











































































































































































# Australian Christian Values Checklist

## 7 September 2013

### Federal Election

This summary of the positions of major parties on issues of concern to Christians is provided as a service to the Christian community. In the 2011 Census 61% of Australians identified themselves as Christian. On many welfare and social justice issues the party policies are very similar. Our aim is to deal with the moral and ethical issues that are rarely, if ever, discussed publically in an election campaign but which are important issues that affect the very foundation of our society. We deal with other issues on our website. The team that compiles the checklist make independent assessments and are not members of any political party. This checklist has been compiled after an exhaustive search of party websites, voting history and public statements. Space has not permitted the inclusion of other minor parties. Positions are often difficult to summarise in a format of this kind, and parties have not always made definitive statements. Therefore a '?' indicates in some instances a conscience vote, or a less than conclusive opinion on the party's position on some of the issues. Tick equals YES  X equals NO 

Christian Values Checklist	Australian Christians	DLP	Family First	Rise Up Australia	National	Liberal	Labor	Greens
1. Continue to open parliament each day with Christian prayer								
2. Support traditional family values and teach our Christian heritage in schools					 ?	 ?	 ?	
3. Support equitable funding for Christian and Private schools							 ?	
4. Family impact statement on bills tabled publically before vote in parliament				 ?	 ?	 ?		
5. Reduce divorce - provide free pre-marriage education for couples					 ?	 ?		
6. Help children - promote and support marriage over <i>de facto</i> co-habitation					 ?	 ?	 ?	
7. Help children - support presumption of equal parenting after divorce					 ?	 ?	 ?	
8. Protect vulnerable people - euthanasia to remain illegal					 ?	 ?	 ?	
9. Life is precious - oppose overseas aid for abortion					 ?	 ?		
10. Oppose Medicare funding for gender selected abortion					 ?	 ?		
11. Protect marriage & the future of our children - reject 'homosexual marriage'							 ?	
12. Support marriage - oppose homosexual civil unions & relationship registers					 ?	 ?	 ?	
13. Protect children - no overseas adoption by homosexual couples							 ?	
14. Protect free speech - oppose vilification laws - they limit free speech							 ?	
15. Keep liberty - allow religious bodies the freedom to choose their employees					 ?	 ?	 ?	
16. Increased funding for drug harm prevention & abstinence based programs					 ?	 ?		
17. Extend States ban on X-rated pornography to ACT & NT					 ?	 ?		
18. Protect our children - support ISP opt-out Internet filtering of pornography							 ?	
19. Stop the deaths of refugees at sea - support legitimate orderly immigration							 ?	
20. Reject carbon pricing - no benefit to families or environment								
21. Support greater care of God's environment								

**SECOND EDITION:** Released 21 August 2013 as public domain web information. Published by the Australian Christian Values Institute [www.christianvalues.org.au](http://www.christianvalues.org.au) in association with Salt Shakers [www.saltshakers.org.au](http://www.saltshakers.org.au) and the following organisations: National Alliance of Christian Leaders, Australian Family Association, NSW Right to Life, CultureWatch, National Marriage Coalition, Prayer Chapel Ministries, Choices of Life, Australian Indigenous Christian Ministries, Coalition Against Drugs, Cherish Life and Australian Federation for the Family. This checklist must not be altered in any way or reproduced with party political material and the name and address of printer must be included. Every attempt has been made to fairly and honestly represent the positions of all the political parties concerned. We welcome any documented corrections. Any enquiries should be directed to Australian Christian Values Institute [www.christianvalues.org.au](http://www.christianvalues.org.au) PO Box 378, UNANDERRA NSW 2506 or SALT SHAKERS, Email: [peter@saltshakers.org.au](mailto:peter@saltshakers.org.au) - Authorised by Warwick Marsh A1/227 Cordeaux Road, Mount Kembla NSW 2526

**Australian Christian Values Check List**  
**Federal Election - 7 September 2013**  
**BRIEF Supporting Statements**

Our responses are taken from Party platforms, public statements, media reports, voting records, etc. For more information on Party Policies please refer to individual Party websites or the Checklist. A full version of the 'Supporting Statements' is at: [www.christianvalues.org.au](http://www.christianvalues.org.au) The ACVL focuses on clear Biblical moral and ethical issues.

Naturally, we should apply our Christianity to every aspect of life and carefully analyse all party policies as well as the personal values of each candidate.

These Brief Supporting Statements can be copied on the BACK of the Christian Values Checklist

## **The Checklist Questions**

### **1. Continue to open parliament each day with Christian prayer**

All parties on the ACVCL except the Greens support the opening of parliament with Christian prayers.

### **2. Support traditional family values and teach our Christian heritage in schools**

Australian Christians, CDP, DLP, Family First and RUAP support the promotion of traditional family values and the teaching of our Christian heritage. Labor's 'national curriculum' does not teach Christian heritage.

### **3. Support equitable funding for Christian and Private schools**

The new 'Better Schools' program (Gonski) has offered new funding arrangements to both Private/Christian schools, and to the public schools. The Greens promote public education above private education.

