



# Objection 143

David Langsam

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**From:** David Langsam  
**To:** [FedRedistribution - VIC](#)  
**Subject:** Objection to excising Flemington from Melbourne  
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Dear Re-distribution Committee,

If you go ahead with removing Flemington from its natural home in the Federal seat of Melbourne you will be committing the third level of outrage for political purposes, following the Kennett excising of the inner suburbs from the Melbourne City Council and the Napthine excising of Flemington from the State seat of Melbourne into Essendon.

It shows a total lack of understanding of community.

Flemington is a sister suburb to Kensington as well as Parkville, North Melbourne, Carlton and Fitzroy. It is an inner Melbourne suburb and not a middle to outer residential suburb.

The Kennett redistribution was done entirely to deliver a Liberal majority Melbourne City Council to deny the voices of ordinary Melburnians in selecting a council that might be responsive and not make the terrible planning decisions we have seen from the monstrous high rise apartments to the planned destruction of the Victoria Market.

One impact of this distribution has been to confuse and confound Moonee Valley City Council which is primarily suburban-focused into making decisions on a Victorian (as in 1900s) heritage suburb, in contrast to the pro-development northern end of the council area. Every time an inappropriate development is proposed, the residents have to fight it rather than rely on our elected representatives to represent us.

The Napthine redistribution appeared to be both malicious and lazy. Instead of creating two new inner city electorates it pushed people from the inner city into middle suburban electorates.

Again, Flemington is part of the inner city, not the Essendon region. We belong with our community of interest namely Kensington, Parkville, North Melbourne, Carlton and Fitzroy rather than Avondale Heights, Strathmore and Essendon Fields. It was an outrage and not very useful for the residents.

Now, we have the third and final stake through the heart. Excising Flemington from the inner city again to be the bottom right hand corner of Maribyrnong.

We simply have nothing in common with Avondale Heights, Airport West and Keilor. I cannot fathom why anyone would make such a proposal unless, as TE Lawrence said, quoting his 1916 meeting with the Foreign Office official Sykes working with the French Picot: "Drawing lines on maps. Can't possibly work".

I don't know about other electorates but these three decisions to remove Flemington from its natural community and throw it to the middle and outer suburbs reeks of lazy thinking or political malice.

It certainly does not benefit the residents of inner city Flemington at all. It disenfranchises us, as

our vote and voice are swamped by people with completely opposite agendas.

Please leave us alone. Please leave us in Melbourne. Please return us to Melbourne in the Victorian State electorate. Please return us to Melbourne City Council.

Yours sincerely,

David Langsam

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