



We The People

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We the People 287 The Decay of Australian Law and Order

Good Day to you. The pen is mightier than the sword but it takes a lot of ink to get the job done. It's a justice paradox just like Catch-22 which is a satirical novel by the American author Joseph Heller. He began writing it in 1953 and the novel's title refers to a plot device that is repeatedly invoked in the story. Catch-22 starts as a set of paradoxical requirements whereby airmen mentally unfit to fly did not have to, but could not actually be excused. By the end of the novel it is proposed as the explanation for many unreasonable and illogical circular restrictions. The phrase "Catch-22" has since entered the English language, referring to a type of unsolvable logic puzzle sometimes called a **double bind**. According to the novel, people who were crazy were not obliged to fly missions but anyone who applied to stop flying was showing a rational concern for their safety, and was sane.

Whistle blowers are pilloried in Australia, regardless of the laws which are supposed to protect them. They are often caught in a bureaucratic catch 22. There are many examples where ordinary people have fought protracted battles at great personal expense and ultimately financial and emotional loss, even when they succeed. Why these people raise the relentless courage to investigate and persist is at the very least outstanding and stridently Australian. The common denominator though is the bureaucratic and political barriers in place to prevent justice from occurring, these are the ramparts blocking the path of justice and they are placed there by various generations of bureaucrats. The catch 22 Fox is quite literally in charge of the hen house and inevitably the system ultimately refers all complaints back to the Fox for review which, not surprisingly, finds there is no case to answer.

In Australia's cumbersome and failing justice system and convoluted processes there is also no meaningful review or appeal possible in some cases. Even if there is, the process is time consuming and so onerously expensive there is no hope of justice for the average Australian. This situation is now so well entrenched it represents the decay of law and order in Australia by stealth at every level of government and their administrations. This is the frame in which the matter being raised now is about Australia's 'paradise', the Gold Coast of Queensland and why a self serving bloated Council has been untouchable. We the people must deal with this sham governance which specialises in the ultimate Catch 22, courtesy of the Campbell Newman State government. It was Newman who introduced a nasty little piece of work called the **'Partners in Government Agreement'** which gave an excessive level of autonomy to local councils where by the State will not usually intervene. This has had the affect of attracting little dictators, power brokers and shyster bureaucrats who love power and little accountability and so in real terms democracy erodes away in local councils at the direct expense of justice and fairness. Now you know why Councils are becoming so corrupt across the State and the Palaszczuk government knowingly lets that vile agreement stand. This means the Minister for local government sits back and watches the mess unfold at arm's length and only acts if something politically damaging occurs. This is where the whistle blower comes in and sometimes they blow the whistle on unscrupulous characters or systems which have failed and thank God for them. The courageous Whistle blowers reward is to be pilloried and shunned.....another catch 22.

I suppose we can sit in silence oblivious to all that goes on and simply say we don't trust them but that's not good enough any longer. The problems with bloated systems, expensive justice and nefarious characters infiltrating our democratic system must be addressed. It's time to radically change our thinking and demand honesty and integrity in government and administration. Our lives and the lives of our children will become more challenging and less rewarding if we let this political cancer spread further. The power to facilitate the change necessary lies with each of us and for those few courageous people who blow the whistle. I believe the two major political parties are utterly broken and not worthy of office because their actions tell us that. This is why they want to divide and conquer through misinformation. Don't be fooled and my advice is to ask the 'Drovers Dog' how we should run the country and you will get a common sense answer.

**Until next time this is Kent Bayley**

<https://www.dilgp.qld.gov.au/resources/policy/local-government/partners-in-government-agreement-2015.pdf>