### **4. Family impact statement on bills tabled publicly before vote in parliament**

CDP has a policy about Family Impact Statements (No 6 – policy). Family First supports Family Impact statements on Bills.

### **5. Reduce divorce - provide free premarriage education for couples**

CDP supports the provision of free marriage education for couples. Family First support programs to strengthen marriage and have supported free pre marriage counselling. Prior to the 2010 election, the Coalition announced a policy of providing a \$200 voucher to couples for pre-marriage education/counselling.

### **6. Help children - promote and support marriage over de facto co-habitation**

Australian Christians, CDP, DLP, Family First and RUAP all affirm the importance of marriage as the foundation for society and the best way of nurturing children.

Labor's National Platform (No 25) treats all relationships in the same way, stating, "Labor will ensure that all couples whether married or de facto do not suffer discrimination."

The Greens see all relationships as equal and actively promote same-sex 'marriage'.

### **7. Help children - support presumption of equal parenting after divorce**

Shared parenting was implemented by the Coalition and supported by Family First. It has been wound back under Labor.

Australian Christians propose mediation. The DLP supports "the immediate overhaul of the Family Court system to promote fairer outcomes for all parties."

### **8. Protect vulnerable people - euthanasia to remain illegal**

Euthanasia is a conscience issue for the Coalition and Labor. Family First, Australian Christians, DLP, and CDP all have specific policies opposing euthanasia. RUAP does not address it, but do have a strong pro-life stand.

The Greens aim to overturn the Andrews Bill which invalidated the NT euthanasia law and they promote euthanasia at the state level.

### **9. Life is precious - oppose overseas aid for abortion**

Australian Christians, CDP, DLP, Family First and RUAP all oppose abortion.

The Checklist questions Prior to 2007 election, the Coalition banned the use of overseas aid to fund abortions.

Family First – Steve Fielding supported the ban. This was overturned by Labor under Kevin Rudd.

The Coalition says there will be "no changes" on issues relating to abortion.

Senator Madigan (DLP) has questioned the use of overseas aid money to fund 'family planning' – so has Nationals Senator Boswell.

### **10. Oppose Medicare funding for gender selected abortion**

Australian Christians, CDP, Family First and RUAP all oppose abortion.

Senator John Madigan, of the DLP, introduced a Bill to this effect in the last parliament. CDP opposes all Medicare funding of abortion (source) – as do Australian Christians. The Coalition and Labor didn't support the DLP Bill. The Coalition has 'no plans' to change the law.

### **11. Protect marriage - reject party support for homosexual marriage**

Australian Christians, CDP, DLP, Family First and RUAP all oppose same-sex 'marriage'.

The Nationals "uphold the sanctity of marriage between a man and a woman."

Labor policy supports same-sex 'marriage'. In the vote in the Parliament in 2012, 26 Labor Members and 11 Labor Senators voted against same-sex 'marriage'.

Liberal – have had a policy opposing samesex 'marriage' prior to the 2010 election. Mr Abbott has said that, if the issue is raised after the election, the matter of a 'conscience vote' would be decided by the party room.

### **12. Oppose homosexual civil unions & relationship registers**

Labor supports civil unions/relationship registers. Liberal doesn't have a policy to support them, but some MPs have advocated them. The DLP has no mention of civil unions or relationship registers for homosexuals.

### **13. Protect children - no overseas adoption by homosexual couples**

Australian Christians, CDP, DLP, Family First and RUAP all oppose same-sex parenting.

The Coalition opposes this. Labor and the Greens have been supportive.

### **14. Protect free speech - oppose vilification laws - they limit free speech**

Australian Christians, CDP, DLP and RUAP and Liberal/Nationals all oppose vilification laws. Labor and the Greens support them.

### **15. Keep liberty - allow religious bodies the freedom to choose their employees**

Labor's proposed federal anti-discrimination laws remove some religious freedoms.

The Greens would remove all religious exemptions. All other parties on the ACVCL oppose laws that restrict religious freedom.

### **16. Increased funding for drug harm prevention & abstinence based programs**

The Coalition supports abstinence-based rehabilitation programs but Labor hasn't.

### **17. Protect children - extend States ban on X-rated pornography to ACT and NT**

The Coalition and Labor haven't acted on this. The Greens oppose the move.

### **18. Protect our children - support ISP optout Internet filtering of pornography**

CDP, Family First and the DLP have this as policy. Labor proposed it initially - the Coalition and the Greens opposed it.

### **19. Stop the deaths of refugees at sea - support legitimate orderly immigration**

Labor and Liberal similar policies of offshore processing to stop the boats. CDP, FF, AC all support such moves to save lives.

### **20. Reject carbon pricing - no benefit to families or environment**

The Coalition will abolish the carbon tax. CDP, FF, AC all oppose a carbon tax. RUA has no policy but oppose 'global warming'.

### **21. Support greater care of God's environment**

Christians need to be good stewards of the environment and use resources wisely.

*NOTE: The Australian Christian Values Checklist – and Supporting Statements - is published by the Australian Christian Values Institute. Authorised by Warwick Marsh A1/227 Cordeaux Road, Mount Kembla NSW 2526*