

“We, The People”



We, The People is a series of narratives and opinion pieces about Australia and where possible, in matters which relate to the Gold Coast. These are issues which affect people today and tomorrow. The writer believes that we the people have abdicated authority to governments at all levels as apathy creeps into Australian society and where at times, people stand for little. Our children grow not knowing how government works and not knowing the importance of participating in a meaningful way in our democracy. President Reagan said, “as governments expand, liberty contracts” and indeed this must ring true today where indifference and social laziness are rampant.

The freedom we have has been won at a significant cost and yet we seem to be a lethargic nation at the grass roots level. So 4CRB is considering running this program each week to challenge the thinking of average Australians to participate in the workings of society and to ensure government carries out our wishes. We, the people run this country or we are supposed to and if we don't participate then we risk losing our basic rights and privileges as government and other imported cultures try and control the way we live beyond their charter.

We, The People will run about 3 minutes plus and inspire debate by challenging issues and providing an opinion. Being a community station there is more than adequate access for the average citizen to speak and that's in stark contrast to the fellow commercial contingent. This is an opportunity for 4CRB to become the champion of the people by promoting thought and ideas which do not conflict with Christianity.

This program is an expression of our freedom and our democracy and to quote, *“the freedom of political expression, freedom of speech, and freedom of the media are considered to be essential, so that citizens are adequately informed and able to vote according to their own best interests as they see them”*. Proper debate and information are essential to this process and to navigating a path into the future which preserves our standard of living and the health of the environment we all share.

The great Abraham Lincoln said in his Gettysburg address that democracy is *“Government of the people, by the people, for the people”* and so we have freedom of speech and must hold government to account at all levels. I will conclude this introduction with another quote from President Lincoln and which I have taken the liberty of using here about the fledgling radio program on offer, We, The People.....” *It is altogether proper that we do this”*

Kent Bayley