Prof Anne Twomey is in a league of her own.

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# Essential Reading:

Descent into Slavery https://alor.org/Storage/Library/PDF/ Griffin\_D-Descent\_into\_Slavery.pdf

#### **Fourth Reich of The Rich**

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